

Cairney School aspires to be a happy, safe and inclusive learning community where everyone is treated fairly and with respect and encouraged to be the best they can be. Through high-quality, enjoyable, learning experiences, we strive to inspire and challenge our learners to achieve their fullest potential. In our school, learning is an active, exciting, positive experience. We work in partnership with parents, carers and the wider community to enable our children to become

- **Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors.**



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Cairney School Newsletter No. 2: 21st September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

School improvement planning / support during lockdown

Last month we invited everyone to complete a questionnaire to get your views about the school. 6/12 questionnaires were returned and these are summarised as follows:

		Strongly agree	Agree	Dis-agree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Un-answered
Support during lockdown							
1	We felt able to ask for support if we were unsure about something	75%	25%				
2	School kept in regular touch with us	75%	25%				
3	Information was shared regularly with families	75%	25%				
Progress towards school improvement plan 2019/2020							
		Strongly agree	Agree	Dis-agree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Un-answered
1	In session 2019/2020 we have improved approaches to teaching and learning in reading (including non-fiction texts) and French		100%				
2	In session 2019/2020 we improved children's health and well-being through continued promotion of a Growth Mindset, reviewing our behaviour policy and regular outdoor learning		100%				
3	In session 2019/2020, we continued to develop employability skills through STEM family learning events and our partnership working, including parent run clubs	25%	75%				

Thank you for the lovely comments that many of you took time to add to the questionnaires before returning them. They are very much appreciated! 😊

You said:

'Lockdown support was fantastic – over and above in a difficult situation'.

'Cairney School has an excellent network that is always happy to support us parents and the pupils.'

'Reading has always been important at Cairney School. Reading at home is encouraged too which has really improved my daughter's reading'.

'I feel that if the kids are confident and feel safe then they will be keen to learn and not afraid of making mistakes'.

'I think the emphasis on wellbeing/emotional support should be explored. Discussed, supported and challenged at this time and as much peer interaction and activities as possible'.

'Wellbeing is a priority at Cairney School'.

What we are doing:

We will be implementing a “recovery curriculum” in this initial period of school reopening and into next term (please see illustration). For many children they will have experienced 5 losses - of routine, structure, friendship, opportunity and freedom. This can trigger anxiety, trauma and bereavement and cause a rapid erosion of mental health. (Barry Carpenter & Matthew Carpenter 2020). Our recovery curriculum aims to restore mental health and rebuild resilience so that our pupils can become successful learners again. Therefore there will be an emphasis and focus on wellbeing and nurture/support which reflects the priorities identified through this questionnaire.

We support children's wellbeing in a variety of ways. The children are actively encouraged to speak to an adult if they are upset or worried about something. Through teaching and learning experiences we nurture the development of positive relationships, social skills and resilience.

We promote a 'can do' attitude through a growth mind set and encourage the children to develop confidence and self-belief and see mistakes as an opportunity for learning.

To help us to identify when and where or if extra support is needed, we keep track of children's wellbeing based on the eight wellbeing indicators: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What do you think are the key priorities for Cairney School in 2020/2021? Choose two or three words – e.g. wellbeing, literacy etc.

We collated the words that you suggested for priorities and created a 'Wordle'. The more often a word appears in the word list, the larger it will appear in the Wordle. The results show that **wellbeing** and **nurture/support** are the priorities identified by those that filled in the questionnaire.



The information that you provided will help us to decide what to look at next to improve the school.

Poppy Appeal

The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the nature of the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal for this year. This year there will be **no house to house collections**. They have sent us a box of poppies and a collection tin so that if you wish to have a poppy and to make a donation you can do so by sending your donation in to school.

Dates for your diary

Friday 9th October: School closes for the October Holidays

Monday 26th October: School re-opens for Term 2

Friday 20th November: School closed to pupils for In-service day

Friday 18th: December: School closes for Christmas.

Tuesday 5th: January: School opens for Term 3

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Kim C Aplin
Head Teacher

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Parent Comments and Ideas

Please share your child/children's out of school achievements

Name:

Signed: