



Parental Update Friday 1st May

Dear Parent/ Carer,

As we approach the end of week 2 of this new term, I hope this finds you all safe and well.

Learning at home

We are all adopting to this new way of learning, some of us are excited by it and looking for opportunities, some of us are overwhelmed, some of us may be anxious and others may be feeling fed up. It is ok to feel like this and please remember we can only do what we can do. If you or your young person need to take time away from what we are providing that is ok too. If you need help, please ask.

It has been great to see the work that young people are posting into their teachers and we are starting to celebrate these successes on Facebook and twitter. If you have something you wish to share with us, feel free to share using the school e-mail address.

We have been responding to requests this week for support with devices to help young people at home with their work – we have distributed around 35 chrome books this week. I hope this helps to ease the anxiety that I know some of you have been feeling. We will continue to develop most of our learning using GLOW and as we move our learning forward, your young people's skills will continue to develop. I know mine certainly have!! We have also been able to post out materials to a small number of young people who cannot access reliable internet. These should be winding their way to you soon.

I hope that you are finding the Learning at Home booklet that we are publishing on each Monday useful. This is found on the school website under the Learning at Home Tile. We had a few teething problems this week and had to update a couple of times. As this evolves, we hope to only do one post on a Monday morning. I appreciate that it perhaps looks a little daunting and please do not worry if your young person cannot access all the learning.

We are starting to receive supplementary resources to support learning and I have attached a Modern Languages one to today's update which looks like a useful addition to what are Modern Languages staff are providing. Senior pupils should continue to look for Scholar updates as they are running sessions in the evening to support national qualifications.

As from next week we will be moving the learning on for current S3 – S5 students and I will refer to them as our Senior Phase young people. It is going to take a little time for their work to be allocated,

however teachers have been populating new Teams for certificate courses and these have been identified to your young people via their GLOW account. They may have been invited into a team directly or they have been asked to join by code (These can be found in the Learning at Home guide)

If any student has forgotten their course choice, please email the school email address and a member of office staff will get back to you with the information.

If any student or parent requires to discuss options, they should contact their guidance teacher by e-mail. Students may also wish to discuss career options with Rebecca Stoker our careers advisor.

It will take a week or so for new courses to settle down and please remember we would not normally be starting these courses until our timetable change in June. I would urge your young person to keep looking in their PSE teams for advice as well as their subject teams and not to panic if it takes a wee while for work to appear. Next week should be used to refamiliarize themselves with how to use GLOW.

For our S1 and S2 pupils, they should continue to work as normal on their Broad General Education. They should also not be worried if they do not receive work for every subject every week. I am conscious that they may feel overwhelmed.

SQA

An email was issued to parents of all senior pupils last week to ask students to do an SQA data check. Many students have done this already, please ask your young person if they have and if they have not please remind them to:

- 1) Register with Mysqa.org.uk (you will need your candidate number, if you do not know this please contact the school via turriff.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)
- 2) Once registered, log into mysqa and check **personal details** are all correct, name, address, date of birth
- 3) Check that you are entered for the correct **qualifications** and that they are at the correct **level**.

If everything is checked and correct please put a thumbs up on the post outlining this task on your PSE Team. Please report any errors or inaccuracies as soon as possible to turriff.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Attached to this e-mail is a letter from Laurence Findlay (Director of Education and Children's Services) with regard to SQA.

And finally....

Thank you as ever for your continued support in helping us to maintain learning for your young person. I will be putting out a parental survey the week beginning 11th May, however if you have anything you wish to feedback or provide any suggestions, please do using the school e-mail address. We really love to see what your young person is doing, please continue to send in your good news stories and photos. Please also remember Friday 8th May is a holiday to commemorate VE day and not to expect any work for that day.

Thank you

