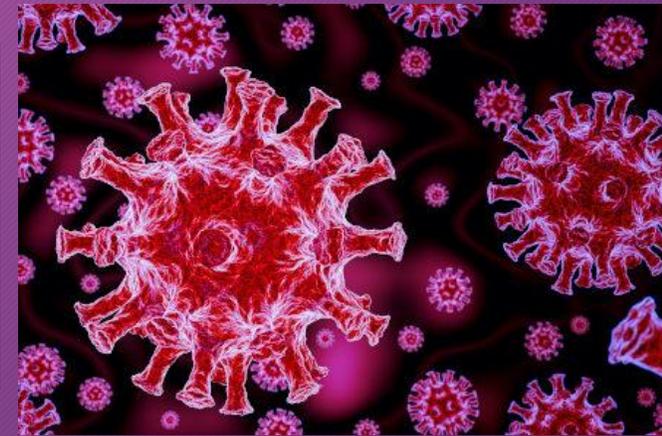


School Recovery Parent Forum Meeting

Thursday 18th June 2020



Twin Track Approach



- Compliance with Public Health Advice to Ensure a Safe Return to School

<http://lasswadehsc.mgfl.net/whole-school/school-recovery-1-a-safe-return-in-august-2020/>

- Blended Learning Plans

<http://lasswadehsc.mgfl.net/whole-school/school-recovery-2-blended-learning-in-august-2020/>

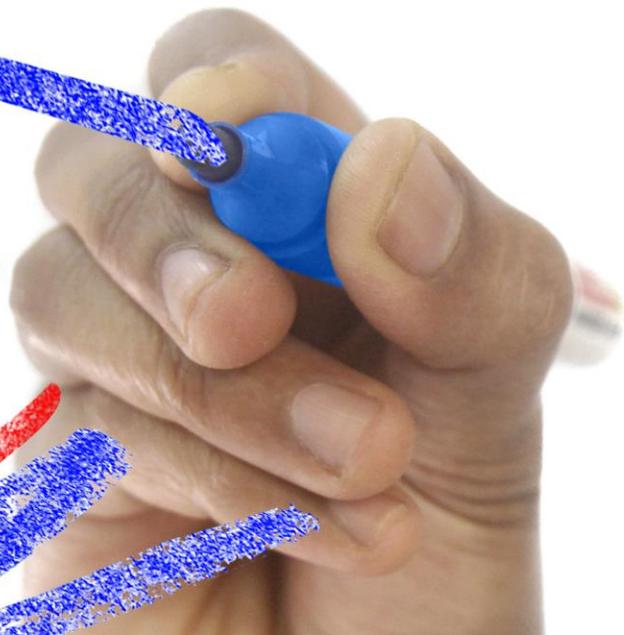




~~Plan A~~

~~Plan B~~

Plan C





Week 1 Plan, from Monday 10th August



- Term begins, Monday 10th August with two Inset Days
- Students return on Wednesday 12th August
- In-school 'Reconnection' for S1
- In-school Senior Phase Re-coursing; by appointment
- In-school ASN/Vulnerable students from various year groups
- At-home programmes for everyone else

Week 2 Plan, from Monday 17th August



- Reconnection for all remaining year groups
- S2 on Monday, S3 on Tuesday through to S6 on Friday
- In-school ASN/Vulnerable students from various year groups
- At-home programmes for everyone else

Weeks 3&4 Plan, from Monday 24th August



- One third of the school in school at same time
- Three 2 hour ‘big blocks’; beginning at 8.30am, 11.15am and 2.00pm
- Monday to Thursday and Flexible Fridays
- Students in-school on average around 40% of ‘normal’ time
- Around 600 students in-school at any one time

Weeks 3&4 Plan, from Monday 24th August



- Establish the new normal and build a high level of confidence in everyone to demonstrate we have secured a safe return to school
- Additional in-school time for ASN/Vulnerable students from various year groups
- At-home programme when students not in school
- Aiming for 'live learning' of Advanced Higher

Week 5+, from Monday 7th September



- Half of the school in school at same time
- Two 3 hour 'big blocks'; beginning at 8.30am and 12.30pm
- Monday to Thursday and Flexible Fridays
- Students in-school on average around 50% of 'normal' time
- Around 900 students in-school at any one time

Week 5+, from Monday 7th September



- Additional in-school time for ASN/Vulnerable students from various year groups
- Launch of 'Practical and Performance' days
- At-home programme when students not in school



Questions emailed in



What is total school pupil number? Will this allow 50% of each year group to attend 2 days per week?

