



Education & Children's Services

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Date

Dear Parent/Carer

Phased Return to Schools and the Continuation of In-School Learning for Vulnerable Children and Children of Essential Workers

As you will be aware, the First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, announced on 16 February 2021 that some pupils could return to school from 22 February 2021. I appreciate this will generate some queries and questions from parents/carers, and I would wish to provide you with some clarification of what this means for your child/young person.

The Scottish Government's decision means that children in Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) and those in P1-P3 can return to classes full-time from 22 February 2021.

Some senior pupils can also return part-time to complete practical coursework, although no more than 8% of a secondary school roll is allowed to attend at any one time. This figure excludes those currently attending schools as vulnerable children or children of essential workers.

Whilst the phased return does not apply to your child/young person, I would wish to reassure you that in-school learning will continue for all vulnerable children and children of essential workers in the P4-S6 age group who currently attend in-school learning, and your child/young person should continue to attend school as per the arrangements agreed with you. Please see further information below.

I would stress the importance of following all measures we have in place within the school to ensure the safety of pupils and school's staff, and I would appreciate your assistance in re-enforcing the importance of this with your child/young person

If your child is not attending in-school learning fulltime, I would wish to reassure you we will continue to support their learning whilst at home through our remote learning programme. Our school staff remain committed to ensuring we provide the best possible education to all of our pupils.



The First Minister has advised there will be a further announcement on the phased return to schools on 2 March 2021 and I will update you again once the outcome of this is known.

Perth and Kinross Council updates information for parents/carers on its website www.pkc.gov.uk/coronavirus/schools and also its Facebook and Twitter sites.

I understand this is a time of great uncertainty, and I would like to thank you for continuing to support the school and your child's education during these times.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher

SJMcKenzie

Suz McKenzie

Abernethy Primary & Nursery Headteacher



The following outlines our housekeeping arrangements for the days to come. Please can I ask that you read these carefully.

Arrival & Departure Times

P4-7 Hub pupils - Drop off and pick up arrangements shall remain as is currently the case. Drop off is at 9am and pick up is at 3pm. Drop off and pick up for Hub pupils shall be remain at the front main door.

Primary 4-7 Hub

The Primary Hub shall continue to run for P4-7. The hub shall continue running in the school hall. This shall remain with a Child-care/ learning provision focus.

Lunches

All Nursery, school, hub lunches arrangements shall remain. School & Nursery lunches can be ordered in school or families may wish to send pupils with a packed lunch.

PE

Any PE delivered shall have to be delivered outside, as per the current guidance.

School Uniform

It was following parental voice and choice, that school uniform was the preferred option for us at Abernethy during these times. Therefore, can pupils in P1-3 please return wearing uniform, all be it warm and waterproof school uniform. Pupils must be able to attend outdoor lessons without having to get completely changed into new clothing. Warm gloves, hats etc must be carefully labelled.

Nursery & Hub pupils can return wearing everyday clothing.

Covid Safety rules

- *All social distancing rules must be adhered to; P1-3 pupils respectfully being reminded to try hard to keep 2m from staff. New signage shall be displayed for all. Parents & Guardians must adhere to social distancing rules when dropping off and picking up pupils.*
- *Classes, Nursery and Hub pupils shall remain in their own class groups and shall not to mix.*
- *As there is limited staff in the building, the cross over from classes/hubs/areas of the school has been able to be limited as best as is physically possible.*
- *Cleanliness rules shall continue to be maintained. Pupils and staff shall continue to wash their hands thoroughly, surfaces and resources shall be wiped down regularly. Please ensure your pupils return with their wipeable pencil case, if they have taken it home. This shall once again remain in school.*
- *As previously, school communication is preferable over the phone or email.*

Areas for pupils play in the playground shall be set out as follows:

Nursery – In Nursery garden & Nursery playground

P1/2 – Red zone on bottom half of playground

P3 – Blue zone on top half of playground

Hub pupils - Green zone on Muga