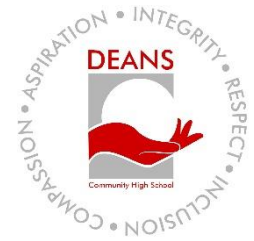


Parent Update

05 February 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

I'm sure you are aware from Tuesday's announcement from the First Minister on the phased return of students to schools. At the moment the only group that this applies to for us is some students from S4-6 who have practical assignments to be completed. Education Scotland will send me a list of which subjects and which elements within these that are included in this and we will then begin letting students know if it applies to them and what the next steps are. I realise that there will be a degree of practice time needed in some cases to ensure students are fully prepared and we will let students know about this in advance too.

Senior staff have made a large number of calls home this week following concerns raised by teachers over students who do not appear to be taking part in the online lessons or completing work. In some cases this has enabled us to put additional supports in place whilst in others it has prompted students to get back on track. We will continue to monitor student engagement and progress in this way throughout the period of remote learning and I thank you for all you are doing to support this. We are very much aware that this is not an easy time for you and your children and please do get in touch if there is anything further we can do to help.

Reports & Parents' Evenings

Many thanks to those of you who provided us with feedback following the issue of the S4/5/6 reports. The responses indicate that the vast majority of you feel that the reports made clear the steps your child should now be taking to further improve and Mrs Fleming and Mrs Bleach have been making contact with those of you who expressed individual concerns.

Last night's virtual parents' evening went very well, with relatively few technical hitches and most of these resolved on the night. We will make a few tweaks in advance of Tuesday's S4 parents' evening based on last night's experience and then ask you for some feedback later this month once we have gone through a couple more.

S2 reports will be issued next week.

Course Choice

Course choice is now underway and each of the Year Heads have been engaging with discussions with students and parents around this. The overall process takes a number of months to complete, including the creation of the school timetable, and I would encourage you to contact your child's Head of Year or Mrs Fleming if you have any questions throughout this process. Please remember to submit your child's option choice form once you and they have completed it.

I hope that you and your families remain safe and well.

Pauline Allison
Head Teacher

Reminder of Covid 19 Protocols

As you are aware, with the return of our pupils and staff to school, we have put procedures in to place that support all members of the school community if anyone displays symptoms of Covid 19.

A reminder that the symptoms are:

- High temperature or fever
- A new continuous cough
- A loss of, or change in sense of smell or taste

If a pupil displays symptoms, we will contact you to collect your child (please ensure that we have your most up to date contact details). **Pupils over the age of 16 may return home themselves.** The pupil should, if possible, wear a face covering en route and avoid public transport.

You will be asked to follow Test and Protect and we will provide you with a copy of the Test and Protect Leaflet and Step by Step Guide when your child is collected.

Information on the groups of children within the school, **and on school transport**, and the adults that each group of children come in to contact with will be collected. This is to fulfil legal responsibilities for public health and will allow Test and Protect to contact appropriate people in the event of a positive test result.

If anyone within your household tests positive for Covid 19, please do not send your child to school. Report their absence and the reason for this by calling PSA in the morning.