



IRVINE ROYAL ACADEMY

Ambition • Respect • Responsibility

Head Teacher: Mrs. L. Sloan
Kilwinning Road, Irvine KA12 8SJ
Tel: 01294 278 756
Email: irvineroyal@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk

Head Teacher Up-date

27th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Can I firstly start off by thanking you for your support since we returned, working in partnership will serve to ensure that we continue to improve outcomes for our entire school community.

Can I remind you of the recent communication issued by North Ayrshire Council:

“A process has been developed for managing situations when children and young people display symptoms of COVID-19. If your child becomes unwell during the day and experiences any of the symptoms below, they will be escorted to a separate isolation room within the school and you will be contacted to make arrangements to come and collect them and take them home:

- ***New continuous cough***
- ***Fever/high temperature***
- ***Loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste***

You must contact the NHS Test and Protect Team to arrange for a test to be undertaken. You can do this online at: [NHSinform.scot/test-and-protect](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/nhs-test-and-protect) or by calling 08000282816. Your child will not be allowed to return to school until a negative test result has been presented to the office. Without this, the assumption will be that the young person is positive for COVID-19 and should self-isolate for the required period of time. If, having been sent home one day, the young person returns to school the next day without proof of a negative test, they will be escorted to the isolation room and arrangements will be made for them to be collected again.

Children and young people who have been in close contact with someone displaying symptoms are NOT required to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms or are contacted by the NHS Scotland Contact Tracing Team.”

You will be aware that a number of adaptations have been put in place across the school and thus I wish to take this opportunity to update you on how things are going.

Entry to the school in the morning:

Pupils are asked, where possible, not to arrive at school any earlier than 8.40am. The doors will be open at 8.45am. If your son/daughter requires a more bespoke arrangement then please contact the relevant PT Pastoral support:

Arran – Mrs Davidson

Bute – Mrs Clifford

Cumbræ – Mrs Gibson

A reminder that we now have three entry points in order to reduce congestion:

S1/2 – Sandy Road entrance

S3/4 – Shelter entrance

S5/6 – PE entrance

I am pleased to say that this arrangement is working very well. Each morning members of SLT are at the entrance points in order to ensure that the young people sanitise their hands upon entry. I am delighted to say that they are now in a great routine and are doing this as a matter of course.



@irvineroyalacad



www.irvineroyal.co.uk





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Breakfast Club:

You will be aware that we had a very popular breakfast provision in place prior to lockdown. We are not permitted to host a breakfast club at present but I am in the process of making arrangements for pupils to get breakfast in their registration class.

Interval/Lunchtime:

We have now created two dining areas:

S1/2/3 – have identified zones in the canteen

S4/5/6 – have identified zones in the assembly hall

A number of pupils are opting to bring a packed lunch and this is helping to reduce queues.

Can I ask that you remind your son/daughter that we have a new pre ordering facility. This can be done at morning interval.

As previously communicated, we are now completely cashless and so all the young people must have a Parent Pay account – unique four digit codes have been issued. Please encourage your son/daughter to report to the main office if they have misplaced their PIN.

A reminder that pupils (S1-S6) must not leave the school at interval – S1 must not leave at lunchtime.

Corridor Movement:

We have now ensured that the corridors have visible keep left markings on the floor with arrows signposting our young people to the side of the corridor that they should be walking on – please continue to reinforce the importance of keeping to the left hand side. We are not able to operate a one way system in the school due to Ayrshire College being attached to our building.

Entry and Exit of Classes:

Each classroom has hand sanitiser – pupils have adapted well to cleaning their hands on entry and exit.

Desks/Equipment:

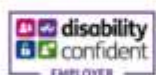
All classrooms have been provided with disinfectant wipes – pupils are asked to wipe down desks/equipment at the end of each period – Staff have been impressed by the high levels of hygiene shown.

Face Coverings:

You will be aware by now that as of **Monday 31st August 2020**, it is a requirement for all members of the school community to wear face coverings (unless exempt from wearing a mask) in corridors as they move between classes and when they go to the toilet. Said coverings should also be worn on dedicated school transport. As of Monday, can I ask that **you provide** your son/daughter with a suitable face covering. In the event that you are unable to provide your child with a face covering, we have sourced a supply and are able to distribute as required.

After School Clubs:

As you know, no extra-curricular after school clubs are permitted at present. It is however our intention to start up our many lunchtime opportunities in the next week. Please look out for the lunchtime activity programmes on Twitter and on our school website.





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PE Kit:

We are still not allowed to deliver PE indoors at present – all PE activities are taking place outdoors. As you know our weather can be variable and so it is vital that a PE is brought to school to change into.

Uniform:

Standards in uniform have been high since our return – I value your support in maintaining the high standards set. Where the uniform policy is not being adhered to, a DHT will be in contact with you.

Ties:

Ties continue to be available on our website. Those waiting on a tie should now go to the office to collect them - the outstanding delivery arrived yesterday.

Timetables:

All timetables are now finalised – there will be no further option changes. I appreciate your patience in this area. The challenges encountered would ordinarily be ironed out in June – due to Covid 19 this was obviously not the case.

College Courses:

You will be aware that there was a delay in the commencement in the school/college courses – I am delighted to say that they will now start next week – pupils have been notified of the arrangements.

Finally, can I remind you that if you wish to discuss any matter pertinent to the above or otherwise, please get in touch with me: linziesloan@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Thanks again for doing your bit to keep our young people safe.

Yours sincerely,

Linzie Sloan

Head Teacher

