

# THE ROYAL SCHOOL

ARMAGH (Founded by Royal Charter in 1608)



**Head Teacher:**

Mr G.G.W. Montgomery, B.A (Hons), P.G.C.E., P.Q.H. (NI)

7 November 2023

Dear parent or guardian

As part of our duty of care we regularly undertake reviews of routine health and safety on site. Recently we have been advised that to comply with Department of Education regulations on class sizes we need to make some modifications to the structure of science practical lessons for 8C, 10B and for any classes who have Science in Science Lab 8. The reason is to ensure that class sizes during practical activities are proportionate, thus ensuring we minimise risks associated with some science experiments.

I am sure we all agree that practical aspects of lessons add excitement to learning and we want to be able to continue to undertake practicals and conduct experiments. The procedure we will adopt therefore is one of pupil rotation during practicals, whereby some pupils will be swapped out of class for some practicals and have provision elsewhere. By opting for rotation, we will be able to comply with safety requirements, continue with experiments and practicals but also and crucially minimise the time any individual pupil is away from a practical lesson. This way we will be able to ensure that each pupil has the maximum opportunity for hands-on learning across the year.

When a pupil is not engaged in a practical activity, they will work on science tasks in another supervised science setting.

This letter is simply to keep you informed. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Elizabeth Murray  
Vice Principal Curriculum

