

Grantown Grammar School

Cromdale Road,
Grantown-on-Spey
PH26 3HU
tel: 01479 872649
email: grantown.grammar@highland.gov.uk
website: www.ggschool.com



THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE NA GAIDHEALTACHD

Mrs Claire McGonigal, Headteacher

22 December 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian

Start of term arrangements January 2021

Thank you for your patience regarding an update to arrangements for the start of term 2021. I attach a letter from Highland Council below, however the arrangements are as follows.

Wednesday 6 January - Friday 8 January - all pupils are on holiday

The school is open for childcare purposes for the children of key workers. (key workers are defined in the Highland Council letter attached.) The activities on offer will not be school work based and there will be no new learning at this time as this is now part of the extended school holiday. Please note that if you are a key worker you are not obliged to send your child to school or to use childcare if you can make other arrangements and, indeed, you may prefer to keep them at home if you can. The school is also open for a limited number of pupils who are most in need of regular school attendance and the parents of these pupils have already been contacted. Again these parents are not obliged to send their child to school at this time.

Monday 11 January - Friday 15 January - all pupils return to online learning

All pupils are asked to do the following:

- Register by 9.00am on the Google Registration Classroom.
- Follow their school timetable and complete tasks posted as assignments on the Google Classrooms for their lessons that day.
- Staff will be available online during their timetabled lessons for questions either via email or Google Hangouts.

The school is open to the children of key workers and also the limited number of pupils previously referred to. The pupils in school will be supervised as they work on the online learning provided by their teachers. These pupils will mainly be based in the Assembly Hall following the same online timetable as other pupils. Again, there is no obligation for key workers to send your child to school at this time if your child can complete the online learning tasks at home.

Monday 18 January - return to school and lessons in class as usual.

Please note that all these arrangements are subject to change but if they do, you will be updated as soon as possible.

SQA

Mr Ross has updated the SQA assessment window which will no longer start on Monday 18 January, but Wednesday 20 January. An updated timetable will be issued in the first week of term. Please be reassured that we have established a robust tracking system to make sure that we can record pupil attainment and progress right up to the time when predicted grades need to be submitted. This system will ensure that our pupils get the grades they deserve so this short period of online learning won't put our overall targets back or impact on their overall attainment.

Finally, I appreciate that all these changes at the end of term are far from ideal and not what any of us hoped for, but I have every confidence that, as a community, we can overcome this latest challenge. Staff return to work on 6 January and will be working hard on ensuring that the online learning from 11 January is relevant and challenging. We are well placed as a strong school community to start the new year with positivity despite the strange circumstances and I have every hope that by the end of the school year, we will have put the pandemic behind us and have moved on.

I hope that everyone takes time to relax and manages to have a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2021. I look forward to seeing you all again in 2021!

Yours faithfully

Claire McGonigal
Headteacher