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Headteacher Miss Lynn Black



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Dear Parent/Carer

Changes to Covid Guidance

Scottish Government will move to the transition plan for Covid-19 from 1st May and this will impact on isolation guidance and mitigations in school.

From Tuesday masks are now advisory rather than mandatory when moving around school and in social areas. We will still encourage our pupils to be mindful of others and respect their distance. Any pupil who continues to choose to wear a mask in class or moving around the school will be supported to do so.

Assemblies have made a welcome return and when we are in a large group of this nature, we will still ask that pupils wear a mask for the short time they are in the hall. From Tuesday the following isolation guidance applies:

When children and young people with symptoms should stay at home and when they can return to education

Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.

Children and young people who are unwell **and** have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

Children and young people aged 18 years and under who have a positive test result

It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.

If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.

Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

As intimated in my letter at the end of last term we will continue with a number of our other mitigations including hand sanitiser, wiping down desks and our enhanced cleaning regime.

SQA Exams

SQA exams began in Beeslack On Wednesday 27th of April and as expected, our young people are continuing to impress the invigilation team with their exemplary conduct.

SQA Exceptional Circumstances

If a young person contracts Covid and therefore unable to attend their exam, they will be put forward for the SQA's Exceptional Circumstances service. This means that we will submit assessment evidence that reflects the pupil's estimated grade, which has already been submitted to the SQA. SQA will then review the evidence and award the pupil a grade according to the quality of the evidence provided.

The Exceptional Circumstances service also applies to pupils who cannot attend an exam due to other circumstances out with their control, such as illness or bereavement.

Study Leave

As indicated in previous correspondence, study leave will run from 3rd May-1st June inclusive. Pupils are of course welcome to study in school during this period should they wish. Please contact the school if this is your child's preferred option.

On the Day of the Exam

A reminder that pupils should aim to arrive in school 15 minutes before the start of their exam and should be in full school uniform.

Local Government Elections – 5th of May

A reminder that Beeslack will be used as a polling station for the first time on Thursday 5th May. The polling station will be situated in the Bistro to allow voters separate entrance and exits to the main school entrance. There should be no disruption to the school day; however, the area next to the Bistro, both inside and outside, will be out of bounds for pupils.

If you have Beeslack as your identified polling station then parking is available on the road to Aaron House (not in the school grounds unless you are accessing the identified disabled access) this is for health and safety reasons and to ensure the safety of all of our pupils.

We will welcome all of our S1 -3 pupils back on Tuesday 4th May as senior pupils begin their official study leave period.

I hope you have an enjoyable holiday weekend and the weather stays fine!

Best wishes

L Black

Lynn Black