

St. Michael's Primary School, Killean

Principal:
MR. CÓNÁN McATEER



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23rd August 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am sure, like ourselves, you are on the countdown until September 1st. Below, I have outlined a few key points and reminders to help you get organised for the return to school.

The children from P.2 to P.7 will return on Thursday 1st September. P.1 children have been given their own separate start dates.

School Day Structure

8:45am - Drop off

9:00am - Lessons begin

2:00pm - P1, 2 & 3 (KS1) School ends *P3 will stay in until 3pm during the last half term.

3:00pm - P4, 5, 6 & 7 (KS2) School ends

Drop off

From September 1st, only authorised personnel will be able to access the school grounds. Parents will no longer be permitted to drive into the school yard to drop off or pick up children. This is for the safety of pupils, staff and our entire school community.

Staff will be located at each pedestrian entrance. We will be operating a drop and go service from 8:45am. Children can be dropped off at the Killean School Road gate or Kelly's Road gate.

Pick Up

Parking will be available in Killean Playschool at pick up times or alternatively, park on the road and walk into the school via the pedestrian entrances and pick up your child at their classroom door. Cars are **not** permitted to park on school premises at this time.

Meetings are continuing between Liz Kimmins MLA, Department of Infrastructure and the Education Authority regarding safety on the school premises and surrounding roads. I will keep you updated as things progress.

Breakfast club

To help support working parents, we will be operating a breakfast club from 8:15am. Children will receive cereal, toast and a drink for breakfast. There will be limited places and will be operating on a first come, first served basis. You will be able to book your place through the School Money app. Breakfast Club will cost £1 per child per day and will be free of charge for children entitled to Free School Meals. I will update you on a start date ASAP.

Cool Kidz Club

We want to continue helping working parents and hope to introduce a club from 2pm to 3pm for Foundation/KS1 pupils later on in the school year.

Break time snack

Children are to bring their own healthy break and bottle of water to school. This must be one piece of fruit to help follow our Healthy Eating Policy. If your child has any special dietary requirements, please contact Mr McAteer.

Uniform

Children must wear their full school uniform at all times. PE uniform may only be worn on PE days (PE days to follow shortly). Our school uniform is available to purchase from McEvoy's, Monaghan St, Newry. Children should wear plain navy trouser/tracksuit bottoms. Branded tracksuits/leggings are not part of the school uniform. School shoes (black) must be worn with full school uniform.

For health and safety reasons, all long hair must be tied back, nail varnish is not permitted and children cannot wear jewellery except a watch and stud earrings.

FSM and Uniform Support

Current eligible families and new applicants must reapply for Free School Meal support online via the EA website.

<https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

The Free Schools Meals and Uniform Allowance Helpdesk is available to assist parents and guardians who may have any queries. The Helpdesk operates Monday - Friday from 9am to 4.30pm and can be contacted via email: mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk. The telephone number which should be used for all enquiries is 028 9041 8044.

Second hand uniforms are available from the school office. Please ask a member of staff to assist you if you would like to avail of one.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to welcoming you all back to school.

Kind regards,

Mr C McAteer