



ELLON ACADEMY WEEKLY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS



To: All parents/carers
From: Pauline Buchan, Rector
Subject: Weekly Information Up-date
Date: Friday 15th January 2021

Another busy week here at Ellon Academy and virtual Ellon Academy too! I've been having technical difficulties with my computer set up, so hopefully that will be resolved with some new hardware soon. Our young people accessing school provision this week have been exceptional in their attitude and conduct and we are always happy to help those families who are keyworkers and need this provision.

Here are the updates for this week:

Virtual Assembly:

As you will be aware, I've had sound and video difficulties with my IT this week. I can't get both sound and vision for the moment, but hopefully that will be resolved soon. I have posted the week's assembly again, with sound only, so hopefully parents, carers and pupils will now be able to tune in. Here is the link for those who do not have Facebook: <https://youtu.be/Ws25nAGP2vI>

Next Parent Council Meeting

The next virtual Parent Council Meeting is on Wednesday 3rd February at 7pm.

Remote Learning from Home in January 2021

Learning from Home:

Staff have continued to work remotely from home, planning and preparing for on-line remote learning for all our pupils. As you will know, the Learning Schedule will be sent home to all parents/carers and pupils on Fridays, one for S1/2/3 and another for S4/5/6.. We are also happy to support families with ICT to support learning from home, so please get in touch if you require a device for your child to access during lockdown.

Children of Key Workers and vulnerable children who are accessing the in-school provision will also began on-line learning from Mon 11th January. Their experience mirrors their peers at home so that no pupils are at any learning advantage for equity reasons. The school day follows the usual timings, apart from Mondays and Tuesdays when the lunch time is from 12.10 – 1.00pm to match those times on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Therefore, on Mondays and Tuesdays, lunch will be after Period 4 and the afternoon session will start at 1.00pm – 3.30pm.

Information re Remote Learning from Education Scotland:

Please follow this link to information about what to expect from remote learning from Education Scotland:
[Ellon Academy Community Campus](#)

On-line Registration:

All pupils will receive an invite to their Registration Google Classroom and so that we can track and monitor pupils' wellbeing and engagement, we will be asking pupils to log on to their Register Class at 10am each school day morning to check in with their register teacher and register class to encourage and support them to engage in the learning for that day. This has been going well with over 1000 learners logging in on the first day last week. Thanks to parents/carers for supporting this.

Google Guardian:

You will also have received a letter regarding Google Guardian, and we encourage all parents to sign up for this service which is linked to your child's Google Classroom account. Google Guardian will push out notifications of work due etc for your child/children, which we hope will be helpful for all parents/carers. The email to sign up will be sent separately.

The email for parents and pupils to contact for IT help is:

techsupportellonacademy@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Wellbeing Tracker:

Our House Teams (Guidance, ASL and DHT House) will be reviewing pupils' wellbeing based on regular check-ins with vulnerable young people and through the Registration, Guidance/PSE Google Classrooms. Guidance staff will be in touch if there are any concerns and in turn, do not hesitate to contact your child's Principal Teacher of Guidance if you have any concerns to share.

Cheyne House -	Mrs P Waugh	paula.waugh@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Forbes House -	Miss N Jeffrey	nicole.jeffrey@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Keith House -	Mr K Findlay	kris.findlay@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
McDonald House -	Mrs C Kaczmarek	claire.kaczmarek@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Sinclair House -	Miss M Watt	may.watt@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
-	Mrs L Donald	lyndsey.donald@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Subject Choices:

Mr Cowie DHT has been working on a video presentation for all pupils, parents/carers with details and information regarding the subject choice process for this year. The video presentation will be available to all early next week and parents/carers and pupils will also be able to view our Subject Choice Information Booklet which provides information about each subject/course and this year we are using Microsoft Forms for an electronic option form.

SQA:

I had hoped that I would have some up-dates to share, but no further information at present. I will share future up-dates as soon as they are received.

January Assessment Block:

The senior phase assessment block has been cancelled for obvious reasons, and following SQA advice, we will make decisions as to what is best for our learners going forward.

Website up-dates:

Please follow the link below to the latest up-dates on our Ellon Academy school website:

<https://ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/parent-zone/>

Thank you once more for your continued support,

Yours sincerely,

P Buchan

Pauline Buchan, Rector 15.1.21