

# St. Bernadette's Nursery Class

Edward Avenue, Falkirk FK5 4XR

01324 503404

<https://twitter.com/StBernNursery?lang=en-gb>



## August 2021

### Welcome Back!

We hope you all had a lovely summer break !

We would like to welcome our returning children back for their pre-school year along with our new boys and girls who will be starting over the next couple of weeks.

All our learners have settled, comfortably, back into life at St. Bernadette's.

### Nursery Interests

Over the past few weeks our new and returning children have been settling into nursery and getting to know our children and staff.

The staff are following the interests of the child and have noticed they are showing an interest in our new musical resources.

### Staff

Just a little reminder of our nursery staff team

- Mrs Honeyman— Acting Senior Early Years Officer
- Miss Campbell and Miss Wright— (EYO) **Orange Group**
- Mrs McLean— (EYO) **Green Group**
- Miss Trimmer—(EYO) **Blue Group**
- Miss McGuire —(EYO) (Mon-Wed AM) **Purple Group**
- Miss McArdle— (EYO) (Wed PM-Fri) **Purple Group**
- Miss Shields—Peripatetic EYO
- Mrs Anderson—Support for Learning Assistant

We have two Childcare Assistants working 11am-2pm.

- Miss Grant and Miss Kemp.

### Waterproof clothing

At St. Bernadette's Nursery Class we pride ourselves on being an outdoor nursery and try to have our children outdoors for at least half of the session. We ask that all children have appropriate outdoor clothing as we are out in **ALL** weathers. (wellington boots, waterproof jacket and waterproof trousers.)

The NHS website states "the only thing that can cause a cold or flu is a cold or flu virus. Getting cold or wet won't give you a cold."



### Nursery Times

The nursery doors will open for drop off at 9.00am.

The doors will then open for pick up at 2.45pm and all children must be **picked up by 3.00pm at the latest.**

**If you are picking any children up from the school, can you please pick up nursery children first to make sure they are picked up by 3.00pm.**

### Health Checks

Please remember it is Falkirk Council Policy that a child should not return to school or nursery until they are 48 hours clear of any sickness / diarrhoea illness.

Regular checks for Head Lice are always recommended.

**If your child is unwell the best place for them is at home.**

**We cannot ensure children stay inside when recovering from illness as we are an outdoor nursery and children spend a large part of their day outdoors. If your child is not well enough to go outdoors, then they should not be in nursery.**



### Nursery Photographs

Can all parents/carers please hand in a photograph of your child and their family to a member of staff. We have purchased a photo album so children can look at pictures of their families while they spend time in the home corner of our nursery. If you prefer you can email a photograph into the nursery instead.

[stbernadettesprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:stbernadettesprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk)

### Children's choice

The children in St Bernadette's Nursery are valued and respected through giving them the choice in their learning. They choose where they play both indoors and outdoors. They choose when they come for snack. They make decisions on the resources they would like to use that day/week which includes colours of paints, collage materials, the books they are read. This enables the children to be creative and take ownership of their learning. Each week children make choices on the snacks they would like to have the following week. This provides children with skills for life, learning and work.



### Staff Training

Staff have completed Child Protection Training and Fire Safety Training during the in-service days.

Mrs Kinnaird has successfully completed her BA in Childhood Practice at Glasgow University and attended her graduation during the summer.

### Lunches

It has been arranged with Catering Services that we will be continuing the grab bags for lunch at least for the next six weeks these will include a cold and hot option each day along with fruit and tray bake/ yogurt.

Unfortunately, staff are unable to accept any food items/packed lunches for your child at the door. This is a decision that has been made by Catering Services and if parents are unhappy about this then please take this matter up with Sealock House.

### Developing the garden

In the next few months our emphasis is on developing our nursery garden.

If anyone knows where we can source a small tyres e.g. go kart tyres please let a member of staff know.

Please click the link attached for ideas on the resources we require and if you have any of these we would be extremely grateful!

<http://www.playscotland.org/parents-families/loose-parts-play/>

### Nursery Door

Due to COVID-19 guidelines, no parent/carer can accompany their child into the nursery.

