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Ref: LM/fm

18 December 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer

As we approach the end of term, I hope that you are all well and looking forward to some rest and relaxation.

Our Parent Council met again this week and there was a really lively discussion how they can reach out to support our Turriff Academy Community. They had lots of good ideas and will be getting in touch in the New Year. Attached to this update is a support sheet that they have put together which you might find useful over the Christmas period and into next year.

Update on the start of next term

As you will be aware, we are moving to Level 3 at 6pm this evening and as such this has implications for us all in the community and for the return to school on 5 January.

There has been much in the press about the possible effects of a slight relaxation of the rules over the festive period and the possible impact that this might have on cases both locally and across Scotland.

Hopefully continuing with what we have been doing around socially distancing, mask wearing and sanitising we will be in a similar position to where we are now.

The link below provides a summary of what our young people can and cannot do and appreciate your support in encouraging them to follow this advice.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): local protection levels - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/topics/health/coronavirus/covid-19/local-protection-levels)

If we remain in level 3 on return in January, one major change for our young people is that S4 - S6 pupils will be required to wear a face covering in classes as well as in corridors and communal areas. Please remind them of this on return. Although not a requirement, I would also encourage S1 – S3 pupils do try to follow this too.

I wish to say well done to all of our young people for their compliance of face coverings in school this term. The vast majority of them continue to do so without being asked. Thank you.

What will happen if notification is received about a positive case in school once the school goes on holiday?

Test and Protect will contact Aberdeenshire Council if there has been a positive case and alert the duty officer of this fact. The duty officer will then provide contact details of possible close contacts. Due to school staff being on holiday, contact will be made directly from the Test and Protect Team.

College January 2021

There will be on attendance at College courses the first week back in January. Engineering (Year2), Energy (S3), Psychology and Criminology will all be on line during that week. There will be no Friday attendance by the BLUE group on Friday 8 January 2021, all pupils should follow their normal Friday timetables instead. College attendance will resume week beginning Monday 11 January, with the RED group attending Fraserburgh on Friday 15 January 2021. Any concerns, please see Ms Bisset.

SQA

In case you missed this earlier in the week, please find attached letter for Higher and Advanced Higher pupils.

Staffing Update

We have 2 stalwarts of Turriff Academy retiring at the end of this week. Mrs Flora Murdoch and Mrs Margaret Ramage.

Many thanks to them both for their dedicated service to Turriff Academy. We wish them all the very best in their retirement.

Guidance Staff Contacts for the New Year

Craigston House

Mrs Vicki Ferguson (PT Guidance):

vicki.ferguson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Delgaty House

Ms Emma Marshall (PT Guidance) :

emma.marshall@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Forglen House

Mrs Brenda Grant (PT Guidance) :

brenda.grant@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Hatton House

Mrs Karen Tetlow (PT Guidance :

Karen.tetlow@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

If you have a general query please contact the school turriff.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

And finally.....

It is really important as we move into a key assessment period in term 3 that your young person only returns if they are well. If you or any young person have any symptoms, new continuous cough, high fever, change of sense of taste or smell then it is important that your young person does not return to school until a test has been taken and the result obtained.

I wish to say a big thank you and to wish you a relaxing and restful break Stay safe and I look forward to seeing our young people back in January providing they are safe and well.

Regards



Ms L Menzies
Head Teacher