**AUCHENHARVIE ACADEMY**

**Head Teacher: Calum Johnston BED (Hons)**

**Saltcoats Road, Stevenston, KA20 3JW**

**Tel.: (01294) 605156**

**Fax: (01294) 604806**

**E-mail: auchenharvie@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk**

**Date: 29th May 2020**

Dear Parent/Carer

As we move into the month of June and the last four weeks of the school session I hope that this communication finds you are your family safe, well and healthy.

All pupils have now officially moved up a year group which means there is no current S1 at Auchenharvie Academy.

I have attached the weekly home learning planner and details of how home learning will be staggered throughout the school week for pupils in the new S2/3. This was in response to the feedback we received a couple of weeks ago from you. Pupils in 4/5/6 will continue to get work from all of their subjects as and when the pace of learning dictates. In addition I have attached two further documents which have been published recently by the National Parent Forum for Scotland. These are about home learning and online safety.

Please note the change to the volume of home schooling as highlighted in last week’s communication.

* ***Each subject will cap the volume of work issued per week. This will commence wb 1/6/20.***

*Pupils in S1/2/3 will receive 1.5/2 hours per week in English and Maths and 1 hour per week in all other subjects.*

*Pupils in S4 will receive 1.5 hours of work in each of their 7 chosen SQA subjects per week.*

*Pupils in S5/6 will receive 2.5 hours of work in each of their 4/5 chosen SQA subjects per week.*

*Extension work will be available from all teachers should it be required.*

This week initial meetings have taken place between the local authority and head teachers to discuss plans to reopen schools to staff in June and to pupils in August. At this stage the plans are very much focussed on agreeing the health and safety protocols and the risk assessment arrangements to ensure that the school building is as safe as it possibly can be for pupils to learn and teachers to teach. We are working with colleagues in health and safety, facilities management and the education department to ensure that everything which is put in place meets national agreements and builds confidence in our whole school community that we are safe and ready to open. I have put Auchenharvie forward to be the pilot secondary school for all health and safety modelling to take place in the firm belief that this will ensure the highest possible standards and build confidence in everyone who will return to the building. In doing so, I also hope that to support our incoming P7’s that we will be able to offer some form of physical transition experience in small groups within the school building. Our transition team will communicate this to P7 pupils and families in due course.

Next week, further meetings will take place where the focus will be on what our model for reopening will look like. Clearly not all pupils will be able to access the building at any one time and class sizes will be reduced to allow social distancing measures to take place. We will make sure that when pupils are not in school that this has the minimum impact on families particularly where there are other siblings in the house. There are a range of different models being proposed and we are looking into how lessons, initially in the senior phase, could be streamed for pupils who are not physically in the building.

If you have any thoughts on models for reopening the school I would be delighted to hear from you, simply reply to this message and your feedback will find its way to me.

What is clear is that the model which is agreed will be consistent across all nine secondary schools and as far as possible will work alongside primary schools.

I have a virtual parent council meeting taking place today where I will update them fully with the current position and the plans moving forward and I hope that in next week’s communication i will be able to give much more specific detail on what model we will be using from August 2020.

As ever, my staff and I are here to help and support you so please do not hesitate to contact us if you require help, support or advice about any aspect of home schooling.

Take care, stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all soon.

 

Calum Johnston

Head Teacher

Auchenharvie Academy