



Covid-19 Update

Covid 19 is very much still with us and as of yet there have no updates to the risk assessment from the Government. Our current risk assessment is available to view on the website.

Covid 19 Symptoms

Due to the continuing high numbers of Covid 19 we are advised by NHS to be extra cautious of symptoms presenting in school.

- **New/continuous cough**
- **Loss or change of taste or smell**
- **Temperature over 37.5C**
- **Sore head**
- **Upset tummy**

If your child is complaining of feeling unwell, we would ask that you keep them at home for the day to ascertain how serious the complaint is, rather than send them to school.

When we send children home, we then need to evacuate the class and deep clean equipment and furniture they have been in contact with, adding to the workload of staff in school. So, we appreciate your support with making the decision ahead of the school day.

There are exceptions that can be discussed with staff for example if you suspect your child is feeling anxious and a more nurturing approach is required. The more information we have, the more we can support you at this time.

ADMIN REQUESTS

- School phone number **01561 400690**
- If you know your child is going to be late please call, prior to 9am to let us know.
- When calling to inform us of an absence please let us know the reason for absence.
- If you would like another adult to collect your child, please inform us in advance of the end of school day.

Message from the Head

Welcome back to school after the quickest Tattie holidays in history. It is so good to see everyone keen and eager to learn. We have planned a busy term with lots of events, which you will see on the following page.

We have had a few changes in staffing and have filled in a couple of vacancies from last term. Replacing Mrs Jaffrey is Mrs Julie Kelly, who has been successfully appointed as a PSA. Mrs Kelly has worked at the school before and knows us all well. She has a scientific background, and we will be capitalising on her knowledge.

Mrs Mukhamejanova is a student teacher from Aberdeen University. She will be joining Mr Ness in the P5-7 but sadly, Mrs Mukhamejanova is only with us this term.

Our Learning for Support Teacher from Mackie Academy is still waiting for her employment checks to be completed and will hopefully be joining us every Tuesday and Wednesday. In the meantime, I am delighted to be welcoming back Mrs Forbes, who was working with the children last term.

We have a change to our school day, which was agreed upon from the consultation we ran last term about allowing the children to be together from both classes. All the children have enjoyed sharing playtimes and lunchtime together. Playtime is now 10:30am to 10:50am, lunchtimes are still staggered to allow all to enjoy their hot school lunches; P1-4 12:00 noon to 12:40pm and P5-7 12:10pm to 12:50pm. Afternoon break is 2:00pm to 2:15pm.

I am excited that we will now be able to start MAD (Making A Difference) Fridays which enables the children to work together to help staff make the big decisions about changes to the school.

Events

We have a busy term with many events planned. To keep up to date with our schedule please check the school website:

<https://johnshaven.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/events/>

Remembrance Sunday



The school has been invited to participate in the remembrance service at the memorial on Sunday 14th November. The older children will be laying a wreath, reciting a poem and Mr Ness will be playing the last post.

SSPCA



The SSPCA will be joining the school on 30th November for a wildlife scavenger hunt. Both classes will learn about their impact on the environment and how it affects the wild animals around us.

P6 and 7 Health and Wellbeing Event

CLD (Community Learning and Development) Team will be visiting the school to provide outdoor learning for our Primary 6 and 7 children. The learning will be around transition to Mackie Academy.

Youth Music Initiative

We are waiting for confirmation from the youth music initiative who will be working with the older children.

Christmas Countdown

Christmas is just around the corner and the school have been busy planning.

Christmas Jumper Days



Every Friday in December we will be inviting all to wear something Christmassy with their school uniform. It can be a jumper, a hair slide or even a piece of tinsel. It is up to you what you add.

Pantomime



The Parent Council have agreed to help towards the cost of going to see the pantomime at HMT in Aberdeen this year. We are so excited to be looking forward to a treat at the end of two difficult years. More information will follow soon.

Christmas Lunch



Mrs McConnach will be busy in the kitchen making the school Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 15th December.

Christmas Crafts



Mrs Coleman, our resident crafter, has been planning activities for the children to make on Monday 20th December. The whole school will be as busy as elves beavering away to make cards and gifts.

Christmas Party



On Tuesday 21st December we will have our Christmas party for the children. The children can come dressed in their party outfits and enjoy the fun.

Christmas Carol Concert

We are planning our Christmas performance this year and have decided to go with Christmas Carolling. As we are in the planning phase, we don't have a date yet but as soon as we have more details, we will share them with you.



