



# Laurencekirk Primary School 2020/2021

Information for Parents to Support  
the Return to School in August 2020





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## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for families

Dear Parents and Carers



The decision to close our school has unquestionably had an impact on the lives of all of us. There was very little time to prepare for the abrupt changes and challenges we were all facing. Our children have endured interruptions to their relationships, support networks, social opportunities in addition to their established routines and learning. I know there will be challenges ahead as we transition back to our school building but I am confident that our school staff will, as always, create the most nurturing, compassionate and responsive climate for our children to grow, develop and ultimately flourish in this new and somewhat unknown time.

Children have a right to play, to learn, to interact with peers and to experience a curriculum that meets their needs. We are looking forward to working with our children again to deliver these entitlements. This is our job but it is also our passion. I have complete confidence in this staff team to do rise to the challenge ahead with optimism, vigour and skill.

However, the most fundamental right that we all have is to have our health and wellbeing supported and to be safe. The safety and wellbeing of our staff and children is of the utmost importance and has driven a range of decisions and changes that we are making to how we function in and around school. We simply cannot operate as we did before and we all have a part to play in keeping ourselves and each other safe. Recently I have been reminded daily of how incredible this community is at pulling together and I am confident that this situation will be no different.

We have been issued a set of guidelines to help us to plan a safe return to school. Each school is unique and we have put plans in place that we believe are the best way forward for our school.

School will look and feel a bit different as we must implement some new routines and safety measures to ensure that we are all safe. I have pulled together some information below which I hope helps you to plan and prepare your child for the return to school. I have set it out as Frequently Asked Questions to make it easier for you to navigate and find information you require.

I have included some visuals for you to share with your child as you prepare them for coming back to school. These are the visuals they will see around the school and are designed to support them to understand the key safety messages. You may or may not wish to use these with your child.

If at any point you wish to discuss any aspect of this, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team who will be happy to discuss any concerns or listen to any comments you may wish to make.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the strangest summer holiday on record and I look forward to working with you all over the next term and beyond.

Kindest Regards

Jill Smith – Head Teacher (Acting)



### Where does my child enter school in the morning? When should they arrive?

We will operate a soft start initially which means children can arrive at school from 0845-0900 hours. Please do not come into school grounds in the morning. Also, please adhere to the 2m distancing rule to keep yourselves and each other safe.

We are using all the entrance points available to us. Some of our children will not access school in the morning via their playground as they have done previously so there will be no need to enter there. Please check the list below.

Initially in the morning - children will line up at the entrances below. The pupils will gather in these areas with no requirement to go to the playground first. All areas will be supervised.

P1a: patch at front of school – enter via school main gate

P1b: patch at front of school – enter via school main gate

P1/2: patch at front of school – enter via school main gate

P2: little ones playground – enter via side gate on the back path as normal. A PSA will collect your child from the foot of the path. Please do not come right up to the playground gate. This is a narrow space.

P3/4: little ones playground – enter via side gate on the back path as normal. A PSA will collect your child from the foot of the path. Please do not come right up to the playground gate. This is a narrow space.

P3 big ones playground – children to come in to the playground using the normal path

P4: big ones playground – children to come in to the playground using the normal path

P4/5: big ones playground – children to come in to the playground using the normal path

P5: corridor extension door - please come in the main school gate and wait/line up on the tarmac at the front of the school.

P5/6: external class door – please come in to school using the main school gate at the front of the school and wait/line up on the tarmac at the front of the school.

P6: external class door– please come in to school using the extension gate (sometimes referred to as the After School Club gate) and wait/line up round the back of the school next to your glass classroom door (at the big concrete steps)

P6/7: big ones playground big ones playground – children to come in to the playground using the normal path

P7: big ones playground big ones playground – children to come in to the playground using the normal path



**What are the arrangements for picking up at the end of the day?**

Children will be dismissed via the following exits. Please do be patient as this process could take slightly longer than usual. If you must come in to the playground, please stand well back from the doors and maintain a 2m distance at all times and vacate the grounds swiftly. Congestion could be reduced by arranging to meet your child at a designated point, if you feel they can cope with this level of independence.

