

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, I hope everyone is doing as well as possible just now and have been able to take an opportunity to catch up with some friends and family over the last week or so. I appreciate that as we get ever closer to the summer holiday you will have many questions about our return to school that currently remain unanswered. However, I do want to assure you that we are working very hard, together with North Lanarkshire Council, to get ready to welcome our pupils back safely in August. You can view the most recent information from North Lanarkshire Council here:

<https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=34912>

Planning for our return has been ongoing in Kilsyth Academy, and we are finalising our plan for how we ensure the best possible educational experience, in what will of course under current distancing measures, be a school with reduced pupil capacity. In doing so, our planning is governed by three key principles:

- Ensuring our school environment is as physically safe as possible
- Focus on wellbeing
- Learning and teaching

Whilst I know that everyone is really keen to be back in school, there is no doubt that things will look and feel different for us all. For everyone in our community, these last few months have of course been challenging, emotional and uncertain. As we come together in our school building again, our school values of “Fairness, Ambition and Respect” will never have been more important. Our school might look and feel different but our values will remain the same. Personally, I am very much looking forward seeing us together as a school community again, and hope to be able to provide you more detailed information about our new set-up and structure as soon as possible. As a parent myself, I recognise many of the queries that you will have around the return of our young people to school.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support and for the way in which your young people have adapted to the current trying circumstances. Our staff are really looking forward to seeing our pupils back in the Academy in the new session.

In the meantime, take care and stay safe.

Yours faithfully

Gregg Orrock
Head Teacher