

**Head Teacher Update**

**19th March 2021**

Dear Parent / Carer,

This week we have seen the start of the phase two return to school of young people. As you are aware, social distancing must remain, so we are not able to run at full capacity. Pupils and parents have been incredibly supportive of the temporary part time timetable that is currently in place. My thanks to everyone for their patience, support and flexibility – it has been much appreciated.

Here is the news for the week of 15-19th March 2021:

**Options 2021/22 Update from Mr Menzies**

This week pupils have received a letter outlining the next stage of the options process for next session. This included that dates of options interviews and the options forms for each year group. All the information can be found at the link below:

<https://bit.ly/2P9eQr4>

S2 and S3 options interviews will take place prior to the Easter break in school during the times that pupils are in the building. S4 & S5 options interviews will take place after the Easter break.  If any parent/carer wishes to discuss their child’s options prior to the interview, please contact the pupil’s pastoral teacher.

**Return to school (part time) for S1-6**

Week one has gone really very well. I am always so impressed by how resilient and adaptable our young people are. Similarly, the staff have been amazing in getting everything ready for this 14-day period. This has included moving furniture, moving rooms, preparing lessons for classes they don’t normally teach, and navigating an extremely complicated master timetable so they know where they are going each lesson!

The seniors switch from mornings / afternoons in week two:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **WEEK TWO** **S4-6 timetable** | **9-11.30am** **(periods 1 – 3 of your normal school timetable)** | **1-3.30pm** **(periods 4 - 6 of your normal school timetable)** |
| Monday 22 March | Mull and Skye |  |
| Tuesday 23 | Mull and Skye | Arran and Iona |
| Wednesday 24 |  | Arran and Iona |
| Thursday 25 | Mull and Skye | Arran and Iona |
| Friday 26 | Mull and Skye | Arran and Iona |

No change for S1-3:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **S1-3 timetable**  | **9-11.30am**  | **1-3.30pm**  |
| Monday 15 March, 22 and 29 |  | All S1 and S2  |
| Tuesday 16 March, 23 and 30 | All S3 |  |
| Wednesday 17 March, 24 and 31 | All S1 and S2 |  |
| Thursday 18 March, 25 and 1 April |  | All S3 |
| Friday 19 March and 26 |  |  |

As I mentioned in the letter to parents last week, there is likely to be an inevitable impact on the remote learning offer that was previously in place. This is because staff cannot teach classes in person and then offer the same level of live lessons / interactive availability that they did through January and February.

Until the end of this term (last day is Thursday 1st April), staff are still uploading tasks and activities onto MS teams / Satchel One for pupils. These are tasks that they can get on with independently during the times they are at home.

**Parental Workshops**

Our programme of parental workshops has gone well, many thanks to the staff presenters and the parents who have taken part. Next week is the last week, and we have:

UCAS (thinking about university?) Tuesday 23rd March 7pm

Supporting a young person with anxiety Thursday 25th March 7pm

 (this was rescheduled from 18th)

**S1 Reports**

These are comment based reports and are due to be with parents this week.

**Keeping in touch**

Please remember that we are here to help.

PT Pastoral (see above) will be your first point of contact; however, the office staff will always endeavor to get you through to the most appropriate person:

0300 300 1331. There is also the school enquiries email:

johnstonehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

With best wishes to you and your family,



Lynne Hollywood

Head Teacher