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Senior Phase Timetable Change

Dear Parent / Carer

On Thursday 23rd April we sent out a google survey asking about how online learning at home was going. Many thanks to all of you who have responded. We will use this information in two ways – to share with our class teachers so that we can respond to some of the specific information and to develop a more strategic view going forward.

Current S3 Pupils

Our current S3 pupils will move into S4 and begin their national qualifications on Monday 11 May. We ask that they continue to complete all work set by their current teachers until Friday 8 May.

Current S4 and S5 pupils who are returning to school

Our current S4 and S5 pupils will begin their new courses on Monday 11 May. This is a change to the school calendar as the SQA exams and study leave for S4-S6 pupils were due to start on Monday 27 April. It is important that our senior pupils see timetable change as the start of new courses and new learning. As such, on 11 May, we ask that all pupils who are returning to school for session 2020-21 log on and engage with the work set by their new teachers. It is essential that no pupil gets left behind at the start of new National Qualification courses. Any pupils who have changed their minds as regards future pathways should contact their Guidance Teacher for support. To mark the end of this session's timetable and to give staff time to plan teaching and learning for new courses, teachers will not be posting new materials for current S4-6 pupils on Google Classroom. If they wish, S4-S6 pupils can access learning materials on classroom.google.com.

Current S1 and S2 Pupils

Our current S1 and S2 pupils will move on to new courses on 25 May. We will endeavour to ensure the continuity of teacher where this is practical. Pupils should continue to engage with all learning activities set through Google Classroom until Friday 22 May.

Online Learning

Staff continue to explore new ways of communicating and teaching in a virtual learning environment. For example, Google Meet is one tool which may be used to facilitate pre-recorded or "live" teaching.

Aberdeen City Council has produced a guide on the safe use of Google Meet which can be found here: shorturl.at/bOQS9. I must emphasise the importance of all pupils behaving in an appropriate manner when taking part in a Google Meet. Any misuse of this tool will be followed up through the usual channels. I am confident that our pupils value learning and will support their teachers as they work hard to deliver key course content.

Aspire to be outstanding

Information about the change of timetable and the use of Google Meet will be posted on Google Classrooms next week. The guide will be shared with pupils and key points highlighted.

School Leavers

We have a number of young people leaving school this term. We are always very proud of our pupils and what they go on to achieve. We will be contacting our school leavers through Guidance House Teams and wish them all well as they progress to the workplace or further study.

School Nurse

The school nursing service continues to provide a virtual service to support our children and families and Alison Mitchell, our school nurse can be contacted by families on 07814 153471 should you require assistance. Alternatively you can email nhsg.schoolnursing@nhs.net stating which school your pupil attends.

I will continue to provide weekly updates throughout the summer term and would like to thank you for your continuing support and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Douglas Watt