Dear Parents/Carers

We continue to greatly appreciate your support with the necessary changes we have had to implement for a safe return to school.

**Gold star** to ourpupils in P2, P3 & P3/4 who have done a great job of lining up near their classrooms at the back of the school this week. Teaching staff will continue to bring lines round to the basketball court at the end of the day. There continues to be no change to the current arrangements in place for Primary 1 pupils arriving at school or other classes.

We have all had lots of extra practice lining up today as our fire alarm went off twice!  Staff evacuated just after 8:30am followed again by the whole school being evacuated just before lunchtime. Thankful for no fires and for the sunshine!  The alarm was triggered by the testing of the new nursery fire alarm system! More Gold Stars to Pupils and staff for following our drill procedures superbly!

Thank you for all your efforts to keep the area by the steps clear and for standing on the grass 2 metres apart.  It is always better if your children come to where you are standing on the grass park rather than parents moving towards the side steps as children exit. Grateful also if families would consider having one adult drop off and pick up children as this will help reduce the gathering outside school.  I know many of you are already doing this so thank you.

In support of Aberdeenshire Council’s ambition to offer more digital services to its residents, Aberdeenshire primary and secondary schools are rolling out a new online service called parentsportal.scot. Mrs Gill e mailed information out at the start of term-please see copy attached.  We would be most grateful if this would be something you would consider as we try to reduce transferring items as much as possible between homes and school staff to support infection control.  It does also help our Eco School credentials going forward!

**I am required to continue to remind us all of the following………..**

**What should I do if my child is unwell?** If your child is unwell, please do not send them to school. If they have one of the three common symptoms of COVID-19 (coronavirus) - a continuous cough, a fever or high temperature or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste (anosmia) - please follow the latest advice via <https://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus> and book a test. This website includes advice on what’s considered to be a fever in children.

If your child is unwell but they are not displaying symptoms of coronavirus, please keep them at home until they are back in good health. For vomiting and/or diarrhoea, as per normal circumstances, they should remain at home for at least 48 hours after symptoms have passed. This now also relates to a fever or high temperature (alongside a negative coronavirus result) and they should not return to school for at least 48 hours after symptoms have passed.

Please continue to remember:

* **Staff or pupils who are, or who live with someone who is, symptomatic or a confirmed case of COVID-19 cannot attend school until self-isolation is over, or a negative test is received.**
* **Staff, pupils and parents/carers should not come to school if they or someone in their household has developed symptoms (new persistent cough or increased temperature).**

Have a lovely weekend and thank you as always for your continued support.

Kindest regards

**Margaret M. Ferguson**

**Head Teacher**

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Aberdeenshire Council Education and Children’s Services



**‘Being the best we can be’**

**Respect-Honesty-Responsibility-Kindness-Hardworking**