

1 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

UPDATE FOR SENIOR SCHOOL

First of all, I hope this letter finds you safe and well and coping as best you can with the unusual circumstances we are all now beginning to get used to. I know in my own household, creating and maintaining a good routine is challenging. The most important thing for all of us is to stay well and stay safe.

A number of you have been in touch with us through various means to ask about senior pupils and specifically, when there would be some work for them to focus on. Recent SQA announcements mean then that courses are finished for S4-S6 pupils. S6 are moving on to life beyond school (as are some of our S4 and S5 pupils – we wish all of you every success for your future) but for everyone else, school continues.

Moving on to next steps then, I have conducted a consultation exercise with staff on whether to move forward with an early start to next year's timetable. We have reached agreement that rather than wait until the start of June, we will begin the new timetable three weeks early, on the 11th May (a week on Monday). You will hear from us in a number of ways before then about what work there is, where it can be accessed and how to keep in touch.

When that advice comes, please remember, as we have been saying to S1-S3 pupils and their families, this is not intended to be a direct replacement for school. It will be 2-3 hours per day of work as a maximum expectation. What work we set will be designed to be achievable at home and we will address any issues you come across as best we can. We have no indication of when school will re-open, so we need to plan to get the work started early, since we cannot expect to get through the same quantity and depth as normal.

For now, be patient with one another (yes, I promise to try and take my own advice at home too!), hold the position on social distancing with your children, family and friends and we will get through this together.

Yours faithfully

Brian Asher
Headteacher

