

Lochardil Primary School

Lochardil Road, Inverness, IV2 4LB
Tel. 01463 230250 Fax 01463 710682

Head Teacher: Mrs A. Kellacher

www.lochardilprimary.org.uk

Emergency closure 0800 5642272

School pin number 04 2500.



Dear Parents/ Carers,

Thank you all for your support and most importantly your trust and confidence shown in us this term. It has been greatly appreciated as always, but particularly during these times when we are experiencing a global pandemic. We successfully, and most importantly safely, reopened our provision, and continue to provide your child(ren) with the quality and high standards of education and care we strive for.

Our children and community remain at the centre of our purpose, and being together is definitely the right and best place to be! Our pupils have truly lived out our school values daily, and continue to make our challenging days better with their positivity, resilience and determination to enjoy their experiences and make the most of every moment.

Despite the many additional challenges and pressures we have faced, particularly here at Lochardil PS this term, our team has excelled and I am so thankful for such a dedicated, hardworking, and educated professional staff who regularly go the extra mile for our young people, while ensuring safety is a priority for all.

Key points –

- Follow Scottish Government guidance on Covid-19 particularly with reference to restrictions, any changes in the local and national data on Covid-19, and any impact of such.
- Scottish Government have shared 'keeping schools open is a priority'. This is reassuring especially during times when there are conversations circulating about a 'Circuit breaker', 'Firewall', or other potential strategies to reduce positive cases of Covid-19 in Scotland. Please be reassured we have risk assessments in place and contingency plans ready as an authority, a school, and individual classes, should new information or restrictions arise.
- Check Highland Council website for any updates/ latest on schools and education.
- Any specific new information for our school will be shared on the Blog.
- No staff will be in the school building, monitoring the telephone, or checking emails during the holidays.
- We have not had any positive cases of Covid-19 in our school so far to date. Keep following Scot Gov. F.A.C.T.S. & local page on social media 'Safe Hands, Saves Lives', to continue to keep our community as safe and well as possible.

Updates -

- Hot meals will resume next term with a choice of 1 hot option and 1 cold option. School dinners and packed lunches will use the dining hall and gym hall to eat lunch. Our trial of lunches back using the dining hall and now also the gym hall has been successful and we look forward to continuing this from next term.
- Please ensure all meals from Term 1 are paid for and any for Term 2 have credit in the individual accounts.
- We await further updates on the delivery of PE indoors, and will continue to provide this area of the curriculum outdoors until further notice.
- Ensure all children come prepared for the weather conditions.
- A letter re 1140hrs ELC provision has been shared on the Blog. Further communication regarding any updates and changes, increase in hours etc. will be shared next term with our ELC parents/carers.
- A copy of the Head Teacher Report for Term 1 to the Parent Council is available for all parents/ carers to access via the Parent Council tab on the Blog for information.
- All systems, protocols and guidance in place for Term 1 will still be followed in Term 2 e.g. drop off/ pick-ups, entrance and exits, year group bubbles, handwashing and sanitising, classroom environment organisation, communication channels, learning and teaching etc.

- Still no school lets available at present.
- Thank you all for your contributions to school fund this term! We are so grateful for all donations, especially during such difficult financial times, and this truly will add the extra sparkle to our school and experiences. This is an approach, agreed with Parent Council to continue to run, instead of regularly asking for small amount contributions throughout the year as can be an approach in other schools. We will of course be delighted to share any purchases made/ experiences enjoyed as we make use of the funds for all children.
- We miss seeing you all in person! We will continue to work on different opportunities for term 2 to support parent/carer partnership and community partner work too. All ideas continue to be welcome!

Finally, I wanted to share a few thoughts from those that are most important and our reason for doing what we do...our Lochardil young people. Using the 'Head, Heart, Hands' model to capture some views and action points to make our school even better next term. We can honestly say we are all thrilled to be back and will work together to ensure we all achieve and attain!

"I felt excited to be back with my friends."

"It is easier to concentrate at school."

"It feels a bit more normal"

"Sometimes I feel a bit behind in some things but I know more than others for some bits too."

"The playground is a bit boring but fine."

"It's just the same except we can't mix"

We truly value pupil voice both individually and collectively, and try to use such to evoke positive change, and also to enjoy the 'warm fuzzies' as everyone loves to hear compliments no matter what age we are!

Thank you for being such an incredibly supportive community that continues to prove we can pull together when needed to work towards our aim for equity, equality, excellence, and a whole school that moves forwards together.

Have a wonderful school holiday. Rest, relax, make lots more memories, and most importantly stay safe and well. We look forward to seeing you all in Term 2 and sharing the learning, experiences and opportunities with you.

Thanks



Audrey Kellacher
Head Teacher