

People Directorate
Head Teacher: T S Stevens



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Email: carrick.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Our Ref: TSS Your Ref: TS Stevens
Date: 25 January 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

South Ayrshire Council reports that they are experiencing network issues which are leading to longer login times, making it difficult to access files etc especially on a Monday morning. Please be reassured that they are doing everything they can to resolve this as quickly as possible.

REMOTE LEARNING

A number of you have been in touch with regards the delivery of 'live' lessons. As I previously communicated to you, we have limited the number of lessons delivered live for a number of reasons. We are aware that a large number of our children are sharing devices at home with siblings and parents and if learning was delivered 'live', then there would be a large number missing out on learning as they would not be able to attend. To overcome this, staff have recorded demonstrations of learning or added voice overs to their powerpoint presentations and uploaded these onto Microsoft Teams. Young people can then watch the recordings, and replay them if required, as they work through the learning tasks before completing and submitting assignments. A number of staff are offering 'live' drop in sessions and tutorials so that young people can join the group and ask any questions that they may have. Staff are also available throughout each day to answer any questions young people have via Teams. Staff are ensuring that the learning is appropriate and they are continuing to progress through the curriculum as set out in course plans. They are providing feedback to young people on how they can improve their work. I appreciate that remote learning is challenging, we only ask that you do your best to encourage your child to access the work on Teams and follow the tasks set. Young people can communicate with their teachers if they require support. Please bear in mind that a large number of our staff also have young children at home while they are working so we appreciate the challenges you are facing.

OPTION PROCESS FOR NEXT SESSION

Option choice forms have been shared on the PSE Teams page; it is important that you and your child have taken the opportunity to look through the form and are prepared in advance of the telephone call or Teams meeting to discuss their career plans and the courses they would like to study next session. Guidance staff will be happy to assist with any questions or queries you may have.

S2 AND S3 PARENT AND PUPIL INTERVIEWS

S2 Interviews will take place the week beginning the 1st February 2021. S3 Interviews will take place the week beginning the 8th February 2021. Parental letters will be sent home providing you with a scheduled morning or afternoon telephone appointment which will replace our face-to-face subject choice interviews. As this way of conducting the pupil interview will be, logistically, more challenging than in previous years, it would be greatly appreciated if parents could let us know as

soon as possible if the appointment time does not suit by contacting your child's Guidance Teacher directly.

S4 AND S5 PUPIL INTERVIEWS

These will take place after the February holiday. Guidance staff will complete option choice interviews with pupils via Teams; the Guidance Teacher will post a schedule of appointments on Teams to notify pupils when their teacher will call them. It is important that your child is able to access Teams during their given time slot to ensure the interview can take place in a timely manner.

FREE SCHOOL TRANSPORT FOR SESSION 2021-2022

If you haven't applied previously but you think you may be entitled to Free School Transport, applications should be submitted via www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools/school-transport.aspx by April for the start of the new school session in August. If you do not have access to complete this form online, South Ayrshire staff can complete the online form on your behalf; this can be done by contacting our Education Transport Team on 01292 612408/612285 during the hours of 10:00am - 12:00pm and 14:00pm -16:00pm on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday only."

COMMUNICATION WITH THE SCHOOL

Please do not contact class teachers directly. If you have any concerns, please contact your child's Guidance Teacher in the first instance via email or by telephone on the above number. This enables us to monitor common concerns that maybe occurring across year groups so that we can address them.

Thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me at the school if you have any matters of concern that you wish to discuss.

Yours sincerely

TS Stevens

TS Stevens
Head Teacher