

Mr John Donnelly

*Headteacher*

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Contact Mr J Donnelly

Ref JD/DP

Date 29 April 2020

To parents and carers,

**Crieff High School remains closed to ALL staff and pupils.**

I write to you today to provide you with an update with regards to:

* ‘New’ timetable arrangements
* Continuation of learning
* Pupil wellbeing survey
* Senior Leadership application process
* ‘Virtual’ awards ceremony

**‘New’ timetable arrangements**

Our preparations for the new timetable will be complete by the end of today for a start date of Monday 4th May. This has been a significant undertaking over the last 4 weeks and you will likely have received a new pupil timetable via email. We anticipate that all pupil timetables will have been forwarded to families before this coming weekend.

If you have not received a pupil timetable by Friday afternoon, or if you think the pupil timetable is inaccurate in any way, please contact the school at CrieffHigh@pkc.gov.uk.

We don’t anticipate there to be any errors, but should you identify an error, please be mindful that every young person’s course choice requests have been processed in challenging circumstances and in a much reduced timeframe.

Thank you to our Campus Business Manager, our Business Management Team and to our Guidance team for all of their endeavours in ensuring that we can support our young people to engage in ‘new’ learning earlier in preparation for the year ahead.

It should be noted that ShowMyHomework requires 24 – 48 hours to uplift our information into their system so there will be delay in new class teachers contacting young people until Wednesday 6th May.

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Parents/Carers of

Crieff High School

**Continuation of learning**

**Pupil engagement**

After discussion with Principal Teachers and analysing our in-school data, I can advise that young people from Crieff High School are engaging in learning above the national trend.

This analysis is an emerging picture in all educational establishments as we all seek new ways to monitor and track pupil engagement in learning while attempting to remove new and evolving barriers to learning.

For your awareness, please see the below bullet points forwarded to all class teachers today, in advance of the new timetable:

* ShowMyHomework will be our ‘one-stop-shop’ for all learning tasks and activities. Young people may be directed from ShowMyHomework to other platforms for task completion but all work will be retained in this one location.
* Tasks and activities will be set by all class teachers on Wednesday 6th May rather than Monday 4th May to allow ShowMyHomework to update class lists. These will be set every Monday thereafter and planned for the week ahead to allow families to structure their week.
* ‘New’ learning activities will likely require teacher input to support young people to meaningfully engage in learning, build working relationships with their new class teachers and their peers as well as retain a connectedness with their school.

**IT access**

We have supported several families with IT access either by providing Wi-Fi hotspots to homes to ensure internet connection, by providing advice and support to families to enable them to use their existing IT devices or by providing access to IT devices where none were available within the home.

Please contact the relevant guidance teacher if IT access is proving to be a barrier to learning and we will continue to support as required.

**Accessing resources**

We are aware that jotters, stationery etc. may be needed to continue to engage in learning at home and we are working with partners to ensure that these can be made available in various locations in our local community.

I will share more information with you as this emerges.

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Parents/Carers of

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**Pupil wellbeing survey**

Mrs Telford will be forwarding a pupil wellbeing survey which will ask young people for their views regarding communication, continuation of learning and pastoral support.

Your support in encouraging completion is greatly appreciated.

In the same way as parent and carer feedback has informed our current planning, we seek to adapt to meet the needs of our young people.

**Senior Leadership application process**

This term ordinarily provides our senior pupils with a variety of form and highly-regarded leadership opportunities in the roles of Head Boy, Head Girl, Depute Head Boy, Depute Head Girl, House Captain and Prefect. You may recall that the role of Prefect was widened to include S4 pupils this year and this has been a great success.

We believe that this opportunity should still be made available to young people to provide an immediate focus at home as well as to provide another aspect of school life to look forward to, when school does reopen.

On this basis, Mrs Fotheringhame will forward information home on the application and interview process on Monday 4th May with applications due by Monday 18th May.

**‘Virtual’ awards ceremony**

Finally, we feel that is important that the successes and achievements of 2019/20 are acknowledged, recognised and celebrated for our young people across all year groups.

With this said, it is our intention to hold a ‘virtual’ awards ceremony. Mrs Couser will be leading on this, on behalf of the school, and more information will follow in due course.

As always, please continue to take care of yourself and your loved ones.

Kindest wishes.

John Donnelly

**Mr J Donnelly**

Headteacher/Campus Leader