

## **Dear Parent/ Carer**

This update will provide details of our proposed Recovery Plans for pupil return in August. These should be taken in the context of an ever rapidly changing picture and as such you will be updated as and when I receive updated guidance from the Scottish Government, Public Health Scotland, and Aberdeenshire Council.

### **RECOVERY PLANS**

#### **Plan A – Full return for pupils in August 2020**

As announced this week by the Deputy First Minister, plans are being made for a full return for pupils in August 2020. This is dependent upon Public Health Scotland advice that it is safe to do so.

In line with recent statements, you will know if we are able to move to this plan by 30 July.

Appropriate risk assessments will be under taken and further advice will be issued in due course.

It is important, that all pupils will receive induction on what to expect on their return and this will include information on one-way systems, breaks and lunchtimes, transport, and hygiene. A parental handbook will be e-mailed after 30 July and displayed on the school website.

#### **Plan B – Phased return of pupils in August 2020**

As outlined last week, we have been working on plans for a phased recovery and it is important that you know, that these plans are in place in the event that the conditions for us to move to plan A have not been met. Our plans are based around Safety, Health and Wellbeing and Learning

This Recovery Plan is written in accordance with and reflects the guidance in Scottish Government and Aberdeenshire publications.

Capacity constraints and/or safety and wellbeing considerations (as outlined in last week's update) mean that our young people will have their learning supported by a mixture of 'in school and 'at home learning.

Therefore, the phased re-opening of Turriff Academy will follow the key guiding principles set out by the Scottish Government, supported by scientific medical advice from Scottish Government and Aberdeenshire Documentation:

- **Safe**
- **Fair and Ethical**
- **Clear**
- **Realistic**

Consistent with all Scottish Government guidance, any physical distancing plan will be in place only for as long as is necessary. Therefore, this plan is subject to change at any time to ensure continued adherence to National and Authority guidelines. **It should be noted that this is the first phasing plan**

**and as constraints reduce, we would look to increase face to face time for all pupils as quickly as it is safe to do so.**

An outline plan is detailed below, the specific details of which group your young person is in will be issued towards the end of next week so that in the event of this plan being implemented you have an opportunity to put your own plans in place.

Our pupil cohort of around 630 pupils has been split in 2 distinct groups: those who study the Broad General Education (S1 – S3) and those in our Senior Phase (S4 – S6). Pupils will attend school on a 2-week rotation. Senior pupils will attend on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and junior pupils will attend on Thursdays and Fridays.

#### **WEEK 1**

The week beginning the 10 August will follow a different pattern:

**Monday 10 August** Inservice – no pupils

**Tuesday 11 August** Inservice – no pupils

**Wednesday 12 August** – **All new S1** pupils only (this will allow us to provide transition to Turriff Academy to the whole cohort at once)

**Thursday 13 and Friday 14 August** – **GROUP 1** of our **BGE Cohort** will attend (this equates to half of our S1, S2 and S3 pupils)

**All pupils not attending Turriff Academy building in Week 1 will continue to access blended 'at home' learning**

#### **WEEK 2**

**Monday August 17** **ALL S4 pupils only** (this will allow induction in Blended Learning approaches and Expectations as soon as possible)

**Tuesday August 18** **ALL S5 and S6 pupils only** (this will allow induction for all in Blended Learning approaches and expectations as soon as possible –

**Wednesday August 19** **GROUP 2 senior phase** (GROUP 1 continue to receive online learning)

**20 – 21 August** **GROUP 2 junior phase** (GROUP 1 continue to receive online learning)

**All pupils not attending Turriff Academy building in Week 2 will continue to access blended learning.**

#### **WEEK 3**

**24– 26 August** **GROUP 1 senior phase** (GROUP 2 continue to receive online learning)

**27– 28 August** **GROUP 1 junior phase** (GROUP 2 continue to receive online learning)

**All pupils not attending Turriff Academy building in Week 3 will continue you to access blended 'at home' learning.**

#### **WEEK 4**

**31 August – 2 September** **GROUP 2 senior phase** (GROUP 1 continue to receive online learning)

**3-4 September** **GROUP 2 junior phase** (GROUP 1 continue to receive online learning)

**All pupils not attending Turriff Academy building in Week 4 will continue to access blended 'at home' learning.**

This pattern of blended delivery will continue until it is safe to increase the number of pupils in the building. We would aim to do this as soon as it is safe to do so.

