



Executive Director of
Education
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Education Services
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Our Ref MMcK/SLA
Date 22 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Glasgow Secondary School arrangements from January 2021

You will be aware that the Scottish Government over the weekend announced new covid-19 restrictions in response to preventative measures to help tackle the new strain of the virus that's been detected.

This has a direct impact on the return of our schools after the Christmas holidays and we wanted to write and explain the arrangements and plans that we are putting in place for the children and young people across the city.

We know that this is very short notice, but we hope that that our families understand that we are continuing to deal with a very volatile and evolving situation in the battle to help reduce the spread of the virus and keep everyone as safe as possible under these challenging circumstances.

On Wednesday 6 January, secondary schools will **ONLY** open after the holidays for school staff for planning purposes.

On Thursday 7 and Friday 8 January our secondary schools will open to offer childcare to the children of keyworkers and for those young people that schools assess would benefit.

All other young people will effectively have an extended holiday until 11 January. Please contact your school's pastoral care teacher on Wednesday 6 January if you need childcare for your child.

From Monday 11 January secondary schools will offer a mixture of on-line and in-school learning. We would expect most of the learning to take place on-line given that all young people now have their own iPad.

School meals will be provided in school to eligible pupils.

For clarification, a full description of who falls into the category of keyworkers is at the end of this letter.

Bespoke plans and information of how your school will deliver online and remote learning details will be issued directly from your child's school after the holidays on Thursday 7 and Friday 8 January.

We know that these arrangements will cause a degree of anxiety, but we hope that you all understand that this is necessary as a preventative measure following the identification of the new strain of the virus and in response to the updated restrictions.

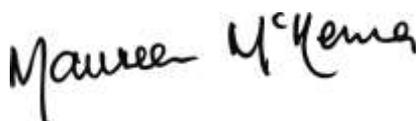
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I know that this has been a very challenging year for us all. We have put all the latest advice and guidance on-line -

<https://glasgow.gov.uk/article/25947/Recovery-Resilience-and-Reconnection-2020>

Thank you once again for your continued support and to our children and young people who show incredible resilience in the face of so many changes.

Yours sincerely



MAUREEN McKENNA
Executive Director of Education

Keyworker Clarification

Where a parent is able to work from home then they should do so and support their child's learning. Parents and carers should be aware that other family members, such as grandparents can provide childcare.

Keyworkers:

- Health and Care workers directly supporting COVID response, and associated staff; Health and Care workers supporting life threatening emergency work, as well as critical primary and community care provision; Energy suppliers (small numbers identified as top priority already); staff providing childcare/learning.
- All other Health and Care workers, and wider public sector workers providing emergency/critical welfare services (for example: fire, police, prisons, social workers), as well as those supporting our Critical National Infrastructure, without whom serious damage to the welfare of the people of Scotland could be caused.
- All workers (private, public or third sector) without whom there could be a significant impact on Scotland (but where the response to COVID-19, or the ability to perform essential tasks to keep the country running, would not be severely compromised).

These are the Scottish Government definitions issued in March 2020.