



Education Service

Executive Director: Douglas Hendry

Education

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Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the beginning of another new session we are writing to give you a couple of updates.

The First Minister has announced very few changes to the rules in relation to a return to school with the current guidelines remaining in place for at least the first 6 weeks of the new session. This will include any arrangements relating to parents accessing schools.

There will be no requirement for blanket whole class self-isolation this term, class teachers will establish seating plans so that close contacts can be easily identified if necessary.

I would ask you, if you have children within any of our secondary schools, to work with them to take part in the testing programme that is in place. Secondary school pupils will be asked to carry out a lateral flow test twice a week moving forward. More information come from your child's school. Testing can help reduce the risks of covid-19 outbreaks in schools which in turn can help reduce the likelihood that staff or children and young people will have to self-isolate due to outbreaks.

In regards to school transport Scottish Government guidelines on face coverings has been updated so that only young people aged 12 and over are required to wear face coverings. This means that children aged 5-11, who were previously asked to wear face coverings, no longer need to do so. Physical distancing between passengers who travel on dedicated school transport is not required, but it remains important to be cautious and exercise personal responsibility. Existing arrangements for cleaning, hygiene and ventilation on school transport will continue.

I also wanted to let you know that Education has welcomed Jennifer Crocket to the Service as Head of Life Long Learning during the summer. Jennfier will be working alongside Louise Connor to lead the Education Service.

Thank you for your continued support

Yours sincerely

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director