

St. John the Baptist P.S.
250 Garvaghy Road
Portadown
BT62 1EB
Tel. (028) 3833 6211
Fax. (028) 3836 2051



Principal:
Miss C McCooe

e-mail: info@stjohnthebaptist.portadown.ni.sch.uk
Web site: www.stjohnthebaptist.org.uk

29th June 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope you and your family are safe and well. We fully appreciate that these past few months have been very challenging for all of you and we are most grateful for the co-operation and support you have shown.

We have now received guidance from the Department of Education and wish to inform you of our plans to re-open. Please bear in mind that guidance is continually evolving and that these plans are subject to change.

The new school year will begin on **Monday 24th August 2020**. Whilst it would be our wish to be able to bring back all our pupils on a full time basis, current circumstances mean that we are not in a position to accommodate full classes at this time based on Department guidance. At present, therefore, it is our intention to operate a blended learning approach with all pupils in school two consecutive days, namely Monday/Tuesday and Thursday/Friday. All pupils have been divided into two groups and every effort has been made to keep siblings in the same group to minimise disruption. You will appreciate in doing so, your co-operation will be required in adhering to the days allocated to your family/child. We will issue separate guidance regarding the Induction process for our new P1 pupils. Normal school uniform should be worn.

Further communication will be issued in August to confirm our back to school arrangements and to give you more detailed information on what the return to school will look like.

Depending on the government guidance at the time on social distancing, our current proposals re: blended learning may change. It may also be necessary to put in place staggered arrivals and departures, restrictions on what can be brought to and from school, staggered breaks and lunchtimes etc. We have made plans for all of these situations should they be required and we will update you accordingly prior to school reopening. The safety and well-being of our pupils will be our main priority.

I hope all our pupils enjoy their summer break. We look forward to welcoming them all back to school.

Kind regards

Miss C. McCooe
Principal