People&Partnerships

Midlothian Council Fairfield House 8 Lothian Road Dalkeith EH22 3ZG

Executive Director Ms Fiona Robertson Midlothian



04 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Further to the First Minister's announcement on Tuesday, you will be aware that the scientific advice and evidence in relation to the current suppression of COVID-19 will allow the full time return of P4-7 children to schools from 15 March unless new evidence or new circumstances dictate otherwise. All primary school children will also be able to return to regulated childcare, including after school and breakfast clubs.

There will be a further phased return to secondary school from 15 March with the expectation that all S1-6 pupils can be back full-time after the Easter holidays. All secondary school pupils will spend some time in school from 15 March until the Easter Break, however S4-6 will be prioritised for face to face teaching.

We are delighted that the situation continues to move forward, and that we can physically welcome even more of our children and young people back into our school buildings.

Secondary schools are increasing the number of in-school sessions that teachers are delivering, particularly for senior phase pupils undertaking practical activities as well as continuing support for key worker and vulnerable young people. Therefore, parents/carers and pupils should anticipate changes to remote learning activities and your child's school will inform you or your child directly about any changes to their remote learning plans.

As before, all schools have been risk assessed with colleagues from our Health and Safety service, with enhanced health and safety measures and protocols in place that follow the current public health and government guidance.

Primary 1-3 children will continue to receive a lunch at school. P4 and above should bring a packed lunch, with those entitled to free school meals continuing to receive BACS payments until the Easter break.

Schools will communicate with parents and carers by Monday 8 March about individual arrangements for the period leading up to the Easter Break.

We would like to thank you for your continued support as we revise our plans following this very recent announcement. We will keep you updated with any further information via our usual channels of communication.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Robertson

Executive Director Children, Young People & Partnerships

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Your Ref: Our Ref: FR/LC