·EDINBVRGH·
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

Date 05 March 2021

Your ref

Our ref S&LL/AG/RC

Dear Parent/Carer

The Scottish Government announced this week that, unless circumstances change, the next phase of the reopening of education settings will begin on Monday 15 March.

Primary schools already have P1-3 children back in school and, from 15 March, all P4-7 pupils will return. Arrangements for key workers and vulnerable children in primary schools will end as these children will re-join their respective classes. Breakfast clubs and after school care services will also be able to recommence from 15 March, but please contact your school for further details. Schools will be in touch with parents/ carers by 12 March with further details of the return to school arrangements. School lunches for primary school children should be ordered by the usual method using Parentpay by Wednesday 10 March at the latest.

From 15 March, Secondary school learners will receive a blend of in-school and remote learning. Arrangements for keyworker support for those in secondary settings will continue until 1April. As part of the new measures, all pupils and staff will have to maintain 2m physical distancing and will be required to wear face coverings throughout the day. Each school will provide a mixture of in-school and remote learning until the end of term on 1 April.

During this period of transition, senior phase pupils (S4-6) who are taking national qualifications will be prioritised for face-to-face lessons, but all year groups can expect a minimum of half a day per week of in-school learning. Schools will be in touch with parents/ carers regarding the changes by 12 March.

For those children and young people attending special schools, all pupils will return on 15 March. Headteachers will be in touch regarding specific arrangements.

We fully expect all pupils in primary, secondary and special schools to return to school on 20 April and this will be confirmed by the Scottish Government in due course.

Communities and Families Directorate

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Please note that direct payments to parents/carers of secondary age pupils entitled to free school meals will continue until in-school learning resumes in full.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support and understanding during this period of remote learning and to once again thank all our children and young people for their patience and hard work during what has been a very challenging time for them.

Yours faithfully

Andy Gray

Chief Education Officer