

Dear Parent/Carer

As intimated in Friday's HT blog, I am now in a position to share our plans for phase 2 of the return of schools from week beginning 15 March 2021. These plans are based on the Education Scotland advice note which was published at the end of last week, and as such, take cognisance of the following constraints:

- Maintain provision for key worker children and vulnerable learners
- Maintain 2m physical distancing between learners, between adults, and between adults and learners who are not from the same household
- Face coverings should be worn by all secondary aged pupils both in class and when moving around school buildings.
- Continue to build on Phase 1, give priority for lessons to learners who are taking National Qualifications. This will ensure that learning continues towards their qualifications under the 2021 Alternative Certification Model.
- In the run up to Easter, a high-quality remote learning offer should remain in place, although it is recognised that the nature of it may change
- **Where possible**, ensure all learners in secondary schools receive some in-school education each week, for example, to help schools continue to connect with learners, support their health and wellbeing and support the transition back to full time schooling

As you may imagine the complexities of being able to implement all of these **at the same** time in a secondary school is very difficult to achieve! In primary school, the return of all pupils is possible because there is no 2m distancing restriction applied. However in secondary schools, the implementation of 2m distancing means that classrooms are restricted to a maximum of 10 young people in a classroom at any given time. This significantly reduces capacity within the school and as such limits the offer a school can make in accommodating everything simultaneously for the 14 teaching days left between 15 March and the end of term.

We have used the evidence we have from learners, teachers and our online engagement monitoring process to help formulate our plans to maximise opportunities for all learners in preparation for a long awaited return to full time education on 19 April. Key principles are as follows:

Key worker and vulnerable learners

The provision of full time attendance in school remains the same for key workers and vulnerable learners as that which has been in place since the beginning of January

Senior Phase learners in S4-S6

The number of subjects which are now at the stage of delivering practical components has increased from those on offer for the past 3 weeks of phase 1, and we now have Admin and IT, Higher Computing, all modern languages and Gaelic requiring pupils to attend. The only practical subject which is unable **as yet** to work with students on practical assessments is PE, and this position will be revised as soon as guidelines change. Here in Greenfaulds, given the high uptake of practical subjects, that leaves very few pupils in the Senior Phase whose timetable does not yet include in-school provision. When considering the need to bring in other subjects we looked closely at the impact of such a decision, which the following example should illustrate:

A maths teacher has a higher class of 30 students and in our current digital learning model the class is receiving 3 digital lessons each week. If this model moves to face-to-face in school delivery, the teacher can only have a class of 10. Each group of 10 would now only

receive one lesson per week to allow the teacher to work with all of her students. Also, because all of the teacher's time is now devoted to face-to-face learning across the whole week by teaching the same lesson 3 times, there is no longer any time in the timetable to keep the digital offer going for the rest of the class when they are not involved in face to face provision. To attempt to change over all subjects in the senior phase to in-school delivery would mean we are no longer able to continue with our offer of digital learning with our BGE and would dilute the provision needed to be able to give practical subjects the time required.

Consequently we will continue to offer digital learning in these subjects where in-school learning would severely impact on the digital provision. As a result of our audit in identifying pupils whose timetable does not include face to face learning, and for pupils whose digital engagement and progress is a cause for concern, we will be contacting them directly to invite them into school to ensure they are supported and prepared for a return to full time education in April. In doing this, every pupil in the Senior Phase will be included in in-school learning.

Broad General Education (BGE) S1-S3

Each BGE learner will benefit from 1.5 days in school. As in the Senior Phase, all groupings of S1-S3 learners must be designed to accommodate 2m social distancing – ie classes of 10. During the BGE time in school we will very much prioritise the Health and Wellbeing of our young people. Again, responding to the feedback of our learners, in-school activities will not be subject based and will provide some much needed time away from digital learning. Remote learning provision will be in place for the times when pupils are working from home.

General Considerations

Transport

All school transport is operational from 15 March. For pupils who are finishing after a morning session or arriving for an afternoon session, additional arrangements have been put in place with the bus companies to ensure the additional bus runs are covered. Details of pick up times for afternoon starts will be displayed on the school website and will also be posted on year group teams pages.

Free School Meals

Lunches will be provided for any pupil who is entitled to a free school meal. Vouchers which are currently sent out to families during this period of remote learning will continue to be issued during phase 2 of school return.