P1a: little ones playground  
P1b: little ones playground  
P1/2: little ones playground

P2: big ones playground  
P3: big ones playground  
P3/4: big ones playground  
P4: big ones playground  
P4/5 big ones playground

P5: extension corridor door (front of school)  
P5/6: external class door (front of school)  
P6: external class door (side of the extension)

P6/7: big ones playground  
P7: big ones playground

**What is the advice on travelling to/from school?**

We would encourage walking, cycling and scooting to school. If you are accompanying your child to/from school then please remember to socially distance. Public transport is not encouraged. If you feel it is appropriate then your child coming to school by themselves/with classmates for all or part of the way would ease congestion at the school.

**Should my child wear school uniform?**

Yes please. A blue school jumper is preferred. Trousers, skirt, tracksuit bottoms, leggings, shorts are all great. We have a selection of good quality school jumpers in a range of sizes which are available on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August. There will be a table set out at the main school gate on these dates. Please do help yourself. There is a donation box if you wish to make a small donation but this is not expected. This is a service designed to help everyone. Moving forwards, we have plans to make this a year round service. We don't want anyone to panic over school uniform so if you have not managed to source this, that is totally OK.

We won't be changing shoes into our 'indoors' at the moment, this will be reviewed later in the year.

**Can my child bring a bag and pencil case to school?**

A school bag is needed. If your child would like to bring a pencil case to school then that is fine but items cannot be shared with other children and must be stored in the case when not in use. These should go home each night.



**Will my child be doing gym?**

Yes. Please provide a gym kit, including footwear suitable for sports activities. This would ideally be stored in a drawstring gym bag. These bags should be stored within your child's school bag during the day and should come home each night. Please do send it in each day.

**Can my child bring personal belongings to school with them?**

No. Please discourage your child from bringing toys etc in to school. However, if there is a particular item that is essential for your child to bring, then please call Mrs Smith or Mrs Anderson and we can talk this through.

**My child travels on school transport. How will this look?**

There will be no social distancing for children on the bus.  
Children should socially distance from the driver (1m)  
If your child has symptoms of Covid 19 they should not travel on the bus. If they develop symptoms of Covid 19 whilst at school, we will contact you to arrange collection arrangements.  
A member of SLT will meet the children from the bus and support the children to sanitise their hands when leaving the bus. They will be taken to their entry points. At the end of the day, they will be taken to the bus by a member of school staff.

**Will there be any subjects off limits?**

At the moment assemblies will remain virtual and will be played in class. Assemblies can help build a sense of community which is super important right now so it is important that we find ways to work as a whole school.  
There won't be any singing as this is not allowed as yet.

However, your child will continue to benefit from a well planned, varied curriculum that will help them to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that they need to be the best they can be.

We may choose different resources and equipment that are easy to clean.

Our library won't be open but we are exploring other ways of delivering this.



**Are school lunches available and what can my child expect at lunch time?**

School lunches are available and paid via ipayImpact. Please see the menu in the back of this booklet.

Packed lunches are fine too.

If your child is a home lunch then they can be collected at the door they exit at the end of the day and return to either the big or little playground. (P3/4 upwards are in the big playground)

Children should not be using the main exit at this point. Please note there are some changes to lunch times for the time being. If your child is a home lunch it is crucial that you are there in plenty of time to collect them. We appreciate your help with this.

There are some changes to lunch times:

12:00-1300 P1a, P1b, P1/2, P2: straight for lunch then out to play

1230-1330 P3, P3/4, P4, P4/5, P5: straight for lunch then out to play

1230-1330 P5/6, P6, P6/7, P7: outside then in for lunch.

Children will sit in their class groups for lunches. There will be staff on hand at lunch time to help so please don't worry about this.

**Will free school meals be available for Primary 1-3 pupils?**

Yes. The government are continuing with this commitment.

**Is water available at lunch time?**

Yes.

**What will playtimes look like for my child?**

Playing together will be so important for our children – it is what they have all really missed. It is what we are all looking forward to seeing again.

Children should bring a snack – there won't be a tuckshop at the moment.

Children should avoid sharing snacks with friends.

There will be toys available during lunchtimes with enhanced cleaning and safety measures in place.

There are some changes in play time times:

1030: P1a, P1b, P1/2, P2, P3, P3/4 in small playground

1045: P4-P7 in big playground

Our wonderful PSAs will be on hand to support at playtimes and ensure everyone is safe and happy.



**What safety measures are in place to keep everyone who works and learns in school safe and secure?**

There is nothing more important than ensuring everyone is safe and well and there are a number of measures in place which are discussed throughout these FAQs. However the measures are linked to the following themes:

- Enhanced hand hygiene
- Enhanced cleaning
- Minimising contact with others
- Use of PPE if necessary
- If unwell stay at home
- Engage in Test and Protect

**Will my child be allowed to use the toilets?**

Yes. There will be no issue with getting out to the toilet. Hand washing will be promoted!

**Can my child bring their own hand sanitiser?**

Absolutely! Please do. There will be hand sanitiser in all classrooms but having their own would develop their independence.

**Can my child bring a water bottle?**

Yes of course. There won't be the option to refill these at the moment. They should go home each night to be cleaned.

**Will staff and children be wearing face masks in school?**

There is no requirement for staff or children to wear face masks but some may wish to do so and that is absolutely fine.

**What should I do if my child is to be absent from school?**

Please phone the School Office as soon as you can leaving details of your child's name, class and the reason for their absence. Letting us know as soon as you can, would be incredibly welcome at this time.

There is a 24 hour answering machine service and all messages are picked up by Mrs Clark.

**What should I do if my child or a member of our household has symptoms of Covid-19?**

The following are the recognised symptoms of Covid-19:

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

Please do not send your child to school if they are displaying any of the above symptoms.

Please do not send your child to school if someone in your household is displaying any of the above symptoms.





## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for families



Please do not send your child to school if a member of your household has been identified by NHS contact tracers as a close contact of someone with the virus.

Please refer to NHS Inform website for the up to date instructions.

**Will staff be wearing PPE in and around school?**

No. Not routinely. In some situations PPE will be worn if the circumstances require it. This includes things like personal care or dealing with a child with Covid-19 symptoms.

**Do you have plans in place for children or staff who display signs of Covid-19?**

Absolutely. We have a well ventilated isolation space and a dedicated First Aider on duty to deal with this at all times. If your child displays symptoms we will call you and arrange for you to collect your child. We will meet you in the vestibule. We will follow the guidelines we have been given to the letter and all staff are familiar with these. Please don't worry, if your child becomes unwell they will be well taken care of until you arrive, that is a promise.

Please ensure that your child knows that they must tell an adult if they feel unwell.

**If my child is self isolating, will the school support his/her learning?**

Yes. We will provide learning via See Saw.

**What will be the focus in classrooms?**

Our priorities will be literacy, numeracy and supporting health and wellbeing. We will be aiming to build a strong sense of community, resilience and adaptability in all our children. Everything we do in school will be with the purpose of developing these key skills. Balancing efforts to address lost learning with social/emotional needs will be our top priority.

Our approach will always be positive, nurturing and focused on developing positive relationships – just as it always is.

**Will the school be monitoring pupil attendance?**

Yes, our usual procedures to promoting good attendance will be applied. We really hope to see all our children back to school but I do know that some families may feel worried about their child returning to school. I hope that this document provides some reassurance. Returning to school is so important for education and wellbeing and the risks are considered to be low. We are taking measures to minimise risk but if you have worries about returning to school please contact the Senior Leadership Team who will be happy to talk things through with you. It is very important that everyone feels confident, safe and secure in school. We will work with our families to do this as part of how we monitor attendance.

**My child is anxious about returning to school and may need some help.**

The past few months have been a time of considerable change and there will undoubtedly be moments of anxiety. All our staff will be extra vigilant and are steadfastly committed to supporting in this area. Please encourage your child to talk to an adult if they are feeling anxious so that we can support and encourage accordingly.



**Is there a Contingency Plan should the advice change?**

Yes. We are ready to begin a blended learning approach should we be instructed that social distancing must be implemented for our children. (Blended learning means our children being educated face to face in school for some of the week and an element of online/remote education.)

Below is the blended learning model that our school would run based on children being required to adhere to two metre social distancing.

