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Headteacher Miss Lynn Black



17 February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### Part-time Return – Senior Phase

As per the government guidance and the FM's announcement yesterday we are now in a position to start a gradual part-time return of pupils in the senior phase. **The default position is still remote learning for the vast majority of pupils.** The return is limited to pupils who are taking subjects that contain practical elements and who cannot progress without access to equipment and resources in school.

The maximum number of senior phase pupils we can have in school at any one time is 5-8% of our school roll. For Beeslack this equates to a maximum of 56 students. This does not include the pupils who are present in the Hub.

### Social Distancing and Hygiene

As well as the existing health and safety measures we have had in place since our return in August there are additional mitigations for the part-time return to school. These are include:

- Maintaining **2 metre social distancing** for everyone
  - **Minimal movement** of students where possible
  - **2 metre social distancing on School transport**
  - **Staggered social times** interval and lunchtimes
  - **Test and protect compliance – attendance monitoring** is crucial to ensure we know where students/staff have been and who they have been with throughout the day.
  - **Fewer students in school** at any one time to ensure social distancing
  - Limited time in school
  - **all pupils must continue to wear a face covering** when in the building.
- the offer of **at-home testing using lateral flow devices to all staff and Senior Phase students**, with a strong expectation that this offer is taken up and at-home testing undertaken twice a week. ( Information will be sent home separately regarding testing)

### Part-time Timetable Arrangements

We are delighted to be able to welcome some of our pupils back to school next week. In order to accommodate the reduction in numbers, class capacity and social distancing each of the subject groups will be split in two and we will operate a two week rota.

Week One – 22.2.21	Group A
Week Two – 1.3.21	Group B

The pupils will be expected in school from 8.30am – 12.30pm. However, some subjects may require students to stay in school for the full day. If this is the case it the students will be informed on the class team page.

The timetable is based on our column structure and teachers will post in teams the details of which group and which day your child should attend.

The timetable is included below for information but please check with your child which group and days apply to them.

Week One - Group A									
Monday	Column A/B	Tuesday	Column E	Wednesday	Column C	Thursday	Column F	Friday	Column D
8.30 - 12.30pm		8.30 - 12.30pm		8.30 - 12.30pm		8.30 - 12.30pm		8.30 - 12.30pm	
Subject		Subject		Subject		Subject		Subject	
Drama		PWW		Games Dev		Music		Art	
Art		Music Tech		Photography		PWW		Music	
Art		Art							
Health and Food tech		HF Tech							
Hosp SKW									
Week Two - Group B									
Monday	Column A/B	Tuesday	Column E	Wednesday	Column C	Thursday	Column F	Friday	Column D
8.30 - 12.30pm		8.30 - 12.30pm		8.30 - 12.30pm		8.30 - 12.30pm		8.30 - 12.30pm	8.30 - 12.05pm
Subject		Subject		Subject		Subject		Subject	
Music		PWW		Games Dev		Music		Art	
HF Tech		Music Tech		Photography		PWW		Music	
Hosp SKW		Art							
Drama		HF Tech							

Pupils are not required to wear school uniform when attending school. All senior phase students should use the **CDT/PE entrance and exit to school**. Pupils will be collected by their teacher on arrival at school and will be escorted to their classroom area. This is to ensure we keep the Hub classes and senior phase students separate. Pupils should sanitise their hands on entry to the building and then follow the usual hygiene protocols as well as maintain 2M social distancing from staff and their peers.

As intimated in an earlier letter BACS transfer payments will remain in place for those entitled to free school meals and lunch will continue to be provided for Hub pupils only.

School transport will operate as normal, pupils should continue to wear their mask on school or public transport and should maintain 2M social distancing. Any pupil who is not able to go home at 12.30pm when their class finishes e.g. requires school transport will be accommodated in school until 3.20pm.

If a senior phase student does require to be in school for a full day they are not permitted to leave the school premises at lunchtime or go to Tesco. If they forget to bring lunch with them we will ensure they are provided with a lunch in school.

The pick-up and drop off area for those arriving or being collected by car remains the same at the bus turning bay adjacent to the 3G pitch.

Links to the most up to date Government Guidance are included below for information.

- [Coronavirus \(COVID19\): Advisory Sub-Group on Education and Children's Issues – advice on mitigations to minimise transmission of COVID-19 during phased return to in-person learning](#)
- [PDF file: Prioritising the return of senior phase learners: technical guidance for providing senior phase practical work in-school \(369 KB\)](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance on reducing the risks in schools - October 2020](#)

We are looking forward to welcoming some of our student back next week. If you have any questions regarding their return please get in touch.

Best wishes

*L Black*

Lynn Black  
Headteacher



## School Uniform and Equipment

Following public health advice and guidance pupils in Midlothian Council will not be expected to wear school uniform when they return to school in August. *(Some councils are insisting on uniform, so there may be variations that you may be aware of)*. This is simply to allow families frequent opportunities to wash school clothes and to avoid the use of changing facilities. If a pupil is in school for two consecutive days they **must** wear different clothes on each of these days. We recommend smart/casual clothing which must be appropriate for school *(no cropped tops, football colours or strips)* and will allow students to engage in all aspects of the curriculum. Outdoor learning and activities may well be increased and pupils should be prepared to be outside during the course of the school day.

If a pupil has PE then they should dress in clothing which is suitable for PE activities outdoors and in all weather conditions. **THERE WILL BE NO USE OF THE CHANGING FACILITIES.**

When we return to a normal school provision we will expect all pupils to wear our school uniform. Parents/Carers and pupils will be notified when this will happen.

Pupils can bring school bags with them, these must remain under desks in class and should not be left in school overnight. Pupils should come equipped with a pencil case, pen, pencils, rubbers, rulers and sharpeners. Pupils will be provided with a calculator should it be required. (Pupils will be provided with equipment should they forget to bring it from home)

Our normal protocol for mobile phones in school applies – phones should be off and away in school unless a teacher has given permission for a pupil to use this as part of their learning activities.

## School Interval and Lunchtimes – Catering

When we return in August there will be no catering services available in school. Pupils will be expected to bring a snack/drink for interval and a packed lunch which will be eaten in their classroom or supervised outside – weather permitting. We will be operating staggered intervals and lunchtimes to minimise contact with other young people in the building.

Parents of pupils who are in receipt of free school meals will continue to receive a monthly payment direct to their bank account from Midlothian Council to cover the cost of their meal. If a pupil forgets to bring their packed lunch with them there will be provision for them and a lunch will be provided.

## School transport

We are working with the transport planning department on school buses for the start of the session. We have provided the transport team with the information they require and the days of the week each pupil will be expected to attend school. We have amended our picking up and dropping off areas for when we return to ensure there are no large groups congregating and social distancing is adhered to. (see appendix 2)

Pupils walking, cycling or using public transport arrangement will remain unchanged. Pupils should be aware of public health guidance and the use of face masks on public transport.