



Principal: S Cumper
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Monday 8th March 2021

Parent/Guardian



Harding Memorial Primary School
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It was wonderful to see our Primary 1, Primary 2 and Primary 3 pupils return to school today for Face to Face Teaching for the first time since the end of the First Term at Harding Memorial Primary School. The Northern Ireland Executive have announced the roadmap that will take us out of lockdown. Whilst it didn't provide dates many would have hoped for, we can at least begin to make plans and estimate timescales based on the criteria identified for when all children will return. Unfortunately P4 to P7 pupils are not permitted to return under the current restrictions. I am hopeful that this will be immediately after Easter but this won't be confirmed by the Executive until the next checkpoint in the middle of March. I am also hopeful that a decision will be made at this time that will allow P1-P3 pupils to remain in school right up to Easter and return after Easter. I would just like to say once again that we really appreciate the hard work and effort that you as Parent/Guardians are putting in to help support the children at this time. It is an incredibly challenging time for us all and I would like to express my thanks to all School Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff for their continual hard work and dedication.

Primary 1 to Primary 3 Class Teachers have been planning a variety of educational activities to welcome our children back to school in a positive way after their period of Home/Remote Learning. We will also be taking them outdoors weather permitting for regular breaks and playtime so please ensure that your Child brings warm and waterproof coats to school.

Maintaining safety is everyone's responsibility. Each of us has a part to play and all Adults, Staff and Parents, Grandparents, Child Minders etc. need to fully co-operate with social distancing, and wearing face coverings on school grounds. It is widely recognised that it is socialisation around Primary Schools by adults and socialisation around Post Primary schools by the pupils themselves on transport etc. that has the potential to cause a rise in transmission rates again. If everyone in our school plays their part we can ensure this does not happen at Harding Memorial Primary School



- **Please wash hands regularly**
- **Please wear face coverings in school grounds (unless you are exempt)**
- **Please make space for each other and maintain social distancing of 2m from other adults**

- **The Harding Memorial Primary School building is closed to all visitors except our Children, Staff and Essential Visiting Workers.**
- **All School Parent/Guardians will be actively discouraged from entering our School Building as a means of preventing spread of the virus.**
- **Instead we encourage communication by either telephoning the school 90458040 or by emailing info@hardingmemorial.belfast.ni.sch.uk**

It is vitally important that parents keep their children home from school when they are experiencing any symptom of the Coronavirus ie a new continuous cough, high temperature or loss of taste and smell. Children who are ill at all, should not be sent to school and they will be isolated and sent home immediately if they are found to be ill or become ill during the school day to give our staff and parents confidence that our school is a safe and healthy place to learn and work, especially during current restrictions. We may appear "fussier about this than normal", especially for working parents, but we ask for your patience and understanding in advance.

Harding At Home Video – March 2021



Harding At Home - March 2021

We are pleased to share with Pupils, Parents and Staff the latest Harding At Home Video. Please stay safe and we hope to see you all soon



Harding At Home March 2021

Harding At Home - March 2021

<http://www.hardingmemorial.org.uk/news/view/121>



Integrated Education brings together pupils, staff and governors from Protestant, Catholic and other cultural traditions within a single school community.

In June 2019, the parents of pupils at Harding Memorial Primary School were asked to vote on whether the Board of Governors should submit a proposal to transform to become an Integrated school.

212 people voted (67% turn out) and 185 of them voted YES (87%)

During 2020, the Education Authority asked local schools and others for their opinion. No local school or organisation made any objection. The Education Authority have expressed their support.

They want to hear what local people and other schools and organisations think about the proposal. To have your say, send an email to dps@education-ni.gov.uk by **29th March 2021**. After this date, the Minister for education will make his decision about the proposal.

There is no form to fill in, or any particular question to answer. The Department basically want to know if you support the proposal.

We need your support!

Please email: dps@education-ni.gov.uk

Use the subject heading: Harding Memorial DP657 – public consultation response

And write a few lines, a few paragraphs or an essay to say that you think it's a good idea.

We are hosting an update meeting via Zoom on Wednesday 10th March at 8pm and we would love you to join us.

The link to attend this meeting is below

<https://zoom.us/j/2972032993?pwd=aDVGWnBDK09vZEtwQk9HSnIPRi9UZz09>