The school has been divided into three streams, **Stream A**, Stream B and **Stream C**. These streams are organised in such a way to ensure that siblings would be in school on the same day and that children who take school transport would be split evenly across the three streams.

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	10 <sup>th</sup> Aug	In-Service	In-service			
Week 2	17 <sup>th</sup> Aug					
Week 3	24 <sup>th</sup> Aug					
Week 4	31 <sup>st</sup> Aug					
Week 5	7 <sup>th</sup> Sep					
Week 6	14 <sup>th</sup> Sep					
Week 7	21 <sup>st</sup> Sep					
Week 8	28 <sup>th</sup> Sep					
Week 9	5 <sup>th</sup> Oct					

Should social distancing need to be applied at 1.5 metres for our children then the model below will be followed. This means we can safely accommodate half of our pupils on any one day.

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	10 <sup>th</sup> Aug	In-Service	In-service			
Week 2	17 <sup>th</sup> Aug					
Week 3	24 <sup>th</sup> Aug					
Week 4	31 <sup>st</sup> Aug					
Week 5	7 <sup>th</sup> Sep					
Week 6	14 <sup>th</sup> Sep					
Week 7	21 <sup>st</sup> Sep					
Week 8	28 <sup>th</sup> Sep					
Week 9	5 <sup>th</sup> Oct					

If our school needs to close, we are ready to implement a digital learning programme and in the event of this happening we will share the details with you straight away.

**Is there lost property in the school from last session?**

There are no items in the lost property box. Please ensure that EVERYTHING is named when we come back to school so that we can reunite items with their owners.



**How will we communicate with each other?**

We will be using See-Saw in all of our classes and this will help us to communicate and share learning and achievements with each other. Information will be shared about this over the first two weeks of school. There will be no home-school diaries or learning journeys, See Saw will be our one stop shop.

Please keep an eye out for groupcalls as information will be shared that way. Please let the School Office know if your contact details have changed to ensure we can reach you.

We have a Facebook page, please consider joining this.

If you need to speak with your child's teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team, please telephone the School Office on 01561 400 640 or email the school directly on [laurencekirk.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:laurencekirk.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

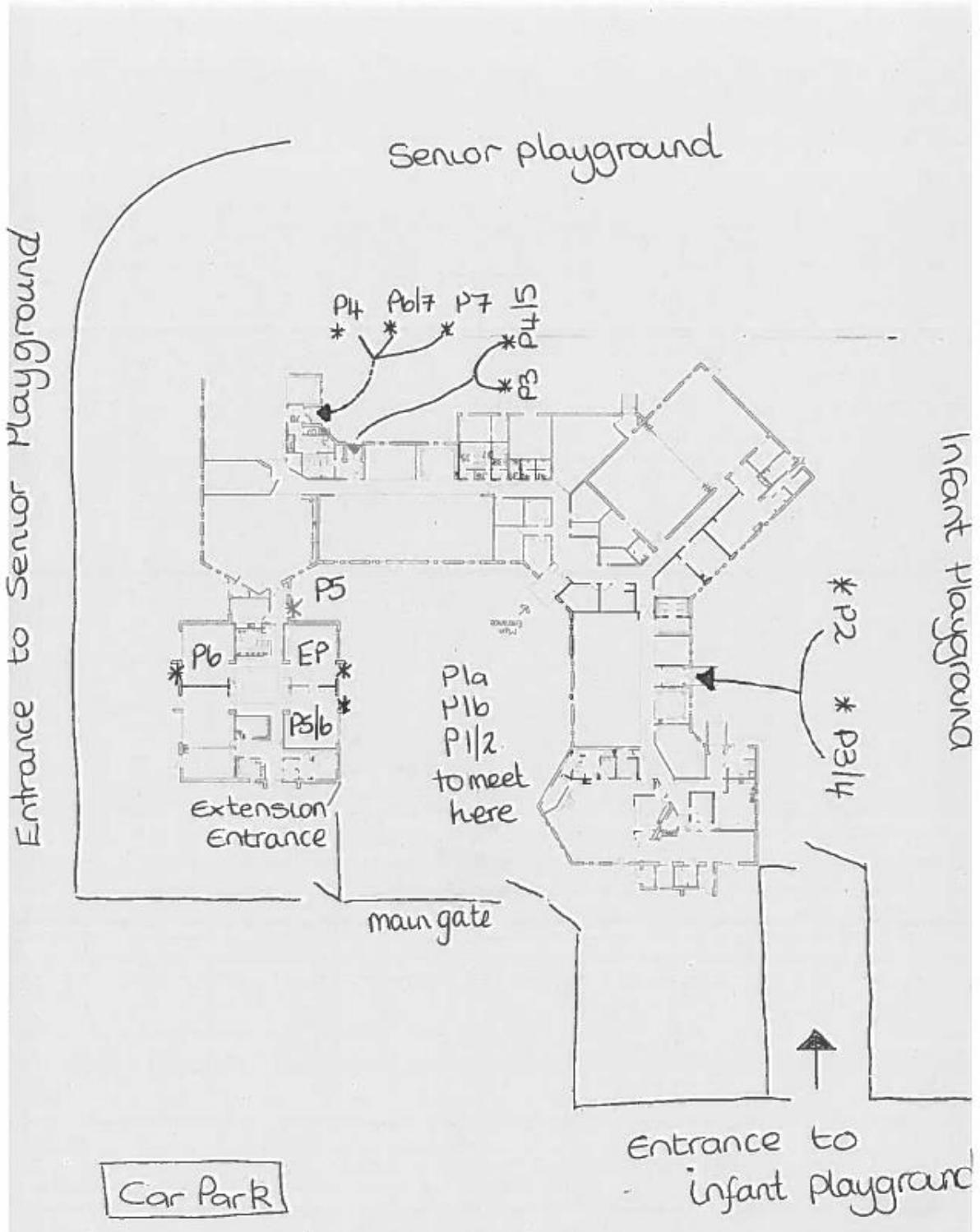
School should only be entered in the case of an emergency until further notice. This is a safety measure and we are grateful for your co-operation.