All adults must remain 1m apart during drop off and pick up times and continue to wear a face covering unless medically exempt.

On arrival, if there is a larger queue, please remain in your car and use your judgement of when it would be appropriate to join the queue.

On collection staff will monitor the door and release children when parent/guardian is there.

### Twitter

We will post regular updates on Twitter to share the fun and learning that is happening

Please follow us on Twitter using the tag line  
@StBernNursery

If any parent or carer needs support in setting up Twitter or following us, please speak to staff who will be happy to help.

### Keeping in touch

Staff have been using the 'SeeSaw' app before the summer- which is used to communicate with parents. Once existing children have settled back in and welcomed our new children we will give you details on how to download the app and register for you child.

We understand that it is difficult not being allowed into the playroom with your child, but please contact the nursery if you have any concerns or questions you may have. The direct nursery number is 503404.

### Woodland Walks

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are refraining from attending the Larbert Woods as we need to use public transport to get there. We will instead be visiting the Orphan Land which is a short walk from nursery.

We will attend the woodlands in all weather conditions. If woodland sessions were to be cancelled at short notice, we would keep the children in nursery as normal. This would only occur if the weather was too slippery underfoot or if there were exceptionally high winds.

The woodland site can be muddy so old clothes and wellington boots are highly recommended. The nursery do have **some** waterproof trousers and jackets which can be borrowed on arrival but due to COVID-19 restrictions, these are limited. Please ensure your child is sufficiently wrapped up warm.



### Nursery Clothes

Can we ask that all children have at least one pair of spare clothes in their nursery bag in case of accidents.

These can be kept in a bag on their peg.

### Outdoor Play and Learning

Our staff are huge believers in outdoor play and learning, and the benefits it has on children's learning and development. Our children have access to their outdoor environment throughout their day and choose to access it as they wish.

Our children enjoy playing in the 'mud kitchen' as well as using the loose parts to develop their problem solving, social skills and creative skills.

Many of our children engage in 'risky play'. As a parent, this may seem daunting but it is a huge part of our day to day life. Staff support children to challenge themselves during their play. This might involve climbing up a tree, walking along a wobbly plank, rolling tyres or using real life tools. The children are encouraged to assess obstacles prior to attempting them and are always encouraged to 'give it a go' to challenge themselves.

Accidents do happen, and sometimes your child may have a wee fall or tumble. This is all part of the learning experience and observations have shown us that our children are becoming more resilient, meaning they just get up and try again. Staff ensure that children are taking safe risks that cannot cause serious injury or harm.

