



### Term 3 newsletter – week no. 8

Dear Parent / Carer / Young Person,

Next Tuesday, we will hear from the First Minister in relation to the next phase of the gradual return of young people to schools. Until then, I offer you the following updates:

#### S1 – S2 Curriculum (Remote Learning) amendment

Following consultation with pupils, parents, carers, staff, parent council and the Local Education Authority we have decided to alter our remote learning timetable for all pupils in S1 and S2 effective from Monday 1 March 2021 until we have Government guidance on the return to school for all pupils.

- Departments will be offering a personal presence in all lessons from the class teacher in accordance with the table below and for the number of lessons allocated
- The focus is on 'quality of interaction and learning' v 'quantity of tasks being allocated'
- Pupils and parents/carers will be notified in advance via Satchel One of which lessons will be 'live' from the class teacher
- The delivery of the lessons will continue to be via Microsoft Teams (in some cases this may be a different learning platform)
- The pupil focus will be on the scheduled weeks learning only and there will be no expectation on other subjects to set tasks or for pupils to complete tasks from non-scheduled subjects
- It is our expectation that pupils attend these lessons when possible

Health & Wellbeing afternoons:

- Pupils in the School Hub will be active and taught by our P.E. department at the times detailed in the table below
- Pupils at home will be encouraged to 'step away from the screen' for a physical activity set by the P.E. department during the times detailed below

AFTERNOON PROGRAMME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 March		S3	S2		S1
8 March			S1	S3	S2
15 March		S3	S2		S1
22 March			S1	S3	S2
29 March		S3	S2	S1	Holiday

## S1 – S2 Week A/B Timetable

Weeks	S1 Subjects	Number of Periods	S2 Subjects	Number of Periods
1 March	Maths	3	Maths	3
15 March	English	3	English	3
29 March	Modern Languages	3	Social Subjects	3
	RE	1	SE	1
	SE	1	Music	1
	Art	1	Drama	1
	Science	3	Business Studies	1
			HE	2
	<b>TOTAL: 17 periods including Health &amp; Wellbeing afternoon</b>			
8 March	Maths	3	Maths	3
22 March	English	3	English	3
	Social Subjects	3	Modern Languages	3
	SE	1	RE	1
	Music	1	SE	1
	Drama	1	Art	1
	Business Studies	1	Science	3
	HE	2	Computing Science	1
	Computing Science	1		
	<b>TOTAL: 18 periods including Health &amp; Wellbeing afternoon</b>			

***Please note there is no proposed change to the S3 or Senior Phase timetable at this point.***

### **Senior Phase (Practical Subject) Return – Week 1**

Over 100 young people in the Senior Phase have now returned, albeit for short periods of time, to work on practical-based coursework. Their attendance marks the start of our journey towards a full return to school. As noted previously, as soon as the Scottish Government announce the next phase of our return, I will communicate to you the details.

The young people who have returned have adapted well to our increased focus on health mitigations and I thank them for their patience and cooperation.

Moving forward, I ask those in attendance to pay particular attention the 2m physical distancing throughout the school, including the Plaza where they register.

Late coming of some returning seniors has also been an issue. Now that we are one week through this new arrangement, I would hope this issue will cease.

### Senior Phase Progress

With 15 school weeks left before all grades are passed to the SQA, I urge all of our senior pupils to work to the best of their abilities in all course.

Seniors - To ensure you have the best chance of gathering evidence commensurate with your ability, please follow the work set by your teachers. Leaving it until we return to the building (whenever that may be) to fully engage will be too late to achieve your potential.

I would hope that by next week, Mr Stewart and I will be in a position to lay out our planned approach to gathering evidence on our return.

### SQA Update (25<sup>th</sup> February) Related to National 4

SQA has been reviewing its approach to assessment of National 4 courses, in response to feedback from teachers and lecturers and to support schools to manage assessment where it has been impacted by disruption to learning and the ongoing restrictions associated with COVID-19.

They have decided that **candidates will not be required to complete National 4 added value units in session 2020-21.**

### Live Learning

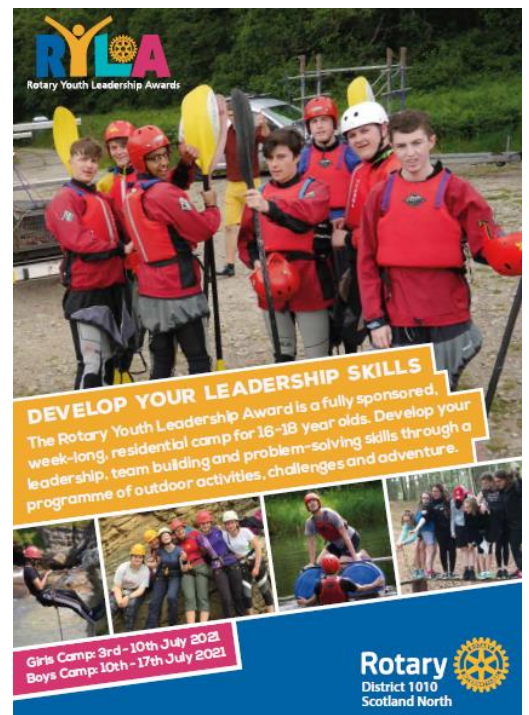
The feedback we received from you suggested you would like more live learning as a part of the remote learning offer. We have discussed this with staff and asked that they have an increased presence in lessons. Live learning can mean many things with the key focus being on the teacher being present during the lesson to set the context of the lesson and to offer effective feedback.

The live learning offer has increased across the school however feedback from staff would suggest that between 25 – 50% of the young people are in attendance.

Please make effort to be present during live lessons.

### Camp RYLA

If any senior pupil would like more information on this great opportunity to develop your leadership skills, please email Mrs Dorward in PE ([DDjdorward970@glow.sch.uk](mailto:DDjdorward970@glow.sch.uk))



I hope these weekly updates are of use to you and I assure you I will continue to communicate pertinent information as often and as timely as possible.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Millar', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Barry Millar  
Head Teacher