**AUCHENHARVIE ACADEMY**

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

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**Date: 14th January 2021**

Dear Parent/Carer,

I wanted to start by thanking you all for the time, effort and energy you have put into supporting our pupils and my staff with the delivery of home learning during this first full week of lockdown v2. As I have stated previously there is no expectation on parents/carers to provide the same level of service that a teacher would normally so your support in getting pupils up in the morning and ready to learn is greatly appreciated.

As I do every week, please also find attached a copy of the weekly work planner for all pupils in S1/6 as well as the subject rota for S1/2.

Despite some technical glitches nationally with a number of online platforms this first week has been a successful one. Most pupils have been engaging with classwork whether face to face or through other forums. We are really keen that this continues as in the highly possible event that this lockdown continues beyond the start of February we want to try and minimise the potential for any further gaps in learning to appear. It is possible that starting next week that some teachers may use a variety of online face to face platforms such as Microsoft Teams and Google Meet to help deliver remote learning.

To this end, staff will be keeping registers for all classes and the details of these will passed to middle and senior leaders in school for further interventions if required. It really is essential that as far as possible ALL pupils are engaging with their online learning regardless of their age or stage in school. This is particularly important for pupils in S4/5/6 as teachers will be gathering evidence from pupils which may be used to help with overall estimates to the SQA later this year. I cannot urge senior phase pupils enough to ensure that they are participating as much as possible with their classwork.

**Adapted Arrangements for S3 Pupils during Online Learning**

You will have seen from my communication earlier this week that as from 18th January 2021 that we plan to change the way that work is distributed to pupils in S3. From Monday coming, work for all subjects in S3 will be distributed on a Monday morning and pupils are asked to choose 3 subjects per day to work from at their own pace. This decision is based on the implications of the current model not suiting pupils in S3 who have made alternative subject choices. For example, a pupil in S3 under the current model may only get work from one subject one day and 4/5 subjects on another day.

*I do however want to give you all advance notice that if the First Minister announces on 18/1/21 that lockdown will extend beyond 1/2/21 then it is our intention that all S3 pupils will swap to the same model as S4/5/6 pupils are currently using from Monday 25/1/21. This will involve following their normal school timetable and experiencing face to face/live learning through a combination of online platforms including V-Scene, Teams etc, as well as GLOW and Google Classroom. I will communicate to clarify any changes next week after the First Minister makes her announcement on Monday.*

**Parents of Pupils in S4/5/6**

As noted above the work for each pupil in S4/5/6 will also now be published to all parents/carers for your information. We hope that you find this useful and that it provides clarity on exactly what pupils should be working on.

Over the coming week’s small groups of targeted pupils will be contacted to attend school to complete some qualifications which were incomplete as of the Christmas holidays. If you are contacted to make your child available to attend school for this purpose please make every effort to ensure that pupils take up this opportunity. This will mainly be for outstanding qualifications in literacy and numeracy as well as pupils with outstanding coursework in National 3 qualifications.

**Support for Pupils/Parents and Carers During Lockdown v2**

If parents/carers or pupils have any questions and/or issues during this period of remote learning, then please use the following e-mail addresses to contact pupil's designated House team:

Ashgrove

gw16lynchamanda@glow.sch.uk

gw10congiuletizia2@glow.sch.uk

Warner

gw09scottclaire4@glow.sch.uk

gw09davislinda@glow.sch.uk

Parkend

gw09shawhelen@glow.sch.uk

gw09herdjohn@glow.sch.uk

**School Office**

Given the Government instructions on essential journeys and working from home where possible, our school office is not currently being staffed. Please contact the school using the email address provided at the top of this communication for all general enquiries where office staff, working from home, will deal with all requests. For all specific enquiries please use the house team email addresses provided above.

**Free Printing service for pupils.**

We have been made aware of a company in Ardrossan who are providing a free printing service for all school pupils during this period of lockdown. This may help pupils if they are unable to come to school to collect any resources provided by their teacher.

https://www.ardrossanherald.com/news/19010890.ardrossan-community-centre-offers-free-printing-help-schoolchildren/

**Extra Learning Resources**

As previously intimated and to further enhance the availability of materials for pupils to study during this latest period of lockdown I would encourage all pupils to take advantage of the following additional resources:

<https://scholar.hw.ac.uk> Pupils can access the SCHOLAR resource using their GLOW login which will provide them with access to materials for 41 SQA NQ certificated courses. This is aimed primarily for senior pupils.

www.e-sgoil.com

 [Pupils can also access this free online platform specifically designed to help during remote learning. There are a multitude of resources and live lessons are also streamed to support pupils. This resource is suitable for all pupils.](http://www.e-sgoil.com  Pupils )

[**www.bbc.co.uk/bitesizerevison**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesizerevison)This is a resource for primary and secondary pupils with online resources and interactive videos to support learning.

I hope you find this information useful and I will continue to provide you all with weekly updates as we work together through this difficult time. As ever, please do not hesitate to get in touch on the details above if you would like help, support or further information on any aspect of the information above.

Yours sincerely,



Calum Johnston

Head Teacher

Auchenharvie Academy