

Education Services

Kilncraigs, Greenside Street, Alloa, FK10 1EB
Telephone: 01259 450000



Clackmannanshire
Council

www.clacks.gov.uk

Comhairle Siorrachd
Chlach Mhanann

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Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Date: 20 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Throughout the course of this week you will have been watching the news about the Coronavirus COVID-19. None of us could have predicted recent events and as the situation has been evolving throughout the week, I know that your schools and nurseries have been keeping you informed as best they can with the information available. They have been doing an amazing job this week in really challenging and unprecedented times.

Given the Government announcements about school closures, exams being cancelled and the need to support key workers and our most vulnerable children and families, we have been planning to meet needs in all of these areas. I wanted to provide you with an update on the key developments and plans.

The following plans are being put in place:

- **Senior Phase pupils:** Priority support for our young people in S4-S6 to complete coursework for national qualifications and to prepare them for the next stage of their learner journey. All efforts are being made to ensure that they get recognition of their achievements and that transition planning continues. Your school will be in contact with you directly about the arrangements for your child
- **Supporting key workers:** in order to ensure that both national and local essential services can be delivered, we are establishing provision in each of the three cluster areas in Clackmannanshire to provide learning and care for nursery and school age children and young people of key workers. Hubs will be established for school age children in clusters (Alloa, Lornshill and Alva). Exacts will be confirmed. Early Learning and Childcare will be made available from Tuesday in partnership with our partner providers. We hope to inform parents by Monday of specific arrangements including transport where appropriate. The provision for supporting key workers will include learning, sports and extra-curricular activities and wrap around childcare from 8am to 6pm.
- **Supporting families and children and young people:** The Hubs will also provide learning and support, including school meal provision for identified families. This support will continue to evolve over the course of the next week and information will be made available through a range of third sector partners and the Hubs.



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- **Online learning:** Clackmannanshire has been developing a unique virtual learning platform – **FLIPClacks** which is now “live” and provides learning opportunities for children, young people and families, including school specific areas. This will support us in ensuring continuity of learning for all our children and young people. This online learning space will include live classroom activities as well as lots of creative resources for you and your children.
- **Health and Wellbeing:** There are a range of supports available for families, children and young people. The “Parent Hub” on **FLIPClacks** provides information on services and resources and has links to local organisations that are providing help and guidance. <https://flipclacks.org/> The “Health and Wellbeing Hub” on **FLIPClacks** also has a number of activities and resources for children and young people to access to support their health and wellbeing. “Stay Connected with Clackmannanshire Education Service” is currently being developed and updates will be posted at **FLIPClacks** and on Clacksweb <http://clacksweb/index.php>.

Your own school will continue to be your link for information and advice. Staff will be working online and in Hubs as we go forward. Our staff are working exceptionally hard in very difficult circumstances. I know you will give them your ongoing support and patience as we work through the challenges we face.

Yours faithfully,

Lorraine Sanda
Chief Education Officer