



Bellahouston Academy
30 Gower Terrace
Glasgow G41 5QE
Phone: 0141 582 0030
Email: Headteacher@bellahoustonacademy.glasgow.sch.uk

Head Teacher
Barry Mochan BA(Hons)

6th of January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

New Term Arrangements

I would like to begin by wishing you and your family a happy new year; I realise that the initial stage of 2021 is likely to be a challenging time due to the lockdown procedures we are currently experiencing, but I hope that, as the year progresses, things become easier and more comfortable for us all. As you will be aware, the recent announcements by the First Minister on the 19th of December and the 4th of January mean that the arrangements for the start of our new term in January have changed.

On Thursday the 7th and Friday the 8th of January, we are able to offer childcare facilities for the children of keyworkers. From Monday the 11th until Friday the 29th of January, the children of keyworkers are permitted to attend school to engage with the learning opportunities provided by their teachers. Please contact the school office for further details if you are a keyworker and wish to access these facilities so that a place can be assigned to your child/children.

From Monday the 11th of January, remote learning provision will be in place for all young people at all stages, and all pupils should be engaged in a timetable of home learning until Friday the 29th of January. Much of this learning will take place on the online platforms used regularly in school, such as Glow, Microsoft Teams, Google Classrooms, and Show My Homework. Over the next few days, we will look to identify any difficulties pupils may face in accessing online learning so that these can be addressed swiftly and effectively. Most young people, having been issued with an iPad earlier in the session, will have an appropriate device with which to access the learning materials, and we have issued some resources to assist families who do not have sufficient WiFi facilities at home. If any issues remain, please make the school aware of these so that we may look to support families in finding a solution.

Our teaching staff are currently developing the remote learning provision to be in place by Monday the 11th of January. Following this preparatory work, I will be in touch again to give more detail on how and when teachers will interact with young people using the various online platforms, and to share advice on how the challenges associated with learning at home might be managed. I will also share with you the contact details of staff with whom you may need to be in touch should any issues arise while your child is engaged in home learning.

Scottish Government will review current national arrangements on Monday the 18th of January; following this, we will be in a position to communicate our school's plans for February the 1st onwards. I know that, prior to the recent break, our Senior Phase pupils studying for SQA qualifications were busy preparing for the Formal Assessment Period scheduled to begin on the 25th of January. Obviously, it will now be necessary to reschedule this Formal Assessment Period, and we will do so in due course, taking into account the best interests and needs of our young people.

Please get in touch with me at the school, should there be any matters you would like to discuss further.

Kind regards,

Barry Mochan

Headteacher

Bellahouston Academy

