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Contact: Mr J Lothian

Our ref: JL/MM

Your ref:

Date: 12/06/20

Parent / Carer

Dear Parent/ Carer

I sincerely hope that this letter finds you safe and well.

The purpose of this communication is to give parents and young people within the Perth Academy community a weekly update. This week I share with you the planning update for our return to school in August.

Planning for Term 1

Our staff have been busy planning arrangements for our return in August. We recognise that following a period of extended leave from school and recognising the impact of the COVID lockdown, we will have to approach things differently. The wellbeing of our young people remains our priority. The focus of our return initially will be on reconnecting, getting back to routines and supporting the progress of our learners.

You will be aware that the Scottish Government has announced that pupils will return in August into a **blended learning** format, meaning that they will spend some time **in school learning** and some time **learning remotely from home**. Pupils will come back to school in smaller numbers to maintain the current advices around physical and social distancing.

We are finalising the model for Perth Academy presently. Following current advice, the school has a capacity to take around a third of our pupils safely at any one time which means a ratio of in school learning to home learning of 1:2. When the model is complete, we will organise and communicate the attendance pattern and rota for our pupils to you before the end of June. It is likely this model will mean each year group will have three days of pupil contact in school, followed by six days of home learning, over a nine (school) day period.

In the meantime, please take time to read the **attached information sheet**. It is vital that we hear your feedback. Please use the link below to provide us with feedback on our proposed model and to share any other concerns you might have at this time.

[Parental Response Form](#)

We appreciate that you require information to plan. Today we share with you an initial information sheet about our planning. I commit to continue my weekly updates to you, and we are planning for a key communication with you prior to the end of the term, with all of the information you need.

Extra support and provision will be made available to families where both parents are key workers. Further guidance will be issued around this when it is made available to us.

A reminder that the end of term is Wednesday 1st July 2020.

Parent Virtual drop in

This morning we held our first parent drop in (parents of S2/3 learners) and we received some very helpful feedback, with 35 parents in attendance.

Following the success of our initial meeting, we will be holding further drop-in sessions on **Supporting Your Child's Learning at Home** for parents of pupils next week. The session will be a video conference call in Microsoft Teams so to participate you will need to have the Teams app downloaded on your device. The session will be attended by members of the school Senior Leadership Team and Mr Barlow, our resident online learning expert will be on hand to answer any IT questions.

Next week's meetings will take place at the following times and we will send you a link to join the meeting by groupcall.

Tuesday 16 June 3.30-4.30pm Senior Phase (new S4-6) parents/carers
Friday 19 June 10.30-11.30am BGE (new S2 and S3) parents/carers

I would again like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you are providing for your child's learning at home. We appreciate this can be quite challenging. Our staff are working hard to provide resources and we are always keen to receive feedback from you on your experience of home learning. Please feel free to get in touch directly at perthacademy@pkc.gov.uk if you have any queries whatsoever. Alternatively, you can contact our parent council at pcperthacademy@gmail.com which is also a helpful point of contact. You will find this week's update below.

Take care and keep safe. Best wishes from my house to your house.



Johnny Lothian
Rector

Rector's Update 12th June 2020

Summer Book Donation

With the summer holidays approaching and the libraries remaining firmly shut, many young people will be missing the chance to browse for a good book.

From Monday 15th – Thursday 18th June, there will be a Book Donation Box located outside the office entry of Perth Academy. If your children have whizzed through their bookshelves, and your daily exercise might take you past the school, please consider donating a few books. All the books will then be 'quarantined' before being distributed around our existing resource boxes in the Letham Centre, Scone Spar and Tesco on South Street to allow pupils to choose a few new books to enjoy over the holidays

Return of textbooks and resources

Message for all last session's Senior Phase students, we need your help. We are now able to receive any school textbooks or resources that you have home with you from last session. If you are in possession of a textbook from last year's courses of study, we really need these back please!

We have set up a drop off table in the courtyard, outside beside the school office entrance. Items can be dropped off safely every weekday between the hours of 10am and 4pm.