



6 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, can I say that I hope that you and your families have managed some rest time over the summer and that whether you managed to go away or not that you are feeling refreshed and ready for this next stage. I am so pleased that following Scottish Government advice we are now all planning for the return of your children to school. It has been such a long and difficult journey for us all but I hope that, like me, they are very much looking forward to returning. We know that not everyone will find the transition easy, but please be assured that we will do everything that we can to make the process as safe and supportive as possible.

Firstly, following the communication from CEC earlier, I am now in a position to share with you our arrangements for the **phased return to school from Wednesday 12 August.**

#### **Wednesday 12 August**

##### **S1 and S2 only.**

S1 to arrive ready to start at 8.25am

S2 to arrive ready to start at 8.45am

S1 to be released at 3.15pm

S2 to be released at 3.30pm

#### **Thursday 13 August**

##### **S3 and S4 only**

S3 to arrive ready to start at 8.25am

S4 to arrive ready to start at 8.45am

S3 to be released at 3.15pm

S4 to be released at 3.30pm

#### **Friday 14 August**

##### **S5 and S6 only**

S5 and S6 to arrive ready to start at 8.25am

S5 and S6 to be released at 12.25pm

**From Monday 17 August all students will be in school full time.**

## **Arrival and Departure**

Please note that when students arrive at school they should make their way directly to their Tutor Time classroom as all days will start with Key Adult time. A note of the classrooms for each Tutor Group will be found on our website and we will ensure that staff are available to direct and support any new students and especially our S1 cohort.

When departing from school, students must make their way directly and must not congregate in the atrium or foyer. If you are making arrangements for drop off or collection please arrange for a meeting point away from McLeod Street to avoid congestion.

## **Travel Arrangements**

Where possible, walking and cycling are encouraged, and we have the facilities for the secure lock-up of bikes. When using public transport please ensure that your child is aware of the necessity for a face covering during travel.

## **Breaks and Lunches**

Breaks and lunchtimes will be staggered. Specific arrangements for lunches are expected shortly and I will share these with you as soon as I receive them.

## **Face coverings**

Face coverings are not required in school but some students and staff may choose to wear one and this is absolutely fine.

## **Physical Distancing**

While there will be no requirement for pupils to maintain 2m distancing from each other in class (although they will be seated in particular arrangements to provide some distancing) there are some simple expectations of pupils as regards distancing while in other parts of school:

- At break times pupils should try to remain with their usual year group and avoid mixed-year groupings.
- Try and maintain distance (2m if possible, but as much as possible otherwise)
- Physical contact – especially handshakes, hugs and other greetings that involve close contact – should be avoided.
- Avoid prolonged time spent face-to-face with others (it will seem strange but being side-to-side to talk would be better).
- Where possible go outside to meet with friends.
- If a location is already busy – go somewhere else.
- When pupils leave the school grounds they must follow all the regulations in force for distancing.

## **General Good Hygiene**

- Frequent hand washing/sanitising will be expected of everyone in the school.
- There will be hand sanitiser at every classroom door as well as at entry/exit points to the school and in the dining room.
- Pupils must use the sanitiser when entering and leaving the school building.
- Pupils must use the sanitiser when entering and leaving a classroom.

- Pupils must wash their hands when they use the toilet.
- Proper mouth/face hygiene should be practiced at all times
- Avoid touching your face, eyes, mouth;
- Cover coughs and sneezes with the inside of your elbow.
- Any used tissues should be disposed of properly and carefully in a bin (or taken home for proper disposal) then wash or sanitise your hands.
- Surfaces should be wiped down after you have finished at them – at the end of each lesson all pupils will be required to wipe down their desk area and seat. This is not optional.
- Do not share food and drink with others.
- Do not share your personal items with others – including your mobile phone.
- Face coverings are not mandatory but can be worn by pupils if they wish.

### **Hand washing and use of sanitiser**

Sanitiser will be available at the entrance to the school, outside classrooms and at other key points throughout the building. Students will be reminded about how to wash their hands and use sanitiser safely. You may wish to encourage your child to carry a pocket sanitiser too for use in the community.

### **School Uniform**

Students are expected to be in uniform as normal. School bags can be carried as normal but students should ensure that they do not share any resources with other students. This also applies to iPads and mobile phones which should be cleaned regularly.

### **Curriculum**

Specific guidance for practical subjects including PE, Music and HE are expected and will be shared as soon as we receive them.

Please be assured that we will be focusing on the health and wellbeing of students - rebuilding relationships - as well as taking stock with learning and identifying gaps and next steps over the next few weeks. We will also be communicating regularly as we did during lockdown so please do look out for emails, share with others, follow us on twitter and ensure that we have your most up to date email address.

As always, please do get in touch if there is anything I have not covered. Staff will be in school next Monday and Tuesday for in-service and preparation but please note that there is no access to the school building for parents/carers without an appointment, in line with the new guidance. You can of course telephone and email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Until we see your children next week please do continue to take care, stay connected and most importantly stay safe.

Yours sincerely,



Hazel Kinnear  
Head Teacher