**How are you monitoring the effectiveness of your approach to ensure everything is working as it should?**

Always watching, listening and being prepared to adapt depending upon how things are going. Parents can contact us at any time to feedback and a questionnaire will be sent home in a few weeks to gather some information that way. Mrs Smith will work with the pupils to gather their perspectives also. This is new for us all and by working together and respecting each other's views, I know we can create a safe and thriving learning environment for us all.



Coming to school in the morning.





### Aberdeenshire Council Primary School Menus – Spring & Summer 2020

#### Week 1

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Hot Option</b>	<b>Hot Option</b>	<b>Hot Option</b>	<b>Hot Option</b>	<b>Hot Option</b>
Cheese & Tomato Pizza V served with Sweetcorn Cobettes & Penne Pasta  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with Apple Cake	Breaded Fillet of Haddock served with Garden Peas & Chips  Fruit of the Day served with an Oatie Biscuit	Our Butcher's Beef Burger in a Bun served with Seasonal Vegetable & Fruit Bites  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with a Butterscotch Cookie	Our Butcher's Recipe Pork Sausages served with Baked Beans & Mashed Potatoes  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with a Brownie	Traditional Roast Chicken served with Gravy, Mealie Broccoli & Roast Potatoes  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with Carrot Cake
<b>Cold Option</b>	<b>Cold Option</b>	<b>Cold Option</b>	<b>Cold Option</b>	<b>Cold Option</b>
Chicken Mayonnaise Wrap served with Salad Garnish & Sweetcorn Cobettes  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with Apple Cake	Cheese Baguette V served with Salad Garnish & Pizza Finger  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with an Oatie Biscuit	Ham Sandwiches served with Salad Garnish & Seasonal Vegetable & Fruit Bites  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with a Butterscotch Cookie	Tuna Mayonnaise Wrap served with Salad Garnish & Pineapple  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with a Brownie	Cheese Sandwich served with Salad Garnish & Pizza Finger  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with Carrot Cake

V = Vegetarian

Menus may be subject to change without notice due to unforeseen circumstances.