### Important dates 2021/2022

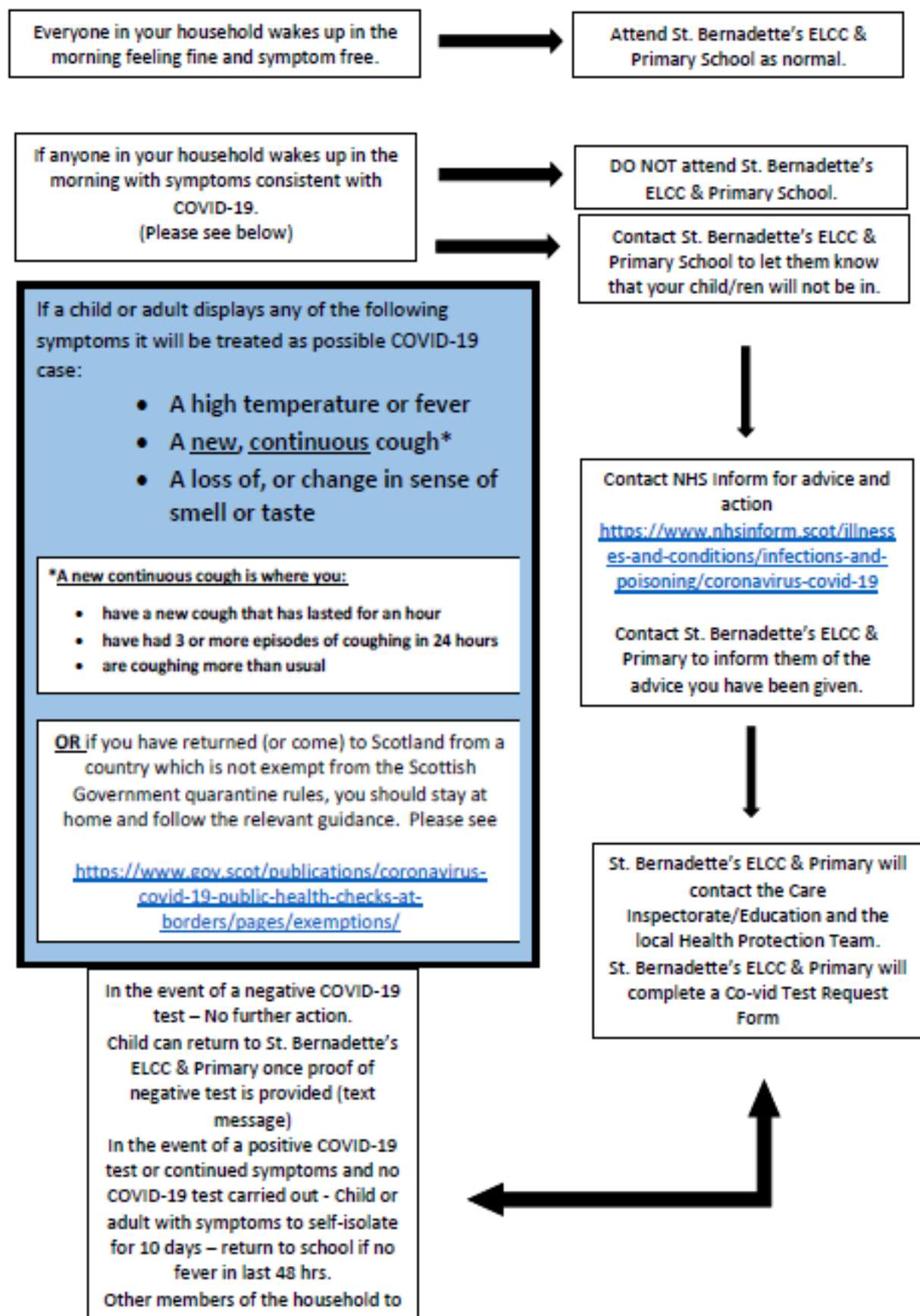
- **September bank holiday**—Monday 13th September
- **October holidays**—Monday 11th October – Friday 15th October
- **Nursery Nativity**— TBC
- **Nursery Christmas Party**— TBC
- **Christmas holidays**— Wednesday 22th December – Tuesday 4th January
- **Public holiday**—Friday 11th February and Monday 14th February
- **In-service day**— Tuesday 15th February (nursery closed)
- **Easter holidays**—Monday 4th April—Monday 18th April
- **May holiday**—Monday 2nd May
- **In-service day**—Thursday 5th May (nursery closed)
- **Summer holidays**—Friday 24th June



**St. Bernadette's ELCC & Primary School**  
**Suspected COVID-19 Flowchart (before St. Bernadette's ELCC & Primary School) August 2020**



The flowchart below will help you make the decision whether to send your child/ren to St. Bernadette's ELCC & Primary School in relation to COVID-19 symptoms.







Mrs Honeyman— Acting Senior Early Years Officer



Miss Trimmer—Early Years Officer (Blue Group)



Mrs MacLean— Early Years Officer ( Green Group)



Miss Shields—Peripatetic Early Years Officer



Miss McGuire—Early Years Officer (Purple Group)



Miss McArdle—Early Years Officer (Purple Group)



Miss Campbell—Early Years Officer (Orange Group)



Miss Wright—Early Years Officer (Orange Group)



Mrs Anderson—Support for Learning Assistant



Miss Kemp— Childcare Assistant



Miss Grant—Childcare Assistant