

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, I hope you and your families are all well during this ongoing Covid-19 crisis. It's hard to believe we are already over two weeks into the new term and another holiday is upon us. Even more difficult when you consider that the exams should be in full flow and our senior pupils on study leave. Please tell your children to enjoy a couple of days away from school work on Friday and Monday over this holiday weekend.

I understand just how difficult the current lockdown is on everyone and how challenging it is to support children to learn at home whilst juggling the other demands of work and parenting. With that in mind, we would really like to hear from you about your experience of supporting your child at home and their experience of online learning. To that end I would be most grateful if you could take a few moments to complete an online survey to help us more fully understand any issues you or your child face and any suggestions you may have. This will allow us to understand how we can support you further to try to make things as easy as possible for you and your child. You can access the survey from our twitter feed or online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NJ6J5S7>

Over the next few days we hope to complete pupil options as best we can. We will then provide information to pupils about moving to the next stage in their learning, hopefully within the subjects they have chosen. This will be very challenging given the circumstances and where we are unsure of a pupil's options or where we might have to change an option we will get in touch. Pupils can also contact their Pupil Support teachers regarding their options. We are aiming to do this by Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May and will send further information before then.

Some of you will be wondering about refunds from school trips that were due to take place including those going to London. Please understand that we are working closely with the travel company regarding this but again this is very challenging. Although we can't give a timescale for providing refunds please be assured everyone will get the full refund due to them.

I know you will be anxious about young people falling behind in their learning and keen for them to return to school. At the moment I cannot tell you when or how that might happen but I would ask that you encourage them to continue to engage in the learning tasks that are being set as best they can. Remember, they can contact their teachers directly online should they require help or need to ask a question. If your circumstances mean your child cannot access learning online, please let us know as soon as possible, regardless of the reason and we will try to help.

Over the next two weeks, we will be able to provide additional jotters, and pens to pupils if required. These can be collected from the school at the following times:

- Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> May: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> between 10.00 and 11.00am.
- Week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> May: Monday 18<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> between 10.00 and 11.00am.

You will be able to collect these from the school foyer. We would ask that you arrive at the main entrance and respect social distancing guidelines queuing outside the front door until invited into the building.

For those making early plans for next session our uniform supplier Baru in Kirkintilloch is taking orders for new uniforms and you can book an appointment at <http://www.kitmykid.co.uk/>. School

ties will be available to buy directly from the school and we will issue further information regarding this when we can.

I will be in touch again soon with further information when we move into the next phase of online learning. For now, can I wish you all a restful holiday weekend. Please take care, stay safe and stay home.

Warmest wishes

Gregg Orrock  
Head Teacher