1614 students; from week 3 students almost all will attend every day Monday to Thursday and Higher students every day; from week 5 this will equate to 50% of 'normal' in-school time

Questions emailed in



I understand from recent communication, and based on current government guidelines that you are planning on 50% of each year to attend Monday / Tuesday or Wednesday / Thursday?

No, we are planning daily in-school time, Monday to Thursday for almost all students and for Higher students Friday too. Most Midlothian primary schools will follow the model you describe.

Questions emailed in



Recent communication confirmed Numeracy, Literacy and Health & Wellbeing would be taught in school. What subjects / topics will be on Google Classroom for at home learning?

We expect almost all subject areas to provide an at-home programme; this will be in place from
Week 1

Questions emailed in



Will new S1s still have a S6 buddy? If so, will this be until the school returns to “normal” attendance or just the first few weeks?

Yes, but we’ve not fully worked it up yet. The general principle is buddies as long as necessary. We do plan to involve buddies in the Week 1 S1 Reconnection process. By then we’ll have worked out how/when they can continue to support S1

Questions emailed in



What is going to be done by MC/LHS to ensure that young people who hope to be high achievers will still learn at the same or similar rate as they would if they were in school full time and their future exam results are not negatively affected by blended learning?

Student progress towards SQA is monitored closely; our attainment levels as a school are improving year on year, school success is just bringing individual success together. There is flexibility in the system to allow ‘interventions’ and secure SQA evidence for certification if necessary.

Questions emailed in



A question I am interested in is whether there are any plans to move to zoom or similar for teaching so that the pupils can interact with teachers/others as the blended model comes in?

Many of our staff are raring to go on this. Some are nervous. We had hoped to test it with Computing and Science this term. There is a facility within GLOW and the Google Suite. We are waiting for it to be 'switched on' by others. We think it will improve the experience and help build routines. We are apparently close to this and plan to begin with some Advanced Higher courses.

Questions emailed in



We are an out of catchment family from ????. My husband drops our high school children off in the morning on his way to work and they get the ??? bus home. I believe at present that bus route isn't running. Will the school or Midlothian council be able to put pressure on the company and ensure that route is run when schools reopen?

We will gather through a survey school transport data for parents/carers. This helps us plan provision with Transport staff at MC. It is a bit more complicated as you are out of catchment. I will ask Ruth to take forward your particular issue (just ??? for confidentiality). Contact your Local Councillor.

Questions emailed in



Are we receiving school reports of some form before the end of this term to reflect/feedback on how our children have worked, especially given the lockdown/e-learning?

No. All students have had at least 1 report and Parents' Evening this session. We decided our time/effort was best spent creating e-learning programmes and Student Support contact calls/emails.

We plan to 'rejig' our reporting calendar for next session to address the planned reports we have not issued.

Thank you for this question, I've realised I did not do a website post on this. Apologies.

Questions emailed in



... those embarking on Highers this year will need some certainty as early as possible on how they are going to be assessed whether by examination or continuous assessment....

Absolutely, all parties are lobbying hard for a decision from SQA/SG on this. It is essentially a national decision. We are deliberately planning the greatest amount of in-school time for Higher students. This allows us to contingency plan for all eventualities.

When we know, we will share information in a way that students and their parents/carers will understand.

Questions emailed in



Will Mr Hornell be able to share a model of what school will look like for S6 pupils in terms of days in school?

Midlothian Council have asked all of their schools to share more detailed information on the 'offer' to students no earlier than Wednesday 24th June.

It is a huge logistical undertaking to schedule subjects/teachers/times/learning spaces. However, our aim is to share detailed information before Friday 26th June.

Recoursing in August usually changes things a bit too!

Questions emailed in



SQA exam diet 20/21, when will the decision by Scottish Government be made? For some S6 pupils, who have missed out on achieving desired grades this year as no exam to prove themselves, this is a final opportunity. Clarity is needed for them, as is your school staff, to allow for best success for them going forward.

SQA and SG work in partnership to ultimately make this decision. Other 'parties' lobby hard on it. I agree we do need a call and the sooner the better.

There is probably a SG/SQA view that we keep as much of a traditional exam diet as possible, partly for the points you make.

Sources of Related Information



Three Documents from Scottish Government

- <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-framework-decision-making-scotlands-route-map-through-out-crisis/>
- <https://www.gov.scot/publications/excellent-equity-during-covid-19-pandemic-strategic-framework-reopening-schools-early-learning-childcare-provision-scotland/>
- <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-re-opening-schools-guide/>

Midlothian Council

- <http://lasswadehsc.mgfl.net/whole-school/midlothian-council-promise/>