



St MacNissi's Primary School
Christine Road
Newtownabbey
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17th December 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we move towards the Christmas break, a number of you have asked about school possibly closing early before Christmas and possible changes to re-opening after the Christmas break

Firstly, I wish to thank you all for your support in observing all the mitigations in place to allow us to stay safe as possible. The children within school have shown such awareness of the new procedures in place and a care for each other's safety. However, as we are all aware, there is a very concerning increase in COVID infection rates.

At this point, following all guidance, St MacNissi's P.S. plans to be open next week closing, as planned, on Wednesday 22nd of December and re-opening on Thursday 6th January. As anxiety increases around the development of the Omicron coronavirus variant, it is understandable that some parents will be worried and anxious about being able to enjoy Christmas with their families and will prefer to withdraw their child/ren from school both to protect the children and valuable members of their family.

I have absolutely no problem with this and totally understand if that is your choice as a parent trying to protect your family Christmas. I would only ask that you contact school, via email and inform us that your child will be off.

In terms of your child missing out on school work, as it is the final days before Christmas, no new learning will be attempted in the lead up to holidays as the children are too excited to take in new information, so please do not worry about that.

Finally, may I take this opportunity once again on behalf of the school community, to wish you a very happy and safe Christmas and to thank you for your continuing support in helping us to maintain a safe environment as possible.

Take care

J. McAuley.