

**Delayed Office Opening
for Employee Training**

*This office will be closed from
8.45 am - 11.00 am on the first
Thursday of each month.*



Education Services

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Our ref SJ/SW

Your ref

Date 20 March 2020

To: All Parents/Carers

Dear Parent/Carer

COVID-19: Closure of Educational Establishments in Perth and Kinross

As you will now be aware the Scottish Government has announced that all schools across Scotland will be closing from today (Friday 20 March 2020).

However, in response to the Deputy First Minister's statement in the Scottish Parliament yesterday, schools in Perth and Kinross will be open from Monday 23 March 2020 for the following pupils:

- **Those who have been identified that their school requires them to attend;** *(If your child is deemed as requiring to attend school on Monday, your Headteacher will contact you to confirm this).*
- **Senior phase pupils (S4-S6) to complete their SQA coursework; and**
- **Children of key workers, specifically those in Categories 1 and 2 below, namely:**

Category 1:

- Health and social care workers directly supporting COVID response, and associated staff, including critical and primary care provision.
- Energy suppliers.
- Staff who provide early learning and childcare.
- Teachers.

Category 2:

- Public Sector workers providing emergency/critical welfare services (fire service, police, prison officers, social workers).
- Council workers providing support to critical services.

(Please note, in accordance with the national guidance, if parents can make their own childcare provision they should do so. If one parent is a key worker and the other is not, the non key worker will be expected to provide childcare.)

If you are a key worker within one of the categories listed above, please complete the following survey as soon as possible and no later than **Tuesday 24 March 2020 at 5.00pm.**

<https://kwiksurveys.com/s/xTSzwTSJ>

We will then require some time to analyse the results of the survey to confirm which parents have confirmed key worker status. This information will be used to determine which children will attend the HUBS we are in the process of establishing which will operate whilst schools are closed to children and young people.

In the meantime, whilst we work to get the HUBS operational, if you consider you fall into one of the categories above please inform your school and arrange for your child(ren) to attend their usual school on Monday 23 March 2020 in line with your school's usual opening time.

School Meals - for those children attending school next week, a bagged lunch will be provided on the premises. Bagged lunches will also be available to all children and young people currently entitled to Free School Meals, but who should not be attending school as per the national guidance, and it can be collected from the school nearest to where you live.

Home to School Transport - we are planning to continue providing home to school transport to those who are currently entitled. Please note that due to the COVID-19 situation there may be operational difficulties in continuing to provide this service. Please do use your own transport if this is possible and convenient for you to do so. We will keep you updated on any changes or alterations which may be required.

Please be advised that all of these arrangements will be in operation until **Friday 3 April 2020**, after which time we may require to make alterations. However, if we receive any new national guidance or if the level of staff absence increases in certain areas, we may need to alter these plans accordingly. We will keep you informed to any changes as soon as possible. We expect the HUBS to be operational from next week, sooner if we can. We will keep you updated about this development as work progresses.

Please follow the Council's Twitter and Facebook accounts for up to date information as well as the Council's website: www.pkc.gov.uk/coronavirus

Yours sincerely



Sharon Johnston
Interim Head of Education