



# SAINT MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY UNIT

*Eco-School Green Flag Award 2017*

Principal: Mr P Gilchrist

E mail: pgilchrist570@c2kni.net

Telephone: 028427 28278

53, Windmill Hill  
Portaferry  
Co. Down  
BT 22 1RH

7<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Lower Ards Peninsula Supervised Hub**

From Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April, primary school pupils from **St. Mary's PS Portaferry**, St Patrick's PS Ballygalget, St. Mary's PS, Portaferry, Portaferry Integrated PS, and St. Mary's PS, Kircubbin requiring a supervised place will be accommodated in **St. Columba's College, Portaferry** with a parent defined as a key worker and/or pupils considered vulnerable.

All requests are dependent upon the school being able to offer a safe level of staffing. **Places must be booked by 11 a.m. on the preceding Friday** for a given week.

Primary pupils will be supervised by staff from the primary schools. Parents and carers should contact the primary principals directly regarding this.

If you feel you may need to avail of this, please email me at pgilchrist570@c2kni.net before 12 noon on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April so initial plans can be made.

On days when no children require supervision staff will work from home and the school will report as not being open on the DE website.

Please note the following:

- **This provision is only available as a last resort** and should not be used if any alternative arrangements are possible. The safest place for BOTH children and staff is at home.
- Supervision will be provided for your child's normal school day.
- Home to school transport is not available – parents must transport pupils to and from school at agreed times.
- Lunch is not provided – pupils must bring their own.
- The provision will be constantly reviewed and will cease if it is considered unsafe to continue with it.

These are challenging times and we greatly value the work that everyone is doing to limit the long-term impact of this potentially devastating virus. This situation is continually developing, and we will endeavour to keep you informed of any future changes as promptly as possible.

We keep you all in our thoughts and prayers and as ever, thank you for your support.

Kind regards

Mr Gilchrist  
Principal