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Headteacher Miss Lynn Black



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Dear Parent/Carer

Covid Contingency Plans Scenario 2 – High Levels of Staff Absence

We have returned after the mid-term break to exceptionally high staff absence due to Covid-19. As a result, we have insufficient staffing in school to ensure we can safely cover all classes.

In consultation with Midlothian Council we have made the decision to move to scenario 2 in our contingency plans. This means we are prioritising senior phase classes for in school learning and moving to remote learning for specific year groups on **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday this week**. This situation is far from ideal I understand this is challenging for everyone, our full contingency plans are available, for information, on the school website.

The arrangements for this week are as follows:

Year group	Wednesday 23 rd	Thursday 24 th	Friday 25 th
S1	Home Learning	In School	In School
S2	In School	Home Learning	In school
S3	In School	In School	Home Learning
S4-6	In School	In School	In School

- This week appropriate assignments and materials will be posted to Google Classroom. The work set may directly reflect the work being completed in class. However, in some circumstances, including practical subjects, where completing practical activities may be restricted at home, there will be appropriate theory or consolidation work to complete instead.
- While school remains open, staff time will be focused on 'in class, in person' learning.

I hope as the week progresses the situation with our staffing levels improves and we will be operating as normal again next week. I will provide you with a further update on Friday in preparation for next week.

Changes to School Covid Guidance from Monday 28th February

You may be aware that the Scottish Government have updated their guidance for schools. From Monday 28th February the following changes apply:

- Pupils and staff should continue to wear a face covering (unless exempt) in corridors and social areas in school.
- When seated in class pupils and teachers are no longer required to wear a face covering.
- There is some easing of restrictions with regard to assemblies and these will be reintroduced on a phase basis – pupils will be expected to wear a face covering if attending an assembly.

All other mitigations remain the same.

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Best wishes

L Black

Lynn Black
Headteacher