**All Saints’ Primary School Tattysallagh**

4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope that you all had a lovely, safe and peaceful Christmas.

With the constantly evolving situation regarding restrictions, I wanted to keep you posted on the current status. You may already be aware that primary schools will re-open for teaching and learning on Monday 11th January. Staff will be in school on Thursday 7th for staff training and on Friday 8th to plan and prepare.

As Friday 8th was planned to be pupil’s return to school, we will provide childcare for children of key workers and for vulnerable children. A list of eligible groups is available on the DE website and a summary is below.

The definition of Vulnerable Children as set out in the cross-departmental Vulnerable Children and Young People's Plan 2020 is: (<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-cross-departmental-covid-19-vulnerable-children-and-young-peoples-plan>)

* A child who has an assigned social worker because he or she is a child in need, in need of protection (or on the child protection register) or is a looked after child.
* A child in need includes young carers, children with disabilities, and children living in families where there is domestic abuse, substance abuse, and / or mental health difficulties.
* A child who is receiving support from, or has been referred to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).
* A child who has a statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN), a child who is accessing EOTAS, or a child who normally accesses Education Nurture Units.
* A child who is ‘on-the-edge’ of receiving support from children’s social services.
* A child who is in need, including in need of protection, but whose need is not known to statutory services.
* A child who is not known to statutory or voluntary and community support services but who is vulnerable because their family is under increased pressure due to Covid-19 related circumstances.
* A young person who was previously a looked after child, whether or not they are receiving support from statutory services.
* A child who has been placed for adoption.
* Asylum seeking and refugee children and children whose parents have no recourse to public funds.

Key workers are defined as:

* Health and Social Care.  This includes doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, home carers and staff required to maintain our health and social care sector;
* Education and childcare.  This includes pre-school and teaching staff, social workers, youth workers and those specialist education professionals who will remain active during the Covid-19 response;
* Public safety and national security.  This includes civilians and officers in the police (including key contractors), Fire and Rescue Service, prison service and other national security roles;
* Transport.  This will include those keeping air, water, road and rail transport modes operating during the Covid-19 response;
* Utilities, and Communication.  This includes staff needed for oil, gas, electricity and water (including sewage) and primary industry supplies to continue during the Covid-19 response, as well as key staff in telecommunications, post and delivery, banking and waste disposal;
* Financial Services - This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure);
* Food and other necessary goods.  This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution and sale, as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (e.g. hygiene, medical, etc.);
* Retail. This includes those workers who have been working throughout the pandemic in food retail, for example, and will now extend to those working in other retail businesses permitted to operate by the Executive  from June 2020;
* Other workers essential to delivering key public services such as the National Crime Agency; and
* Key national and local government including those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response.

I appreciate that this is a complex list but if you are eligible under any of the above criteria and would like to avail of childcare provision from 9am – 3pm on Friday 8th (including meals service), please let me know by Tuesday 5th January (stating which criteria you qualify under) so that I can arrange adequate levels of supervision, meals etc. Pupils who attend on Friday 8th will be supervised in their own classrooms by their own teachers and assistants. Bubbles will not be breached for safety reasons.

We look forward to welcoming you all back to school and thank you sincerely for your observance to our Covid safety measures. We ask that you continue to follow these in the coming months for the benefit of everyone in our school community.

On behalf of everyone on our staff and governors, we wish you a happy, healthy and peaceful 2021.

God bless,

Briege Daly (Principal)

**Bdaly339@c2kni.net**