

Our ref: RB/LM

Your ref:

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Municipal Buildings
Clyde Square
Greenock
PA15 1LY

Tel: 01475 712748

Fax: 01475 712731

ruth.binks@inverclyde.gov.uk

All Parents

Dear Parents,

Yesterday the Scottish Government announced that all schools in Scotland will open to pupils from 12 August 2020 on a full time basis. I would like to thank staff, parents, the wider community and most importantly the young people themselves for everything they have undertaken during the last few months.

The purpose of this letter is to outline the steps schools in Inverclyde will be taking to ensure that our young people return to school as safely as possible. On Monday 03 August we are meeting with the heads of all of our schools and early years' establishments to ensure that the messages from the guidance are understood by all and that we can risk assess our procedures and processes in light of the guidance. Over the coming weeks we will also ensure that we work in close partnership with Public Health Scotland to monitor the latest local information on COVID-19 and to consider any impacts.

We understand that many of you will feel worried and that you will have lots of questions. We will publish a document on Tuesday 04 August which will answer the most frequently asked questions and explain the measures that will be in place to keep everybody safe.

The Scottish Government has allowed for a phased start to this term. Each school is in a unique situation, but given that many pupils have not been in a classroom for the last 4 months, we are recommending to schools that they open for smaller groups of pupils for the first week. We want all of our young people to have a positive start to the new term. Schools will be open for all pupils from Monday 17 August. Each school or early years' establishment will be in touch with you next week to explain the particular arrangements they have in place and when your child should attend school. If for any reason, the arrangements cause problems for the childcare arrangements you have put in place then please contact your child's school directly.

These remain extraordinary times and we urge you to please follow all of the arrangements that the schools put in place to keep everybody safe. This may mean that usual routines will not be able to be followed, that we limit visitors to the school and that families cannot congregate around the school. We also ask that parents make sure that schools have their up to date contact details so that we can contact all parents as quickly as possible if there are any changes to arrangements.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

