

Our Ref: RS / AMCG
Your Ref:
Contact: Robert Smith
Tel: 01698 274944
E-mail: enquiries@cardinalnewman.n-lanark.sch.uk
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Education and Families

Kenneth Ross
Head Teacher
Cardinal Newman High School
Main Street
Bellshill ML4 3DW
www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk

Dear Parent / Guardian

I know you will be keen to know the specific details of our phased return arrangements beginning Monday 15 March and how they affect your child.

Who will be attending School?

- We have placed all young people S1-S6 in one of three *streams* (Blue, Green or Yellow).
- Each stream is one third of the school roll. This allows us to keep the number of young people in the building each day to approximately 33% of the school roll [as per the published guidelines].
- We will contact young people and families from today (11 March) to tell you which stream you are in and on which days you should attend.
- Between 15 March and 1 April all young people in S4/5/6 will attend school for 4 whole days; all young people in S1/2/3 will attend school for 3 whole days.
- In addition all key worker and vulnerable children will continue to attend every day from 15 March to 1 April.
- All young people should report to their outside social areas in the morning, where they will be met by their teachers and directed to class.

What is the rationale for our model?

- Our rationale is that we will only ask young people to come into school if they can be with their own teachers and engage with their own timetable & subject choices. Our model delivers that.
- We will continue to operate the normal school timetable for the 'in school' offer and for online / remote learning.
- All S4-S6 pupils will have 3 sessions (double periods) of 2 of their subject choices; and 2 sessions of 3 of their subject choices.
- All S1-S3 pupils will have a broad spread of all of their subjects; all pupils in S1-S3 will have 'in school' classes in Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing.

Online / Remote Learning

- We have been delivering a very effective online learning offer for our young people during this period of closure. While there will now be additional demands on class teachers to deliver two types of learning models simultaneously; we will do our very best to keep any disruption to a minimum.



- Teachers will provide 'in school' feedback and next steps for young people about the on line / remote offer and how they should continue to engage most effectively at home.
- We will continue to monitor carefully our online / remote offer; including attendance and engagement data and take any action necessary.

Health and Safety

Scottish Government has published updated health and safety guidance for the return to school on 15 March which we have been asked to implement including:

- 2 metre physical distancing to be applied within school buildings for all pupils and staff at all times;
- Minimising movement around the building;
- 1 metre physical distancing on school transport;
- Face coverings to be worn throughout the day by all secondary pupils (S1-S6) and staff, including in classrooms, when moving around the building and on school transport;
- Keeping windows open as much as possible, and doors open when feasible and safe to do;
- A continued focus on hand and respiratory hygiene;
- Only pupils and staff are allowed within the perimeter fenced area of the school. I would ask parents not to enter these areas when dropping off or picking up your child. If possible please drop your child at the bus turning area.

Parents and Carers

- Please make sure your child brings a face covering to school and that they wear it on public and school transport.
- Please reinforce the current health and safety guidance with your child – including the importance of maintaining 2 metre social distancing on the way to school; during breaks and lunchtime and again on the way home.

Young people who are unwell or display any COVID 19 Symptoms

- Any young person who is unwell or is showing signs of any NHS categorised COVID 19 symptoms **should not attend school and remain indoors**. Parents and young people should follow the latest published guidance for all suspected and conformed cases.

LFD Testing Programme for Senior Phase Pupils

- I wrote to you previously about the Lateral Flow Device Testing Programme for senior phase pupils (S4-S6) and staff.
- Testing is open to all senior phase pupils who are regularly attending the school premises. All senior phase pupils will be attending regularly from 15 March to April 1.
- While we are encouraging all senior phase pupils to participate - testing is voluntary. If you wish to take part you need to complete the consent form and collect your testing kits from the school office.

School Uniform

- All young people returning to school from 15 March should be in full school uniform.
- PE kits will not be required at this time as the latest PE guidelines prohibit PE indoors and outdoors until April 26 at the earliest. If there are any changes to the PE guidelines we will let you know.

School Canteen

- School canteen will be open from Monday 15 March. Young people can pre-order their food using the app.

School Transport

- School transport will be operating from Monday 15 March for eligible young people.

We will now be contacting young people and parents with the dates you need to come to school.

The temporary curriculum model I have described will be in place from 15 March to 1 April.

The next significant date for all of us will hopefully be Monday 19 April when all young people return from the Easter Holidays. We have already started our planning for this next step.

I will continue to update you with any information as it becomes available.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this update please do not hesitate to contact the school.

With every best wish

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Smith', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Smith

Acting Head Teacher