Cleaning

Our risk assessment has been updated to include the additional footfall in school. Any rooms which see a change of group between morning and afternoon sessions will be cleaned using the fogger machines in school. This is in addition to the routine sanitising regime with which pupils are already familiar.

Face Masks

All students and staff in the building are required to wear face masks unless a medical exemption applies. Students have been issued with sunflower cards previously, but should see their pupil support teacher if they need a new one.

Entrance to the Building

- Senior Phase pupils should enter the building by the front door.

- Key Worker and Vulnerable learners should continue to enter by the automated swing door on the front of the building.
- All BGE pupils should enter by the doors directly from the school yard, and pupils should gather in their coloured zones which are marked in the yard: Red for S1; Yellow for S2; green for S3.
- Doors will be manned by members of staff to ensure that routine hand sanitisation is in place.

Uniform

There is no requirement to wear uniform when in school. I appreciate that for many young people they may now have outgrown existing uniform and given that the whole school are not yet in together, pupils can come to school wearing clothes which are warm and comfortable.

I am acutely conscious of the fact that the content of the letter is lengthy! However I believe it is really important that the rationale behind the timetable shown below is explained as fully as possible. As a parent, I can absolutely empathise with the anxiety and stress of home working; juggling remote learning; dealing with uncertainty; and planning for change. As a Head Teacher, I can categorically speak for the staff in Greenfaulds to assure you that we are very much longing for the full return of school. Juggling has been hard for teachers too! We have missed the face to face daily interactions with young people – in other words the bits of the school which help define us as a community. I realise the plans for the next 14 days won't be what all families are hoping for, but would offer my absolute reassurance that the design of our return allows us to:

- have face to face contact with ALL learners – albeit not full time,
- prioritise our vulnerable families,
- continue to build on senior phase practical experience
- focus on Health and Wellbeing and re-integration for our BGE; and
- continue to optimise our digital delivery for learners to allow for pace and progression in learning

If you have any concerns or questions regarding any of the details for next week, please don't hesitate to contact your child's pupil support teacher in the first instance.

With continued best wishes for you and your families to remain safe and well

Linda Park

Headteacher Greenfaulds High School

week beginning 15/03/21

	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
S5/6	Column A		Column B		Column C		Column D		Column E	
	Metalwork		Admin Graph Gaelic AH Spanish Dance		Art Drama Electronics Games Des		Art Computing Music Mus Tech Gaelic H German		D&M Music PE Photography	
S4	Column G		Column D		Column E		Column F		Column C	
	Admin Computing D&M French		Admin Computing Gaelic		Admin Art D&M Gaelic Art		Admin Art Dance		Art Computing Drama	

	Mon am	Mon pm	Tues am	Tues pm	Wed am	Wed pm	Thurs am	Thurs pm	Fri am	Fri pm
1TH1	x									
1L01	x									
1BR	x									
1LE	x									
1NE	x									
1TH2		x								
1LO2		x								
1SK		x								
1WA		x								

2TH					x					
2LE1					x					
2LO					x					
2BR1					x					
2WA					x					
2NE						x				
2BR2						x				
2SK						x				
2LE2						x				

3TH									x	
3LE									x	
3LO									x	
3NE1									x	
3SK1									x	
3NE2										x
3BR										x
3SK2										x
3WA										x



week beginning 22/03/21

S5/6

1TH12TH3TH

week beginning 29/03/21

	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday	
S5/6	Column A		Column B		Column C		Column D	
	Metalwork		Admin Graph Gaelic AH Spanish Dance		Art Drama Electronics Games Des		Art Computing Music Mus Tech Gaelic H German	
S4	Column G		Column D		Column E		Column F	
	Admin Computing D&M French		Admin Computing Gaelic		Admin Art D&M Gaelic Art		Admin Art Dance	

	Mon am	Mon pm	Tues am	Tues pm	Wed am	Wed pm	Thurs am	Thurs pm
1TH1	x							
1L01	x							
1BR	x							
1LE	x							
1NE	x							
1TH2		x						
1LO2		x						
1SK		x						
1WA		x						

2TH					x			
2LE1					x			
2LO					x			
2BR1					x			
2WA					x			
2NE						x		
2BR2						x		
2SK						x		
2LE2						x		

3TH			x					
3LE			x					
3LO			x					
3NE1			x					
3SK1			x					
3NE2				x				
3BR				x				
3SK2				x				
3WA				x				