



*'Educating the whole person, in a spirit of enquiry, to judge wisely, act fairly and live well.'*

Bathgate Academy  
Edinburgh Road, Bathgate  
West Lothian EH48 1LF  
Phone: 01506 653725  
Fax: 01506 652262  
@BathAcadNews  
[www.bathgateacademy.westlothian.org.uk](http://www.bathgateacademy.westlothian.org.uk)  
Head Teacher: Grant Abbot

Dear Parent /Carer

**Next phase of return to school from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March: Please share this letter with your child.**

You will be aware that there will be a combination of some in-school learning and continued remote learning for all S1-S6 pupils from 15<sup>th</sup> March up until the Easter holidays. Current expectation is that all pupils will then return to school full time after the Easter holidays.

Scottish Government Guidance summarised by a recent [WLC letter](#) has informed this return and emphasises the following;

- Give priority for lessons to learners who are taking National Qualifications
- All learners receive some in-school education each week to help schools to continue to connect with learners, supporting their health and well-being and support
- Remote learning should continue on days not in school
- Maintain provision for key worker/vulnerable pupils
- Maintain 2m physical distancing when in school along with other Covid mitigations
- Minimise the general flow of learners around the school

**Our in-school timetable from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March is now in place.** It is essential that pupils only attend school on the day matching their year group to ensure that all risk mitigations measures can be implemented.

Date	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March
Cohorts in School	All S1  Invited S4-S6 pupils*  Keyworker/ other identified pupils	All S2  Invited S4-S6 pupils*  Keyworker/ other identified pupils	All S4-S6  Keyworker/ other identified pupils	All S3  Invited S4-S6 pupils*  Keyworker/ other identified pupils	All S4-S6  Keyworker/ other identified pupils
Date	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March
Cohorts in School	All S1  Invited S4-S6 pupils* Keyworker/ other identified pupils	All S2  Invited S4-S6 pupils* Keyworker/ other identified pupils	All S4-6  Keyworker/ other identified pupils	All S3  Invited S4-S6 pupils* Keyworker/ other identified pupils	All S4-S6  Keyworker/ other identified pupils
Date	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Holiday
Cohorts in School	All S1  Invited S4-S6 pupils* Keyworker/ other identified pupils	All S2  Invited S4-S6 pupils* Keyworker/ other identified pupils	All S4-S6  Keyworker/ other identified pupils	All S3  Invited S4-S6 pupils* Keyworker/ other identified pupils	

*\*Invited Senior Phase pupils will be contacted directly if there are specific reasons for attending on these days*



This in-school timetable attempts to keep our arrangements simple and clear. By keeping year groups together minimises significant change to our remote learning timetable.

#### **S1-S3 pupils: When in-school on their identified days**

- When in school S1-S3 pupils will follow a 3 block per day timetable. Each block will focus on either literacy, numeracy or wellbeing activities. As outdoor learning is planned to take place as part of wellbeing activities **S1-S3 pupils can wear warm pe kit type clothing to school as changing rooms will not be open.**
- S1-S3 pupils will generally remain in the same classroom each day, in socially distanced grouping of approximately 10-12 pupils per classroom. Teachers will move to them for each block of learning.

#### **S4-S6 pupils: When in school on their identified days**

- When in school S4-S6 pupils will follow a 3 block per day timetable (2 on Friday) meaning over the 2 days they will be in all their chosen NQ subjects. **S4-S6 pupils who are studying NQ PE subjects should wear PE kit to school on that day as changing rooms will not be open. All other pupils should wear school uniform.**
- Classes will be in socially distanced groupings of approximately 10 -12 pupils. Pupils will move to their new classroom at end of each block.
- If required, Senior Phase pupils will also be invited in on other days to overtake additional work required in certain subject areas.

#### **Common in-school arrangements for all pupils**

- There will be staggered morning and lunchtime intervals. Pupils will be able to access outdoor spaces but as always are not allowed to leave the school estate. Pupils will split into 2 groups to reduce numbers on each interval.
- Pupils are asked to bring a packed lunch, pre order via parent pay app or add money to their card via I-PayImpact in advance of their in-school day. Any issues with this please contact school office.

#### **S1-S6 pupils: When remote learning at home**

- When S1 –S6 pupils are working from home the timetable for remote learning will be **exactly the same** as it is currently is. There will be fewer teachers online but lesson overviews, content and submission material will all continue as normal.

#### **Key Worker pupils**

Daily support will continue for key worker and vulnerable young people. Pupils in these existing groups should come to school each day. They will be with their year group when their year group is in school and in an allocated classroom on other days.

#### **Health & safety Information for all pupils when in school or travelling to and from school**

- All pupils will listen to an online Assembly during their day in school next week clarifying all daily procedures.
- All S1-S6 pupils will be expected to wear face coverings in all classes, internal social and circulation spaces. Please ensure your child has a face covering and understands the importance of wearing it. Pupils will be encouraged to access outside spaces at interval and lunch times. Exemptions still apply.
- 2m of indoor physical distancing will be required between learners, between adults and between adults and learners who are not from the same household. Personal responsibility is required. We ask parents to reinforce this message with their children. The requirement for 2 metre distancing will be relaxed when young people are outdoors for the purpose of outdoor activities and learning.
- Hand sanitiser will be required when entering the building /entering & leaving classrooms



- Pupils will be asked to wipe down their desks/back of chairs with antimicrobial wipes when arriving at/ leaving their work stations
- Due to 2m distancing dining hall cannot cater for many pupils sitting down. Assembly hall, outside spaces and identified classrooms will be used if required.
- School buses are subject to pupils maintaining appropriate distancing, for example wherever possible for each passenger to sit on their own.

### Lateral Flow Testing Kits for all pupils

- S4-S6 pupils will have access to Lateral Flow Covid testing kits on completion of consent form by pupil **if over 16**.
- Seniors under 16 years of age and all S1-S3 pupils need parental consent to access these testing kits.
- If you have any questions about this testing procedure you can submit these using link found at the end of this letter.
- **Link below allows parents of pupils under 16 and pupils over 16 to give electronic consent. If your child wishes to be involved please complete this link now. We can then distribute test kits from next week.**  
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKZLqG2vaNIZGvirU9KwS5EUBUQIBQ-Q0RWVVVhJSUVGQzJEN0gwSjcyWTNGMy4u>

### What happens next?

- **All pupils will be emailed a personalised letter to their Glow accounts tomorrow (Thursday)** giving further information about their return to school, where they should go when arriving for school and other relevant information. Please inform your child to look out for this letter on their GLOW email. Senior pupils will also receive the link for giving consent to lateral flow tests if they are over 16. If your child does not receive their email by Friday please contact school office.

Bathgate Academy staff are very much looking forward to seeing your child back in school, at least for a few days before Easter.

We have done our best to organise this in-school time without disrupting too much the existing remote learning experience your child is used to. This has been a significant challenge.

If you have any specific questions relating to the information in this letter please click link below. I will call you back if required or share common questions and answers more widely as part of the regular Friday HT Update.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKZLqG2vaNIZGvirU9KwS5EBUOTRNTUM0RU1USjJNOU5YQk9NWExJTUtDUy4u>

Best wishes

Grant Abbot

Head Teacher

