



Update for young people, parents and carers – changes to our virtual timetable

Dear valued member of our school community,

I hope this letter continues to find you and your family safe and well. As promised in my update letter during the holidays, I now write to explain to you our plans for learning moving forward.

Continuation of learning – Broad General Education

Our S1 and S2 year groups will continue in their current classes, taught (online) by their current teacher. This arrangement ensures that learning continues to focus on the Experiences and Outcomes set out in the Broad General Education.

I have asked my colleagues to ensure that the learning set is as follows:

- S1 – commensurate with the end of S1 and start of S2 learning
- S2 – commensurate with the end of S2 and start of S3 learning

Within this set learning, my colleagues will work to ensure that there is differentiated learning to suit the needs of all of our young people.

I appreciate that our current S2 would be due to move to their personalised S3 curriculum during this term. Once our Senior Phase classes are established, I will consult with the Principal Teacher body to agree a date to move our S2 in to their S3 class sets.

As a reminder, the easiest way to access all of our online Home Learning will continue to be through our **Harris at Home Learning Portal**, which can be accessed through our school website, Twitter feed or by clicking on the link below:

<https://sites.google.com/view/harrishomelearning/>

If you have trouble understanding English please contact the address below

اگر آپ کو انگریزی سمجھنے میں مشکل پیش آتی ہے تو برائے مہربانی نیچے درج پتے پر رابطہ کریں:

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇੰਗਲिश سمجھنے ਵਿੱਚ ਕठिनाਈ ਹੁੰਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਡਿਊਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿਤੇ ਪਤੇ ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Jeżeli masz trudności w zrozumieniu języka angielskiego, skontaktuj się na poniżej podany adres:

如果你對英語理解有困難，請聯絡以下地址:

Dundee Translation & Interpretation Service, Mitchell Street Centre, Mitchell Street, Dundee DD2 2LJ.
Tel: 01382 435825 Fax: 01382 435805

For information about Dundee City Council visit our website - www.dundeecity.gov.uk



Recycled Paper



Start of new courses – Senior Phase

On Monday 4th May, we will begin all of our new courses, via our Harris at Home portal, for our Senior Phase pupils. In doing so, the following year groups will move forward on that day as noted below:

- S3 moves to S4
- S4 moves to S5
- S5 moves to S6

Between now and the 4th May, the following steps will be taken to ensure we are ready to begin learning:

- A copy of your / your young person's course choice will be sent to you for information
- Guidance Teams will continue to support re-coursing where required. Due to the focussed efforts during course choice in February / March, the need for change will be limited but some courses may be over-subscribed

From 4th May until our return to our building:

- All learning will be issued digitally, with appropriate feedback offered from the relevant teacher as soon as possible.
- Where staff have concerns that a young person is not returning work, or it appears that a young person is finding the work difficult, the relevant Guidance teacher will be in touch to discuss how we can support further.
- Our current S6 pupils have also offered their services in the way of Peer Support. If any young person would like to take up this offer, please communicate this through our Virtual Guidance Base (found in our Harris at Home portal, <https://sites.google.com/view/harrishomelearning/>).

After 4th May, no change of course will be possible until our return to Perth Road.

SQA Update

On Monday, SQA announced that there will be a four-step approach to certification this session. They are:

Step 1- estimates

More detailed information in relation to the revised estimates and the work that we at Harris will do to compile these estimates will be issued to all parents/carers of current S4 – S6 pupils next week.

Step 2 – awarding

The SQA will check and validate all schools' information to ensure consistency across the country and with results from previous years.

Step 3 – Results and Certification

The SQA will process the results to issue learners with their individual results by 4th August. **I strongly advise all young people to sign up to MySQA** as a direct way to receive their results.

Step 4 – Appeals

After 4th August, a free appeals service will be available to schools. More information related to this service will be forthcoming.

As noted above, I plan to issue a further, more detailed letter next week.

Learning Packs

Paper versions of our second Learning Pack, covering all subjects (for S1 and S2 pupils) are available from the Tayview Hub on request or by contacting us via email.

If any young person is finding it difficult to access learning online, please contact your Guidance teacher in the first instance.

School Contact Number

Our phone number (435700) is now back in working order and will divert to the Tayview Community Support Centre.

Our current S6 pupils (leavers, May 2020)

Our S6 leavers are high in our thoughts at this time. My colleagues and I will support them in any way we possibly can. Please contact us via the Virtual Guidance Base.

Our colleagues from Skills Development Scotland are still available to support transitions from school and onwards.

We all look forward to seeing them in the future at their S6 Dance if not beforehand. I will work with the organising committee to find a suitable, alternative date for the event and am encouraging the Yearbook Committee to continue to develop, what will be, a very special memento.

Thank you to parents / carers

As a parent of a primary school pupil, I fully appreciate the additional workload asked of us all in supporting our young people at this time. I genuinely believe that the partnership of home and school is crucial in supporting our young people to achieve their best. Never has this been more true.

As parents / carers, we are not expected to be teachers, nor can we replicate fully the experience offered in our classrooms. Our role is to ensure our young people continue to engage in learning, in Harris' case through our Harris at Home portal or through our Home Learning Packs that are available from the Tayview Hub on request.

If any member of the staff team here at Harris can help you in your efforts to support at home, please contact us via the email address above or through our virtual Guidance Base.

Our leaving S6 pupils are also very keen to offer Peer Support for our learners. More information related to this will be available shortly.

Message for all Harris pupils

Most importantly, we miss you and look forward to welcoming you back through the doors at Perth Road as soon as is safe to do so.

School may be closed, but learning continues. Work hard and do your best, that is all we ever ask of you. Staff and your parents/carers are on hand to support you in your efforts as best as possible.

I hope this update is of some use to you. If you have any queries, please feel free to contact us via email, telephone or via the Virtual Guidance Base

With every best wishes from all staff here at Harris Academy.

Yours sincerely,



Barry Millar
Head Teacher

