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August 2020 Arrangements

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your families and friends are well at this extremely challenging time for all in our school community and wider society.

I am writing to update you regarding our plans for August before we reach the Summer Holiday. These plans are based on current government advice and will be reviewed on a regular basis moving forward.

The information below outlines how we plan to structure the school day and provides information in relation to each year group: The school week will be organised in 10 teaching blocks – 5 morning and 5 afternoon blocks. For S4 – S6 each teaching block will be 2 hours and 55 minutes long. For S1 – S3 each teaching block will be 2 hours and 30 minutes. The timings of the school day will be as follows:

Year Group	Block 1	Lunch/Turnaround	Block 2
S5/6	8:45am-11:40am	11:40am – 12:30pm	
S4			12:30pm-3:25pm
S3			12:55pm-3:25pm
S2	8:55am-11:25am		
S1	8:55am-11:25am	OR	12:55pm-3:25pm

Pupils will attend two classes during each block. They will not change class as frequently as they would in a normal timetable. Year group plans are as follows:

S5/6

Pupils in S5/6 study subjects from 5 different columns. Pupils will receive teaching in all of their elected National Qualifications subjects. Pupils will attend two subjects each day which will be delivered in a one hour and twenty five minute block and a one hour and thirty

minute block. This will allow them to attend each subject twice per week for a total of 3 and a half periods. Pupils in S6 usually study 4 subjects, they would normally be accommodated in a teacher's class for private study in their non-contact period however this space is not available and the library and meeting room have been turned into teaching spaces so we would ask that they arrive late/leave early in their free non-contact period.

S4

S4 pupils study 7 subjects and will receive teaching in all 7 of their National Qualifications subjects.

They will attend their 5 optional subjects for a double period (1hr 40mins), one each day and will do Maths and English for two, one and a half period blocks (1hr 15mins) over the course of the week. They will also receive a period of RE/PSHE/PE for 1hr 15 mins on rotational basis.

S3

S3 will attend school every day for a half day in the afternoon. Pupils will receive teaching in all of their core and chosen subjects for two blocks of one and a half periods (1hr 15 mins) each day.

S2

S2 pupils will also attend school every day for a half day. This will be in the morning. We are aiming to provide as full a curriculum as possible with pupils studying 10 teaching blocks during the week across as wide a selection of curricular areas as possible.

S1

S1 pupils will also attend school every day for a half day. Some will attend in the morning and some in the afternoon. We are aiming to provide as full a curriculum as possible with pupils studying 10 teaching blocks during the week.

The rationale for this model has the following aims:

- A maximum of 12 pupils in full classrooms and 10 pupils in Practical Sections.
- To provide as full a curriculum as possible for as many pupils as possible. In a restricted model it is not possible to offer all children a full curriculum but we will provide as much as possible.
- To have all pupils attend school every day
- To attempt to minimise risk and ensure the safety of pupils and staff (a full risk assessment has been completed for the return of staff in June and is being worked on for the return of staff and pupils in August.)
- Senior Phase pupils getting as much time in SQA subjects as possible.

- Two teaching blocks per day to maximise the amount of time pupils can access class and minimise the number of change overs and contacts for both staff and pupils.

Lunch Arrangements

For those pupils who receive a Free School Meal, this will be available at the end of the morning session before leaving and on arrival for those attending for the afternoon session.

Health & Safety

All classrooms will be cleaned overnight. Toilets and communal areas will be cleaned regularly throughout the day. In order to minimise movement there is only one changeover during each session. There will be no interval.

Transport

For those pupils who come to school on the school bus we await final details about pick-ups and drop-offs and we will communicate this to those families involved once we have more information.

Uniform

You should have received a letter regarding school uniform and how to order your son/daughter's new blazer for next session.

Here is the link to this in case you need it again: <https://bit.ly/3dDftkl>

Glasgow City Council have also issued information regarding School Clothing Grants. Firstly, for anyone who received a clothing grant last year, you do not need to reapply. You will be automatically paid in July but you need to inform GCC if your circumstances have changed.

Here is the link for this: <https://t.co/ak8KDrbjpO?amp=1>

Secondly, if you are a new applicant, forms will be available from GCC's website from mid-July.

Here is the link for this: <https://t.co/ak8KDrbjpO?amp=1>

If, however, you find yourself in a position where there is a financial problem about your son or daughter's uniform, please contact our school office who will discuss financial support until clothing grant payments are made.

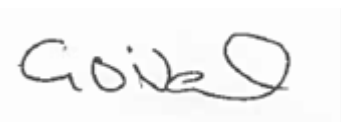
S5/6 Option Renegotiation

SQA Exam results will arrive with pupils on Tuesday 4 August. Should pupils need to renegotiate their choices based on their results staff will be available in school throughout the day on **Wednesday 5 August** to discuss any changes. It is vital wherever possible, that pupils attend on this day to give them the best possible chance of securing the options that they would like for next session.

Over the next few weeks we will be working to complete the timetable and allocate pupils to classes and teachers. We will be in touch over the summer regarding arrangements for the start of term. With the limit to the amount of contact we will have in school it is vital that young people work for the remainder of the school day at home wherever possible to allow them to access all of the appropriate course content.

Many thanks for all you continue to do to support your child(ren) in their learning and for all you are doing to support our school community. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if there is anything we can do you support you and your family at this time.

Yours sincerely



Gerry O'Neil
Head Teacher

