Dear Parent/Carer

RECOVERY PLAN FOR AUGUST 2020

I am very much looking forward to seeing our new S1 pupils, our staff and our partners again. I hope that you and your family are safe and well. I hope that the information contained in this letter will provide you with the necessary reassurance and information regarding the safe return of our pupils in August 2020. North Lanark shire Council have met with parents, staff and all associated services to gather opinions and help work out the best possible arrangements for all schools.

On Thursday the 18th of June, Derek Brown, wrote to parents and carers providing information on a number of key areas which apply to all North Lanarkshire schools. The information in this letter should provide you with the required details for returning to school in August 2020 for Airdrie Academy pupils.

WEEK ONE ARRANGEMENTS

Week beginning 10th Aug

* Monday 10th August Last day of summer holiday 2020
* Tuesday 11th August In- service Day
* Wednesday 12th August **New S1** and also S2 & S3 pupils
* Thursday 13th August **New S1** and all senior pupils S4 – S6
* Friday 14th August **New S1** and all other year groups

Welcome to Airdrie Academy

We will be delighted to see our new S1 pupils and we look forward to warmly welcoming them to the school. Returning to school after such a long period of time may feel quite daunting to some of our young people. We recognise that some may feel anxious especially in the current climate. As such, the health and wellbeing of all the young people will be at the heart of all we do as we move forwards into this new phase. We will have supports in place to help our new S1 pupils to become familiar with the layout of the school building and all of the important safety measures that we all have to follow.

Keeping us safe

We will encourage pupils to walk in a socially distanced way through signage and floor markings. There are clear and visible signs located around the school which highlight the importance of personal hygiene and personal safety. We are all responsible for health and safety and it is really important that we all play our part to keep ourselves and our families as safe as possible.

Hand sanitisers have been installed in various locations in the school. We expect all pupils and staff to use hand sanitisers as they enter / exit the school building. Antibacterial spray / wipes will be available in classrooms. The school will be cleaned at the end of each day and frequently touched areas such as door handles will also be cleaned throughout the day.

Break times and end of day

We will use the Social Area/canteen, outside areas (weather permitting), assembly hall and games hall for lunch and relaxation. We will use all available seating. S1 pupils will be in our large games hall at break times and start times each day.

There will be no cash handling in the school at this time. We will promote via our school website and social media the use of the proposed new App for ordering lunch. We await further information instruction on this.

Although we will encourage all young people to have a school lunch S2-6 pupils will be permitted to go out of school for lunch if they wish to do so. **WE ASK THAT ALL S1 PUPILS REMAIN IN SCHOOL AT LUNCHTIME UP UNTIL THE SEPTEMBER WEEKEND – *we will review this request as and when necessary.***

• Pupils are permitted to bring their own packed lunch.

• ALL pupils will enter and leave the building via the main yard entrance and the Kennihill road entrance. Exit will be staggered starting at the top of the building. THE MAIN FRONT DOOR IS FOR STAFF AND VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL ONLY.

What to Bring to school

Pupils should bring a school bag each day to carry their belongings such as jotters, pencils, snacks and other items they deem essential. Please do not share pencils/paper/ with friends. We will provide new stationery to anyone who has forgotten to bring their own.

What to Wear

All young people attending Airdrie Academy will be expected to wear their **full school uniform**. The uniform provides our young people with a sense of belonging and pride and at this difficult time it will help re-establish a return to some kind of normal for our pupils.

Travel

School buses will be available to those pupils who have applied for and been granted a place.

PARENTS MUST NOT DROP OFF / PICK UP PUPILS WITHIN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS. WE REQUEST THAT YOU DROP YOUR CHILD OFF SAFELY OUTWITH THE PERIMETER OF THE SCHOOL.

Finally

The situation we find ourselves in with the Coronavirus pandemic is an ever changing one. The information I have provided at the time of writing Thursday 6th August 2020 may be subject to change. I will do all that I can to keep you informed of any developments in relation to our school return.

We have missed our pupils greatly and look forward to their return. We are really looking forward to working with our new S1 pupils and supporting you to succeed.

Many families may have struggled throughout this time. Please remember that we are here to support you in any way that we can. **We are very proud to serve our community.**

On behalf of all staff at the school I would like to thank you for your support, your encouragement and co-operation with all that we have achieved in home learning during the Covid 19 lockdown. We very much look forward to a return to normal schooling. We have to make adjustments in how we deliver certain subjects; PE (outdoor only), Drama, Music and practical subjects – this is to keep your child and our staff as safe as possible.

I very much look forward to working in partnership with you

Kind Regards

Martin D Anderson