Updated Guidance for Reducing the Risks in Schools

This version of the guidance has been in place since 9 August 2021, with updates made on 15 September. It sets out that local authorities and schools should continue to apply the mitigations that were in place at the end of last term, with the exception of some modifications as set out in this guidance. It is expected that this updated guidance will remain in place until mid-November.

Risk Assessments

Will remain in place and will be regularly updated to reflect the changes that are required to keep the school community safe whilst allowing meaningful learning to take place.

Environmental Cleaning

Our enhanced cleaning provision of high touch surfaces will continue at midday. Our cleaning at the end of the day will continue to include covid reducing measures.

Hand Hygiene

All entering or leaving the school building will wash hands using soap and water. The children and staff have been reminded of effective hand washing. When hand washing is not available hand sanitiser will be used.

Face Masks

All adults working with children or moving around the school estate must wear type IIR facemasks. These are available in the staffroom. When working outdoors staff can remove their face masks.

Physical Distancing

Adults and children must physically distance a minimum of 1 metre from each other in the school estate. There are exceptions to this such as applying first aid when PPE must be worn to reduce the risks.

Drop Offs and Pick Ups

To allow for adults to physically distance from each other and children we will continue to have the P1 to 4 children using the entrance on Seaview Terrace and the P5 to 7 children using the entrance on Back Lane. We will also continue the flexible drop off time with the children arriving between 8:50am and 9:10am.

Assemblies

Current restrictions remain in place allowing virtual assemblies in the classroom or gathering outside.

Lateral Flow Tests

Staff can opt into twice weekly lateral flow tests to ensure that the school community and themselves are protected.

When a test gives a positive result staff will self-isolate and book a PCR test via NHS inform. They will follow advice from the NHS and keep school informed.

Pupils Suspected of Having Covid

If staff suspect a child has symptoms of covid, they will be removed from class and placed into the isolation room (the staff room). Parents will be contacted to collect their child from school and advised to contact NHS Inform to seek advice. If a child has a positive covid test we request that school is informed so we can initiate our outbreak management procedures.

Bubbles

Bubbles or groupings to prevent cross contamination are no longer required. We conducted a consultation with all in our school community and it was agreed that the bubbles would be scrapped. However, they may be reinstated if Government guidelines change.

Ventilation

All areas of the school where adults and children gather must be well ventilated. Recently we monitored our CO2 levels and found that all areas of the school are operating within the safe limits. To maintain these levels we do need to open windows which can mean it gets chilly in classrooms during the colder months and we respectfully request that children have warm clothing.

PE

There are changes to PE provision, however we will continue to offer PE activities outside. We will request that on PE days that the children arrive to school in their PE kits that are suitable to be worn outside. If the weather is unsuitable then we will either reschedule PE to another day or conduct the lesson inside, and you will be informed by teaching staff on SeeSaw.

School Trips

We are allowed to have local excursions such as trips to the beach and park if they are risk assessed. Whole day trips are allowed if mitigations are in place, and we are covid compliant.











Johnshaven School Recovery Curriculum

Our Recovery Plan 2.0

The recovery curriculum below focuses on targets of Social and Emotional Wellbeing as well as outlining a pathway back to learning for all. Staff will be using this curriculum model to support children as they reengage (again!!) with the life of the school.



Aims
Our recovery curriculum aims to restore the mental health and rebuild the resilience of our pupils to allow them to become successful learners again by:

 Recognising the experiences had by all	 Restoring trust and relationships with staff	 Re-establishing friendships and social interactions
 Regaining structure and routine	 Rebuilding a sense of community	 Regulating their emotions and managing behaviours
 Re-engaging them in learning	 Supporting transitions	

Curriculum
Our recovery curriculum will focus on...

 Health and wellbeing	 Opportunities for outdoor learning
 Short literacy and numeracy sessions	 Sustainability
 Expressive arts	 Focus on skills for learning

Blended Learning

 Classroom learning	 Home learning
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This will be the focus of our main curriculum upon our return to school. For most pupils, this approach will meet the aims we have set out, although their journeys will happen over different time frames. From the activities planned, staff will be able to identify those who need more support in their recovery which will lead to a personalised response.

Those 5 losses, of routine, structure, friendship, opportunity and freedom, can trigger the emergence emotionally of anxiety, trauma and bereavement in any child. The overall impact cannot be underestimated. It will cause a rapid erosion of the mental health state in our children. .” (Barry Carpenter & Matthew Carpenter 2020)

