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Ref: LM/fm

19 March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

As you will have noted from the media, the situation regarding COVID-19 continues to evolve rapidly. As a school we have been putting plans in place to ensure that home learning can take place. Many staff have already issued materials to their classes. I appreciate that the short notice closure to our BGE pupils has resulted that in some cases this was not possible, and we are looking at ways of distributing such material. Thank you for your patience with this.

### **SQA Update**

You will be aware by now that the decision has been made to cancel this year's SQA Exams in April and May. I have asked for clarification on the completion of coursework beyond tomorrow, given that schools will be closed from tomorrow afternoon to pupils. You will be aware that this is a rapidly ever changing situation and I will update you when I know more.

Our young people have worked hard to complete courses and assessments and my advice would be that although there will be no exams this year, they should continue to focus on learning and their next steps. Staff will be in school tomorrow to discuss any worries that our young people may have.

### **Current learning opportunities have been made available through the following channels:**

**GLOW TEAMS** this is where a class Team has been set up and work will be made available for pupils. This is also a secure way for pupils to chat with their teacher and each other. I would like to remind you all that this facility is regularly monitored and that it should only be used for school use.

**GLOW TILE** each faculty has a tile under the Turriff Academy tile on GLOW and pupils can also be directed to work from this folder according to class and year group.

**GLOW e-mail** pupils can email staff via their GLOW e-mail (found in Office 365) Pupils should take care only to e-mail staff from Turriff Academy. Staff can also e-mail pupils in this way.

### **GLOW - Accelerated Reader – S1 Pupils**

All S1 pupils at Turriff Academy are able to continue with Accelerated Reader at home. You can go to [www.ARbookfind.co.uk](http://www.ARbookfind.co.uk) to search for books you may have at home. Once pupils have finished reading their book, they then take a quiz to test their comprehension. There is a tile on GLOW for Accelerated Reader.

The library has provided information which will support you in accessing a range of ebooks for your child <https://livelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk/libraries>

## Library Service

All pupils are members of the library service. Use your NEC card (the top number on your card – the first 14 digits). Your PIN is the day you were born followed by the month you were born eg 12<sup>th</sup> February is 1202.

The **Catalogue page** will explain about joining on-line for new members eg parents and Resetting PINs.

There are videos on the website to explain the normal working, and how to access the digital services.

## Other online resources

Scholar – senior phase pupils completing STEM subjects have access to this by user name and password. If they have lost this, please contact the school. They can also access it by clicking on the scholar GLOW tile

<https://scholar.hw.ac.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z6qw2hv>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zkdqxn>

## Non Digital Resources

A number of departments have issued pupils with textbooks, revision guides and paper booklets for use at home. We will continue to look at ways of adding to these resources and their distribution.

## Health and Wellbeing

### Maintaining contact with the school

It is important that 2 way communication is maintained over the next few months and as such, I advise that as always your child's guidance teacher is the first port of call. For those of you who have young people who have additional support needs, you may need to contact one of our Principal Teachers of ASL.

Contact details for Guidance Staff, Year Heads and PTs ASL are listed below:

At present the school office will be open and office staff will be able to transfer calls. School phone number is 01888 530900

Craigston	Mrs Ferguson	<a href="mailto:vicki.ferguson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">vicki.ferguson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a>
Delgaty	Miss Marshall	<a href="mailto:emma.marshall@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">emma.marshall@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a>
Forglen	Mrs Grant	<a href="mailto:brenda.grant@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">brenda.grant@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a>
Hatton	Mrs Tetlow	<a href="mailto:karen.tetlow@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">karen.tetlow@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a>
PT ASL	Mrs Ramage	<a href="mailto:Margaret.ramage@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">Margaret.ramage@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a>
PT ASL	Mr Skinner	<a href="mailto:tim.skinner@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">tim.skinner@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a>
Year Head S1 and S4	Ms Bisset DHT	<a href="mailto:jane.bisset@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">jane.bisset@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a>
Year Head S2 and S5	Mrs Clarke DHT	<a href="mailto:kate.clarke@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">kate.clarke@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a>
Year Head S3 and S6	Mr Martin DHT	<a href="mailto:john.martin@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">john.martin@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a>
Head Teacher	Ms Menzies	<a href="mailto:lee.menzies@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">lee.menzies@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a>

Please be aware that staff will get back to you as soon as they can within normal school working hours.

As well as keeping in touch about subject materials, we will also be giving advice on Health and Wellbeing.

**Careers Service - Message for pupils**

Due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and the closure of the school, Skills Development Scotland cannot deliver career services face to face, but they are still there to help. Your child can contact their school Careers Adviser, Rebecca Stoker for career information, advice and guidance at [rebecca.stoker@sds.co.uk](mailto:rebecca.stoker@sds.co.uk) or 07786 688829, or visit [www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk) You can also still access their career services.

**Careers Service – Message for Parents**

Call your local centre to speak to one of our qualified advisers.

Find your nearest centre at [www.myworldofwork.co.uk/centres](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/centres) You can also find their services for parents/carers online at [myworldofwork.co.uk](http://myworldofwork.co.uk) and [www.mykidscareer.com](http://www.mykidscareer.com).

**School Trips**

Some of you will have children who have booked to go on one of the School trips that are planned for later in the year. The situation regarding these trips is currently being closely monitored by both myself and the staff running the trips and we will update parents concerned accordingly.

Thank you for your ongoing support and patience at this time in helping us support your young people.

Yours sincerely



Lee Menzies  
Head Teacher