

BLENDING LEARNING MARCH 2021

Definition

Blended learning is when pupils spend part of the week learning at home, and part of the week learning in school. So far in 2021, most pupils have experienced only remote learning.

Rationale

We have a clear rationale for bringing back young people in each year group, which is as follows:

- For Senior Phase pupils, the aim is to progress with teaching and learning in preparation for certification at the appropriate level this session;
- For young people in S3, the principal focus is on supporting young people to re-engage with academic work and routines by way of revision;
- For S1 and S2, we will re-acclimatise young people with the school environs, structure and routines and support their health and well-being and academic re-engagement.

School day timings

The timings of the morning and afternoon sessions are slightly different from our normal timetable. The timings are as follows:

- Morning sessions 9:00 am – 12:00 noon (pupils go home at the end of the session)
- Afternoon sessions 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm (3:00 pm finish on Friday)

Attendance pattern

The attendance pattern will be as shown in the diagram below:

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
09:00	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> SENIOR PHASE </div>					3 X 1 Hour periods
-						
12:00						
13:00	S1		S1			13:00 3 x 50-minute periods
15:30	S3	S2	S3	S2	S3	15:00 (Friday 1 x 50 minute and 1 x 70 mi
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> BGE PHASE </div>					

- Pupils in S1 will attend school on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 pm until 3:30 pm, and will attend three lessons each afternoon.
- Pupils in S2 will attend school on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:00 pm until 3:30 pm, and will attend three lessons each afternoon.
- Pupils in S3 will attend school on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 pm until 3:30 pm, and Friday afternoon from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. They will attend three lessons each afternoon, except on Friday when they will attend two lessons.
- Senior Phase pupils (S4, 5, and 6) will attend school every day from 9:00am until 12:00 noon. They will receive teacher input in all of their subjects over the course of the week, and will be sent home with work to complete at home in the afternoons.

Timetables

Individual blended learning timetables have been issued to all young people by post. These clearly indicate which subject pupils should be attending, and on which days they should attend. This is the timetable in operation until the Easter holiday. All previous timetables should be ignored for now. Pupils should ensure they bring these to school, and are advised to take a photograph of theirs with their school iPad. Pupils do not attend registration/tutor time at all.

Arrival at school

To minimise movement within the school, pupils will not be admitted to the building before the start of their session. It is advised that families plan journeys to minimise the length of time young people are waiting to enter the building. Pupils should muster at the designated areas five minutes before the start of their session. Each year group will then be invited into the building via the designated entry point. The muster and entry points are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Muster point</u>	<u>Entry point</u>
S1	Astroturf pitch	Main entrance
S2	Playground	Door at Music base
S3	Playground	Door to concourse by stage
S4	Playground	Door to concourse by stage
S5/6	Astroturf pitch	Main entrance

Room capacities

The requirement to maintain a 2m distance between all persons at all times limits the capacities of our classrooms. In view of this, we may need to house some pupils in alternative rooms at times. We will endeavour to keep this to a minimum and ensure that no individual pupils are affected disproportionately.

Sanitising

As per the arrangements prior to lockdown, pupils will be required to sanitise their hands on entering the building, and each time they enter a classroom. Pupils are welcome to use their own sanitiser, and gel will be provided. We will also have routines in place for ensuring desks are clean and safe, and we will need the cooperation of young people to help ensure everyone's safety. Pupils will be familiar with these arrangements.

School lunches

While no hot food will be served, sandwiches will be available from the Fuel Zone for those young people who receive free meals, as well as for those pupils whose parents have purchased a lunch. Please note that lunches, other than free meals, must be paid for **in advance** by **bank transfer**. No cash payments will be accepted, and details for making payments will be sent later this week.

Senior phase pupils who will be taking a school lunch will be provided with a packed lunch as they leave at 12:00 noon, which they will take home. BGE pupils taking a school lunch will be permitted into the building at 12:45 to collect and eat their food.

Physical Education

Our changing rooms will not be operational. Pupils who have PE will need to come to school dressed in their PE kit.

Facemasks

A reminder that all staff and young people will be required to wear masks in school at all times from Monday 15 March. Parents are asked to ensure that all young people come to school equipped with a mask. Exemptions apply as per arrangements in 2020.

Sixth year pupils with study periods

Pupils in S6 who have a study period at the start of the day should study at home and come into school for the start of period 2 (10:00 am). Those pupils for whom period 3 is a study period should leave school at the end of period 2 (11:00 am) and study at home. Pupils who are timetable for private study period 2 should report to the HT or a DHT to be directed to a room in which they can study. Pupils who live close by are welcome to go home and study for the hour, and return to school for period 3.

Supervision of young people

Any pupil who continues to attend for supervision will attend classes with their year group at the designated times.

The timings of our supervision offer will change slightly for the remainder of this term, and will be as follows:

Monday and Wednesday	8:50 am – 3:30 pm
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday	8:50 am – 3:00 pm
	(3:30 on Tue/Thu if pupils are attending class)

Pupils should continue to report to the concourse to be registered at the start of each day. Lunch times will now take place from 12:10pm until 1:00pm.

Learning at home

When pupils are not in school, they will work at home to complete remote learning tasks. This may consist of tasks that teachers have sent home with them, or it may be that pupils are directed towards lessons and activities on Teams.

COVID Testing

Senior phase pupils are already able to opt-in to regular asymptomatic testing at home. The Scottish government has extended this to pupils in S1,2 and 3. Please note that this testing is voluntary. No one is compelled to take part. However, for the common good everyone is encouraged to do so. Those parents who wish to find out more should submit details on the form [here](#), and details will be sent to you by email.