

Summary of letter to parents and carers, from Alistair Gaw, Executive Director of Communities and Families, 5th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your patience and understanding through this difficult time.

The First Minister confirmed last week that schools can open to all pupils and we're looking forward to welcoming your children back to school.

The Scottish Government has emphasised the need for full preparation so that pupils and staff return to the safest possible environment. This is our highest priority.

Everyone must wash their hands regularly and hand sanitisers will be available in all schools. There will be regular enhanced cleaning, in accordance with Scottish Government advice and national standards.

The Scottish Government has paused shielding and so pupils who have been shielding will also return to school. Parents should contact their school to discuss any extra arrangements that might be needed.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR PUPILS RETURNING

The return to school will be phased over three days starting from Wednesday 12th August.

Primary Schools

Children with surnames A-L	Attend Wednesday 12 th August (full day) and Friday 14 th August
Children with surnames M-Z	Attend Thursday 13 th August (full day) and Friday 14 th August

All children will attend school full-time from Friday 14th August.

Each school will provide details about lunch, PE arrangements and staggered start and finish times for the school day, where necessary.

Secondary Schools

All S1 pupils will attend school on Wednesday 12th August, **except** Queensferry High School.

Parents of pupils at Queensferry High School will receive separate communication from the Head teacher about arrangements for the new school building.

Each school will have individual arrangements for different year groups attending on each day of 12th, 13th and 14th August. All secondary pupils will attend school from Monday 17th at the latest.

Schools will contact parents with details by Thursday 6th August. Schools will also provide information about lunch, PE and any staggered start and finish times for the school day.

Special Schools

Each school will have its own arrangements for a phased return to support learners.

Schools will contact parents by Thursday 6th August with specific details about which days their child will attend school on each day of 12th, 13th and 14th August.

All children and young people will be back in school from Monday 17th August at the latest.

Schools will also provide information about lunch, start and finish times of the school day and any other arrangements.

For children who have home-to-school transport, schools will contact parents with arrangements by Friday 7th August.

OTHER IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

- If using a car, please drop children off ***away from the immediate entrance to the school.***
- Please do not park close to the school.
- Please observe physical distancing between adults and between adults and children from different families.
- Visitors to school will be by invitation only.
- Normal access for parents and carers will be restricted.

Thank you for your patience and support throughout this process. We look forward to your children returning. We can assure you that we will continue to review arrangements to ensure everyone is safe and pupils receive the best possible learning and teaching.