

Parent Update

25 February 2022



Dear Parents and Carers

Changes to Covid Restrictions

Following the Scottish Government's latest updates, from Monday students and staff will no longer be required to wear face coverings in the classroom. We are all still asked to wear them in common areas such as corridors, the school street and the dining hall as well as school buses and anyone who wishes to continue to wear a mask in class may still do so. In-person school assemblies will also begin again from next week and this in particular is a very welcome step forward.

We still have a good stock of lateral flow kits for home testing and students can continue to collect these from the reception area at break or tutor time.

Senior Phase Assessments

The next stage of senior phase assessments begins next week. As with the December assessments, this will enable students to receive specific feedback which should give them a very clear focus for their revision over Easter and in the lead up to their SQA exams in May. Students have been given a copy of the assessment timetable and I've included it at the end of the newsletter for your information.

A range of Easter school classes will once again take place over the Easter period and details of these will be given to students over the coming weeks.

Parent Council Meeting

The next Parent Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 1st March from 7 pm to 8 pm. This will include the Annual General Meeting and any parent/carer from the school is welcome to attend. The meeting will be held via Skype for Business and can be accessed using the link below:

Join Skype Meeting

<https://meet.lync.com/glowscotland/wlpauline.allison/0S95K7ZN>

First Skype Meeting?

The agenda items are:

1. Parental engagement
2. Connect Information sessions
3. Head Teacher's update

AGM - Election of Parent Council Office Bearers

Families & Young People Advice Service

We now have a School Campaign Development Officer, Jennie, who is based in our school. Her role is to deliver a specialist income maximisation service for children and families who are experiencing financial hardship to support them to be more financially resilient.



Some of the things Jennie can provide advice or support on:

- ✓ Advice on which benefits you may be entitled to and support to claim them if required.
- ✓ Support to appeal benefit decisions or to ask for a decision to be reconsidered.
- ✓ Check to make sure your household income is maximised and help you claim any top up entitlement you may have.
- ✓ Information provided on any grants available, referrals and support to claim.
- ✓ Help with claiming support for the cost of the school day – Free School Meals, School Clothing Grants, School Clothing Bank referrals, EMA's (Education Maintenance Allowance).
- ✓ Assistance with Mandatory Reconsiderations and Appeals for when disability benefits have been refused or you feel your current award is not correct.

If you are struggling with your Money, Benefits or Debt please get in touch to see how she can help.

Please call or email Jennie using the details below and she will get back to you – Remember to mention Jennie or Deans Community High School to ensure your enquiry is allocated correctly.

FYPAS@westlothian.gov.uk

01506 283 000 opt 4

Face 2 Face appointments are available in school on Monday afternoons and Tuesday mornings.

Senior Phase March Assessment Timetable

Day	Time	National 5 subjects	Higher subjects	AH subjects
Monday 28 th Feb	P1		RMPS	
	P4		RMPS	
	P5		Modern Studies	
Tuesday 1 st Mar	P1+2	S5 – Applications of Maths – all pupils	Maths – all pupils	Maths
	P4+5	S5 – Applications of Maths – all pupils	Maths – all pupils	Maths
	P6+7	Graphics		
Wednesday 2 nd Mar	Lunch + P6+7	National 5 Design & Manufacture Graphic Communication	Higher Modern Studies PE	AH
Thursday 3 rd Mar	P1-3	National 5 RMPS	Higher	AH
	P1+2		History Modern Studies	
	P4+5		RMPS	
	P6+7	RMPS	Drama History RMPS	
Friday 4 th Mar	P1	National 5 English – all pupils	Higher	AH
	P3+4	English – all pupils		
Monday 7 th Mar	P1+2	National 5	Higher English – all pupils	AH English
	P2+3	Drama		
	P4+5		English – all pupils	English
Tuesday 8 th Mar	P1-3	National 5	Higher Geography Graphic Design History	
	P2+3	Maths (S4) S4 – Applications of Maths		
	P4+5	Maths (S4) S4 – Applications of Maths		
Wednesday 9 th Mar	Lunch + P6+7	National 5 Computing History Modern Studies	Higher	AH

Thursday 10 th Mar	Lunch + P6+7	National 5 Business Computing French History Spanish Practical Cookery	Higher Administration Computing DMG French History Spanish	AH
Friday 11 th Mar	P1-4	National 5	Higher Human Biology	AH
	P2-4	Physics	Accounts	
	P2		Modern Studies	
	P3+4	DMG French Practical Cookery Practical Woodwork	French	
Monday 14 th Mar	P1-4	National 5	Higher	AH Biology
	P1-3	Biology		
	Lunch + P5-7		Business	
Tuesday 15 th Mar	P1-3	National 5 Administration Business Geography History Modern Studies	Higher Geography	AH
Wednesday 16 th Mar	Lunch + P6+7	National 5 Administration	Higher	AH
Thursday 17 th Mar	P1-3	National 5 Chemistry	Higher	AH
	P6+7		Administration	
Friday 18 th Mar	P3+4	National 5 Engineering Science	Higher	AH
Monday 21 st Mar	P1-4	National 5	Higher Chemistry	AH Chemistry
Tuesday 22 nd Mar	P1-4	National 5	Higher Biology Physics	AH

I hope that you and your family 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 protocols, including booking a PCR test for your child and contacting the school when the result comes through to you.

If anyone within your household tests positive for Covid 19, please follow the most up to date Scottish Government guidance with regards to self-isolation and testing. If your child is then unable to come to school, report their absence and the reason for this by calling PSA in the morning.