All meals will be served with a mini homemade bread roll and a bag of vegetable sticks



### Aberdeenshire Council Primary School Menus – Spring & Summer 2020

#### Week 2

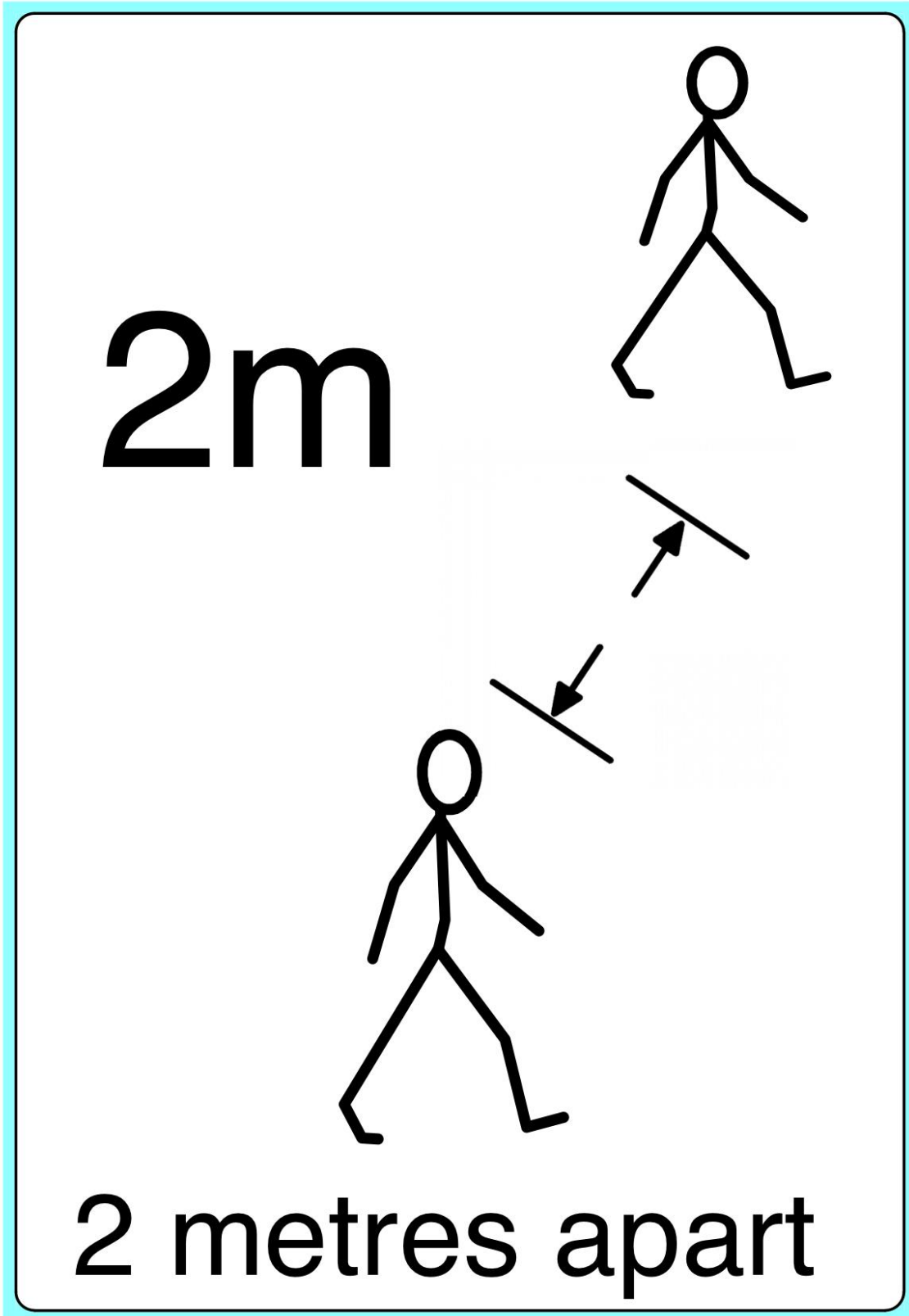
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Hot Option</b>	<b>Hot Option</b>	<b>Hot Option</b>	<b>Hot Option</b>	<b>Hot Option</b>
Our Butcher's Recipe Pork Sausages in Gravy served in a Yorkshire Pudding with Sliced Carrots & Mashed Potatoes  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with an Oatie Biscuit	Cheese & Tomato Pizza V served with Tomato Wedges, Carrot Sticks & Chips  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with Sweet P Muffin	Spaghetti Bolognese served with Sweetcorn & Garlic Bread  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with Shortbread	Macaroni Cheese V served with Garden Peas & Homemade Crusty Bread  Fresh Fruit of the Day and Cheese & Biscuits	Sausage Roll served with Baked Beans & Mashed Potatoes  Orange Wedges served with a Chocolate Yoghurt Muffin
<b>Cold Option</b>	<b>Cold Option</b>	<b>Cold Option</b>	<b>Cold Option</b>	<b>Cold Option</b>
Tuna Mayonnaise Sandwiches served with Salad Garnish & Melon Wedge  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with an Oatie Biscuit	Chicken Mayonnaise Sandwiches served with Salad Garnish & Tomato Wedges  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with a Sweet P Muffin	Cheddar Cheese Sandwiches V served with Salad Garnish & Pasta Salad  Fresh Fruit of the Day served with a Shortbread	Ham Sandwich served with Salad Garnish & Pineapple Finger  Fresh Fruit of the Day and Cheese & Biscuits	Chicken Mayonnaise Wrap served with Salad Garnish & Grated Carrots  Orange Wedges served with a Chocolate Yoghurt Muffin

