



Nether Currie
Primary School

Nether Currie Primary School
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Dear Parents and Carers

Returning to Nether Currie Primary School in August 2020

As you will be aware the First Minister last week announced the re-opening of schools for all children. The 2020-2021 school session will start on Monday 10th August for staff and we will be preparing for the children to return to school from Wednesday 12 August. We are looking forward to welcoming the children back and we want to ensure they feel safe and secure.

We have followed the advice which has been issued by the Scottish Government and the City of Edinburgh Council and have implemented changes which should help to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID19.

Firstly, the return to school will be phased over three days from Wednesday 12 August to allow our children, parents and staff to become familiar with these changes. This means not all of our children will return to school on the same day. In order to support the management of the phased return and enable our families to plan around the start of the school session, we are grouping the children according to their surname. Please see the following for details of your child's return to school next week.

Child's surname begins	Wednesday 12 August	Thursday 13 August	Friday 14 August
A - L	<i>Start back and attend full day</i>	Do not attend	<i>Attend in the morning only as normal</i>
M-Z	Do not attend	<i>Start back and attend full day</i>	<i>Attend in the morning only as normal</i>

Primary 1 will receive a separate letter today, with details of arrangements for the first week back, as these will differ slightly from the rest of the school.

Drop Off Arrangements

On the day your child is attending school, either Wednesday 12th or Thursday 13th, depending upon your surname (see above), you should plan to arrive at school between 8:35am and 8:45am.

P2 should enter through the P1/P2 door.

P3 should enter through the main entrance.

P4 and P5 should enter the main gate and make their way around the building past the PE hall to the back playground and enter through the P4/5 door. A member of staff will supervise. This path will be closed during the school day and re-opened at the end of the day.

P6 and P7 should enter the main gate and make their way around the building past the PE hall to the back playground and enter through the P6/7 door.

Please note children should not line up or congregate in any of the playgrounds. They must make their way directly to their classrooms. As they enter the building, there will be hand sanitiser dispensers for your child to sanitise their hands. It is important that they get into the habit of using these on arrival to school. Children should then hang up their coats and go into the classroom. P7 children should take all their belongings into their classroom.

There will be a member of staff in each classroom when the children arrive.

From **Friday 14th August** onwards, we are proposing to operate a staggered start for all children from P2-P7 (P1 children will follow this from Monday 17th August.) Where possible, we would like to encourage the following pattern:

Children with surnames from **A-L** to arrive between **8:35am and 8:45am**.

Children with surnames from **M-Z** to arrive between **8:45am and 8:55am**.

All children should be in school by 8:55am when registration will take place.

This staggered start will allow all children to arrive in school and have the necessary space to ensure they can safely follow our hygiene procedures.

Collection Arrangements

With the exception of Primary 1 in the first week back, children will be dismissed at their normal finishing times. The following arrangements tell you where and when your child will be dismissed from:

P1 (from Monday 17th August) dismissed from the P1/P2 door at 2:40pm. P1 parents and carers should wait at the markers against the fence inside the infant playground.

P2 will be dismissed from the main entrance gate at 2:40pm. P2 parents and carers should wait at the fence, outside the school grounds.

P3 will be dismissed from the infant playground at 3:15pm. P3 parents and carers should wait at the markers against the fence inside the infant playground then exit the 'Oscars' gate.

P4 and P5 will be dismissed directly from the 'Oscars' gate at 3:15pm. P4 and P5 parents and carers, if collecting, should wait outside the school grounds by the main gate.

P6 and P7 will be dismissed from the main gate at 3:15pm. P6 and P7 parents and carers, if collecting, should arrange a suitable meeting place away from the immediate proximity of the school grounds.

What you need to know

Physical distancing - Physical distancing between adults and between adults and children from different families must be observed. This means normal access into the school for parent and carers will be severely restricted to maintain the safety of everyone.

School Office - If you need to contact the school office please telephone or email Mrs Milne. Alternatively, she will be available at the 'Oscars' door between 8.30 and 8.45 each morning to assist you with any queries you may have.

Hygiene arrangements – We will continue to encourage regular handwashing when children are in school and hand sanitisers will be widely available throughout the building. Enhanced cleaning will take place daily.

Uniform – It is recommended that your child wears clothing that can be washed frequently. Blazers or any items which require dry cleaning should not be worn to school. As we will be spending more time outdoors, please ensure your child comes to school with warm and waterproof clothing and a pair of trainers suitable for the outdoors. At this time, children will not be changing into PE kit.

Lunch Arrangements – School lunches will be in the form of a packed lunch. For the interim period, there will be no hot school lunches available. Lunch breaks will be staggered and those children who choose to have a school packed lunch will eat in the dining hall, whilst those who bring a packed lunch from home, will eat in the classroom. The classroom tables will be wiped down before the children return for afternoon class. All lunches will be supervised by school staff.

School lunches for week commencing 17 August should be ordered via ParentPay by midnight on Wednesday 12 August.

After School Clubs and Breakfast Club – OSCARS out of school care provider will be operating as usual at Nether Currie. Claire Walls, the club manager, will be in touch with existing service users over the course of this week.

We recognise that the sudden and unprecedented changes that have taken place since the end of March will have had an impact on our children and they may be feeling uncertain about the return to school. I want to reassure you that staff fully appreciate the anxieties that children may have about the return, and we will welcome and support everyone to make the transition back to school a positive experience.

I look forward to seeing you all next week.

Yours sincerely

Kirsten Johnston
Head Teacher