On returning to school all pupils will receive induction which will include.

- Health and Hygiene Expectations
- Expectations around the use of entrance and exits to the building
- Expectations around 1-way systems and pupil flow
- Break and Lunchtimes
- Social Distancing
- Blended Learning

A parental handbook is currently being written and will be e-mailed to you and displayed on the school website.

#### **Some Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Dress code:** Our school dress code is part of our Turriff Academy identity and ethos, however it has been decided that until further notice, pupils should not wear ties to school. It is expected that pupils continue to wear black trousers/ skirts, plain black or white plain polo shirts, black or white shirts/ blouses, plain black jumper/ cardigan, or sweatshirt. We are trying to keep dress code as simple as possible to support you in trying to manage a daily change of clothing. Please encourage your young person to keep their 'casual' gear for when they are not in school. The most important thing is that they are in school learning and they should not be worrying about what they have to wear to school.

Please also be aware that some of you may be eligible to claim a school clothing grant. For more information click here <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/assistance/school-clothing-grants/>

Our new S1 pupils will receive a house badge which will have the house name and colour.

**Canteen:** we have been working with the catering service who are developing a new way of ordering and delivering food..... watch out for information on the new school meals APP and registering to pay online

#### **Transport:**

I am still awaiting information with regards to transport capacity. Thank you to those who have intimated that they may take their sons and daughters in by private car. Due to the lack of space, avoid congestion and to keep everyone safe, we will be providing information about drop off and pick up zones away from the front of the building

## **Face Masks:**

We will be following Public Health Scotland advice with regards to this and will update you on this nearer our return to school.

## **Resources return**

### **Week beginning 29 June**

The following slots have been set aside for seniors to return books, Chromebooks, locker keys and trophies awarded at last year's Prizegiving:

Tuesday 30 June 10.00 am to 11.00 am and 2.00pm – 3.00pm

Wednesday 31 June 10.00 am to 11.00 am and 2.00pm – 3.00pm

Thursday 1 July 10.00 – 11.00 am and 2.00pm – 3.00pm

Any person entering the front door should adhere to 2m social distancing measures and instructions about entering the building safely. Inside each book, please include a piece of paper or post it note, with your young person's name so that we know who has returned it. For chrome books, please stick a post it or tape a bit of paper to it with pupil name and please remember the charger.

Any pupil who has received paper classwork and has it to return, can also drop it off during these times – remember to include their name and the staff member it has to go to.

### **..... and finally**

- **Welcome to our new S1 pupils:**

I have really enjoyed 'meeting' our new S1 pupils this week as part of their virtual transition. They have certainly got to grips with the use of GLOW and TEAMS. All staff at Turriff Academy look forward to meeting them in person in August. I hope they have enjoyed themselves too. A big thank you to the pupils, their parents, and Turriff Academy staff for all their hard work this week.

- **Some Good News:**

Some of you may be aware that Mr Chris Dubbels has recently taken up post as an ASL teacher at Turriff Academy. He has been establishing outdoor learning programmes for our pupils involving gardening over the last couple of years. This has taken our pupils into the community. I am delighted to advise that he has received a Formartine Rural Partnership grant of just under £500 to support our pupils with a garden redevelopment project at Dawson Court. This is great news and will enable some of our young people to contribute to the community and benefit from this outdoor learning opportunity. Many thanks to the Formartine Rural Partnership for their support.

- **The Big Reveal:**

Friday 3 July – watch out for:

10 am	Virtual Awards Ceremony
1.30 pm	House Championship Announcement

Take care all, stay safe and enjoy your weekend.

Kind regards,

Ms Lee Menzies