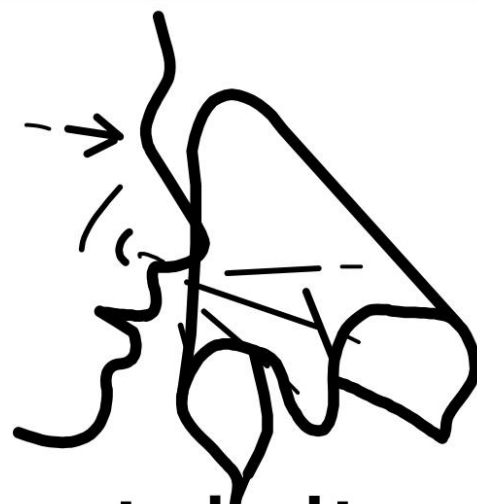
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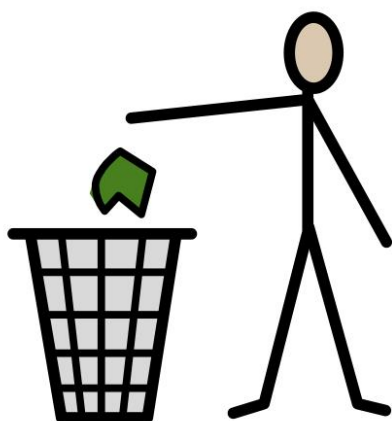
All meals will be served with a mini homemade bread roll and a bag of vegetable sticks



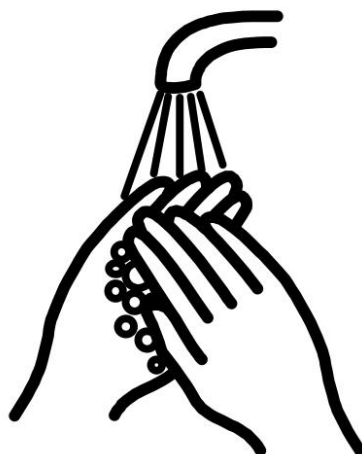




catch it



bin it



kill it

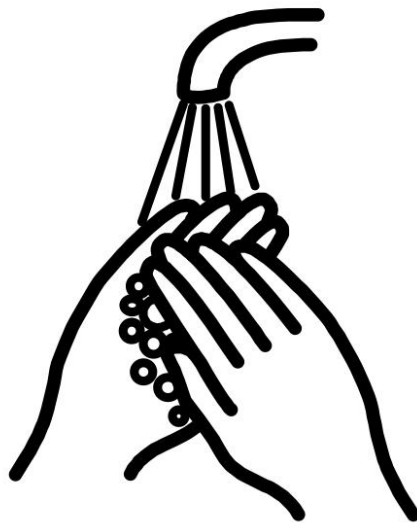


**hand sanitiser**





**keep left**



**wash your hands**