



Dear all,

It has been wonderful welcoming all our students this week. I am not sure if they realise it, but we really have missed them so much. This week has been very much about transition and sharing information regarding Healthy and Safety and our new ways of working. We will continue to reinforce these messages and especially through Key Adult time in the morning but it would also be really helpful if you could reinforce these at home.

So, some updates:

### **Arrival**

#### **From Monday 17 August**

**S1-3** will have access to our playground from 8.00am but they will not have access to the school building until 8.15am onwards. They should enter the playground from the first set of gates as you enter McLeod Street from Gorgie Road.

**S4-6** will have access through our main entrance from 8.15am. They should aim to arrive between 8.15am and 8.25am as there will be no access to school before this time.

### **Departure**

- S1 – 3.00pm Monday, 3.10pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and 12.05pm Friday.
- S2 – 3.05pm Monday, 3.15pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and 12.10pm Friday
- S3 – 3.10pm Monday, 3.20pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and 12.15pm Friday
- S4 – normal school finish time every day.
- S5 – normal school finish time every day.
- S6 – normal school finish time every day.

### **Health and Safety**

Our students have been making an excellent job of using sanitiser on entering and leaving school, before each class and before and after break. They know that this, together with our one-way system and social distancing where possible, is for everyone's safety and these measures are non-negotiable in terms of the safety of us all. Please do reinforce this.

### **Face Coverings**

We have quite a number of young people and staff who are wearing a face covering for all or part of the day. Please remind your child that the option is there should they wish to do so. These can be expensive so do contact Mrs McGregor through our website if you would like a face covering as we have a number which have been donated to the school.

## **Timetable**

Your child will have let you know (hopefully) that we are operating a double period model across two weeks to limit the movement of students in line with the Scottish Government guidelines. This has been quite tricky for some students as you can imagine so if you are able to go over this with them at home this would be much appreciated. A copy of our week 1 and week 2 timetable can be found on the website.

## **Breaks and Lunches**

We now have staggered breaks and lunches and students have separate areas where possible for inside dining and sitting. From Monday they can pre-order their lunch in KA time to quicken the queueing process.

S1 are not allowed out of the school grounds at all. S2 and upwards are allowed out at lunchtime but must only do so only if you are happy for them to do this and they wear face coverings when in shops. Due to social distancing buying lunch in the community can take longer so a packed lunch or using our canteen might be preferable.

## **Physical Education classes (PE)**

**From Monday 17** Students should come dressed in soft shoes suitable for outdoor low level activity if they have PE on their timetable

**From Monday 24** Students should come dressed in full PE kit (school colours where possible) when they have PE on their timetable.

Please note that all PE will take place outdoors and so, because we live in Scotland, classes will go to a classroom for appropriate work/study when the weather is inclement.

## **Online Learning**

Although we are not operating Blended Learning in the same way as we did during Lockdown, please note that your child is expected to check their Teams and emails daily as staff will still use these to varying degrees. Please also note that S3 will be issued with iPads over the next couple of weeks and as with S4-6 must ensure that they bring it to school fully charged every day as it will be integral to their learning.

I am sorry that this letter has been so long but as always please do get in touch if you have any questions or feedback for us. This is new for all of us all but one of the real highlights of lockdown was seeing how well we work together as a school community during crisis and how this resulted in lots of creative ideas so please do continue to share.

Lastly, thank you so much for the positive messages and thanks that we have received this week – it really does help.

Until next week do take care, stay connected and most importantly, stay safe.

Hazel Kinnear



Head Teacher