

Good afternoon parents and carers,

Sunday 22nd March 2020

Latest advice on school arrangements during this Public Health Emergency

I apologise for getting in touch on a Sunday, but following the First Minister's announcement this afternoon, there is no longer a requirement for schools to plan to target senior pupils to attend school sessions to complete SQA coursework, projects and assignments. I feel that this is the safest and fairest way forward for all senior pupils in S4, S5 and S6. However, our young people in the senior phase will be anxious about this, and we await more direction from the SQA in how best we ensure that teacher estimates for qualifications are based on best judgements of each young person's potential to achieve. Pupils will still receive their qualifications in August, despite these unprecedented changes.

Therefore, **the school is closed**, but pupils who are entitled to receive free school meals can access this provision between 12pm and 1pm in the school canteen.

Also, we have extremely limited capacity to provide child care for the young people of Category 1 Keyworker status parents, and we would urge parents, even in this category, to use school based child care as a **last resort**. Please do not send your child if you are **not** in this category, because spaces are reserved for key NHS workers. Any young people arriving at school, should be accompanied by their Keyworker parents, who will be asked to provide evidence of Category 1 Keyworker status, bearing in mind that both parents should be category 1 keyworkers to qualify for a child care place. However, category 1 keyworkers who are single parents, and those keyworkers whose partners maybe off shore, are included.

Teaching staff have been told to stay at home, so no educational input will be included in child care provision, but we will direct any pupils who arrive to our preloaded work on the school's Glow page.

This is a Public Health Emergency and to reduce the spread of Coronavirus, teachers have been advised to work from home, so we will ensure that there is a regular and updated supply of pupil materials online.

Thank you all for your patience once again and I will keep in touch.

Keep safe and take care,

Thank you and kind regards,

P Buchan

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