@Ratho_Primary Ratho Primary Learning Links

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P7 Camp at Lagganlia: Information update 9th Sept. 2021

Dear Ratho Primary 7 parents and carers,

Further to the information pack and the meeting regarding camp, I'd like to give a final update to you all in advance of the excursion on Monday 13th September.

Health & Safety: I'd like to assure parents, carers and pupils that:

- We are following the guidance of the City of Edinburgh Council and Health Protection Lothian. We are working closely with both to ensure our health and safety measures are correct and in line with national guidance.
- Both P7 and P6/7 formed their own class 'bubble' last week. From Thursday 9th September, all P7s have formed a single cohort bubble. This is in keeping with guidance from City of Edinburgh Council to enable us to travel as a single group, rather than 2 separate groups.
- Children will be grouped in a dorm of either 3 or 4 children. They will also travel on the coach in these groups. **If one child in the group develops symptoms of Covid, then guidance specifies that all will be close contacts and the parents/carers of those children will be called to come and collect their child to take them for a PCR test**.
- As you know, there is a difference in how we manage Covid positive cases from last session. Only Health Protection Lothian have the authority to isolate a class and none of our classes are advised to isolate. **However, they are closely monitoring our positive Covid cases across the school and they do have the authority to cancel the excursion if they deem it to be a risk to children, staff, instructors or the safe operation of the Lagganlia Outdoor Centre. At time of writing, the excursion is set to proceed.**
- I **do not** have a mandate to request parents/carers administer LFT tests to children or to request non-symptomatic/non-close contact pupils undertake a PCR test in advance of camp. However, if your child may be at risk of carrying the Covid virus, please consider if this is a precaution you could take.

Refunds

- If a child cannot attend due to Covid, the Centre are able to provide a refund for cancellations due to COVID-19 only. This includes your child being identified as a close contact or receiving a positive COVID-19 PCR test result, or your school needing to cancel due to COVID-19.

- Refunds can also be issued for pupils in attendance and then missing part of the residential due to developing COVID-19 symptoms, positive COVID-19 test result or being identified as a close contact. Refunds will be pro-rata (full days).
- There is no possibility to postpone this excursion. Lagganlia/Benmore are fully booked for the rest of the session. Many schools have not taken pupils to Camp for 2 years; there is no scope to cancel another school's booking so as we can postpone our trip to a later date. I sincerely hope that all children can attend. If your child cannot attend due to Covid, you will be refunded.

Staying safe until Monday: I am aware many have been doing this already, but please… Can all parents/carers do their best to protect students from Covid close contacts, ie: no sleepovers or high Covid-risk activities.

Final reminders:

- If you have not provided any medication specified in the consent form, please do so by tomorrow, Friday 10th September. We cannot accept medication without it being specified on the consent form.
- Please ensure your child has all the appropriate clothing mentioned on the checklist.
- Please ensure your child has PLENTY of pairs of socks! They will go through many pairs!
- Please remember the vacuum flask, toiletries, towel & toothbrush!
- Children will leave on the coach at approx. 9.30 – 9.45am on Monday… **Please remember a snack, packed lunch and water bottle for the journey**.
- We will return around 1pm on Friday. I will send updates on ETA times when we are on the road. Children will not have a packed lunch on Friday, they will need their lunch upon return.
- We will send Twitter updates daily, but parents can contact the school in the case of emergencies. I will phone parents/carers regarding their child from Lagganlia if needed.

Final reassurance from Lagganlia:

The Lagganlia Outdoor Learning centre is:

- Hugely popular; providing safe, enjoyable and educational outdoor learning.
- Committed to providing a high-quality visit, including minimising COVID-19 risks.
- Owned and operated by The City of Edinburgh Council, which means that Council employees work with your child and your school.

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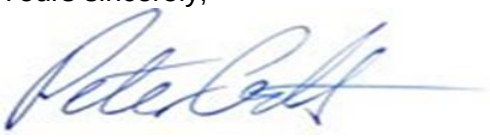
- Subject to relevant Council and Scottish Government COVID-19 schools' guidance, including enhanced cleaning, physical distancing, hand and respiratory hygiene and ventilation.
- Fully COVID-19 risk assessed.
- Experienced in delivering outdoor learning alongside minimising COVID-19 risks.
- Really looking forward to welcoming your child soon! Expect the best outdoor residential from a group of staff who are so pleased to see all your children returning to us.

Change to Staffing:

Unfortunately, we have had to change the staffing and Mr Anderson will no longer accompany us. However, I am delighted to inform that we have Mrs Mitchell, Miss Ogilvy, Miss McGhee and myself (Mr Gibb) on the excursion.

We are delighted to be able to provide the P7 Camp experience for your children and we look forward to a safe and hugely enjoyable trip next week.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Gibb,

Head Teacher.