



GRYFFE HIGH SCHOOL

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SUPPORTING HOLOCAUST EDUCATION
VISION SCHOOLS SCOTLAND

Gryffe High School, Level 1, 2020-2023



Dear Pupils and Parents/Carers

Unfortunately, the uncertainty continues and we are, as yet, still unsure of when pupils can get back into schools. We are now two weeks into our 'alternative' timetable and it seems to be going well, but please be assured that we are continually trying to learn, adapt and offer the best possible online learning experience that we possibly can. Feel free to contact us with suggestions as we try to offer a mixture, across nearly all subjects, of: live lessons; recorded lessons; voice talk over presentations; video clips or live introductions and subject teacher support during the full allocated time.

Teachers have been posting notifications of learning activities on Show My Homework (Satchel One) as this app is the easiest way for parents/carers to see what work is available for pupils.

The 4 slots, each lasting 1 hour 10 minutes, again seems to be engaging and motivating more pupils. Built into this time are 3 Wellbeing slots – Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 – 3:40 pm, where pupils are set simple tasks/challenges each week. **We ask that pupils please get involved in this, even create their own challenges**, and take time away from screens and hopefully in the fresh air - a few simple examples have been published on the school website, under Brief Updates'.

Calendar/Reports

We are making slight adjustments to our calendar on an ongoing basis. However, we are trying our very best to stick as close as possible to the existing timescales.

S5/6 Unfortunately we are in a position of uncertainty of when pupils will return to school. Our aim is to be flexible and prepared for a variety of possibilities. Our current plan upon the return of S5/6 pupils is to provide at least 2 weeks of face to face teaching, followed by assessment. I continue to be in frequent discussion with the local authority regarding to SQA matters, and we will ensure that our pupils are in the best possible position to achieve their best. **A trial Online Options Form was sent yesterday to S5 pupils via a link on SHHW. This should be completed by S5 pupils considering returning to school for S6. It is an opportunity to identify any potential course choice difficulties. We do this exercise each year, although this is the first year online, and it can help us identify issues, albeit some of which we may not be able to resolve due to timetabling/staffing limitations.**

S4 Pupils completed their first assessment diet in December. Each Department should now have informed pupils of their assessment marks. We still aim to issue the actual S4 Reports, one day later than planned, on Friday 29 January. These reports will be online, and to access them you need to register via Parent Portal. Instructions are on page 3. **A trial Online Options Form was sent yesterday to S4 pupils via a link on SMHW. This should be completed by S4 pupils considering returning to school for S5. It is an opportunity to identifying any potential course choice difficulties.** We also aim to provide a recorded online presentation to parents/carers at 7:00 pm on Monday 1 February, with a facility to send in questions and receive quick responses on the night.

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Website



Show My Homework



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S3 Reports have been issued today, Monday 25 January, two days later than planned. These reports are online, and to access them you need to register via Parent Portal. Instructions are on page 3.

An Online Options Form will be sent today to S3 pupils via a link on SMHW. This form offers the progression from S3 into S4 in your subject, so generally the 'norm' is really deciding which subjects you will not continue with.

S2 We aim to issue S2 Reports on Wednesday 10 March. These reports will be online, and to access them you need to register via Parent Portal. Instructions are on page 3.

We also aim to provide a recorded online presentation at 7:00 pm on Thursday 11 March, with a facility to send in questions and receive quick responses on the night.

S1 We continue to work through our programme of online learning. Our S1 pupils have had such a difficult time in missing their full induction to Gryffe, and now missing the tail end of their First Year experience. We are trying hard to keep our pupils engaged and know that their Wellbeing is vitally important. That being said, we would ask all parents/carers to help us, especially in the 3 Wellbeing blocks, by encouraging your child to get out in the fresh air, set challenges and send us some detail in order that we can publish some of them.

Additional Resources

Some Departments have asked pupils to collect materials from the school, and some pupils may need general packs of resources like jotters, pens, rulers, paper, etc. These resources can be collected, as we did previously, from the outside door that leads into the S6 social area – next to the main entrance. It is clearly marked as the collection point. We would ask that pupils/parents/carers please **collect from there any time, Monday to Friday, between 3:00 – 4:00 pm.**

Should you feel we could support you more, or in a different way, then please contact either the appropriate Year Head or the appropriate Pupil Support Principal Teacher. Our most important focus as always is the health and wellbeing of our pupils, as without that positive outlook then things can seem just so much harder.

If any pupil is finding things a little difficult, or just wants to talk, then please make the effort to contact one of us. We are here for you, and as I hope you know **CARING** always comes first.

Contact details of Senior Management Team and Pupil Support staff can be found in the last two Head Teacher's updates.

Take care and stay safe

Mr Colin Johnson
Head Teacher



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Parent Portal

You need to register for this if you wish to receive an online copy of your child's report.

We would strongly recommend that parents/carers register. Please note it may take a few days for your request to be processed, so please register as soon as possible.

We would suggest that all parents/carers register now as you will all be receiving reports at some point over the coming weeks/months.

In support of Renfrewshire Council's ambition to provide better communications between parents/carers and our school, we are excited to launch **Parentsportal.scot** - an exciting new initiative which enables and creates a digital relationship between parents, pupils and the school.

The portal is designed to replace the 'schoolbag run', giving parents online access to a range of school-related services. At the heart of the system, is a secure online account through **mygov.scot** which is referred to as a 'My Account'. This is already used in over half of Renfrewshire schools enabling parents to make payments online.

As the portal develops, we look forward to seeing more services introduced in the coming months.

On signing up to the portal, you will be able to link to your child and gain access to the services which are currently available. In order to link to your child, the data you provide during the sign-up process must match the most up-to-date data that the school holds for your child. Please be aware that the data you enter must match exactly with what we hold, or you will get an error message. If you get an error message then please contact the school office – please do not keep trying as it then sends multiple errors....

If you need any help with this, please contact the school who will be able to help you. Parent Portal also allows you to have a direct link to Parentpay.

Another feature is that you can access your child's reports and attendance data for the current session and also your child's timetable for school.

Please click on the link below to get started:

<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/schools/parentsportal>

After you have registered there is a process where school staff require to approve your registration. This may take a couple of days to process.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.



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