

Wallace Hall Update – 07.01.21 - COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Primary email address: gw08officewallacehal@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

Academy email address: gw08officewallace@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

Public Health Phone Number: 01387 272724

NHS24 Phone Number: 111

NHS Website: <https://www.nhsinform.scot/>

Dear Parent/Carer

WHOLE SCHOOL

Happy new year to you all and we hope you have had as good a Christmas break as possible, given the restrictions we were under.

Information from Scottish Government has changed a few times over the holidays, as the level of COVID infection has increased. The information currently is that school holidays are being extended for all pupils until Friday 6th January and that online learning will commence on Monday 11th January.

The only exceptions are for children of key workers and vulnerable children in the ELC, Primary and Academy. Both parents must be key workers to be eligible for this. You should have applied for this by 30th December, as per information sent out on 23rd December.

The Scottish Government has said that schools will remain closed until at least 1st February. However, that date will be reviewed before the end of January and may be extended further.

ICT Access

If your child(ren) does not have access to a device like a computer, laptop or tablet at home please email the school to let us know. We will try to help with this.

PRIMARY

Remote Learning

Teachers are currently planning for next week's lessons and will be available online during the school day to support children in their classes, from Monday to Friday each week. There are also specific times during the week for online class meetings and we would encourage all pupils to participate in those when they are able to. Details are in the links below.

Please find link below to the ELC remote learning arrangements:

https://645e8b6e-becd-4bbd-988d-5cb7cd92fae4.filesusr.com/ugd/92da19_bf284c6ca24c498b8dde282cd70255e3.pdf

Please find link below to the Primary remote learning arrangements:

https://645e8b6e-becd-4bbd-988d-5cb7cd92fae4.filesusr.com/ugd/92da19_e9b2f0d67bd14dd996facb5da8dc6768.pdf

Please find link below to Purple Mash letter:

https://645e8b6e-becd-4bbd-988d-5cb7cd92fae4.filesusr.com/ugd/92da19_031234dbc0934433971bddfa5d80c524.pdf

We will forward helpsheets for you and your children before Monday morning.

ACADEMY

S2 Parents' Consultations

S2 Parents' Consultations, whereby parents could request a phone call from Teachers regarding their child's report, were due to take place on week beginning January 11th. Under the new circumstances in which we are all working these consultations have been cancelled. If you would like to discuss a specific aspect of your child's report or progress please contact the school email address and someone will get back to you.

Remote Learning

Remote Learning will begin on Monday the 11th of January and will run for the period of the school closure. As with the last lockdown, pupils in S1-3 will be set tasks through Satchel One and pupils in S4-6 will be set tasks through Teams. Tasks and methodology will vary depending on the subject, year group and level and teachers will decide how to set work based on the needs of the pupils within that class.

Timetable

We have made some changes to the way in which learning activities will be set for pupils. Pupils should aim to follow their normal timetable from home (continuing with the Week A, Week B format). Monday 11th January starts with a Week B timetable. This means that on each day pupils will be set work for the three subjects they would have had that day, had they been in school. Teachers will be online at the same time as their timetabled classes to support pupils.

For example, if a pupil has a timetable on a Wednesday of:

Period 1+2 – Maths

Period 3+4 – Physics

Period 5+6 – Art

They should try to follow that timetable where possible. Some teachers may set work on that day or they set work at the start of the week to cover more than one lesson but they will still be online at their timetabled times to support pupils' learning. If you would like a copy of your child's timetable please phone the office and one can be emailed to you.

Period times will be (pupils may not need to be online for all this time but teachers will be available):

Monday

P1 - 9.15 - 10

P2 - 10 - 11.30

P3 - 11.50 - 1.20

P4 - 2.00 - 3.40

Tuesday - Friday
P1 - 9.15 - 10.50
P2 - 11.20 - 1.10
P3 - 2.00 - 3.40

Pupils should try to be online at the time of their normal class but if this is not possible then do not worry. All tasks, learning materials and resources will be saved for pupils to access later if required. This is a slight increase in work from the last lockdown but we feel pupils, staff and parents are more prepared this time round and ultimately this will be beneficial for pupils' attainment, particularly for those sitting SQA qualifications this year. Furthermore, we hope this will give pupils more structure.

There will be no work set for Health and Wellbeing classes or Core PE during the school closure period.

All teachers will review how pupils are getting on and amend the amount of work set, based on the progress being made and feedback from pupils. Please encourage pupils to speak to their teacher if they are struggling.

Setting up Teams and Satchel One

All S4-6 pupils should already be assigned to Teams for their classes and should be aware of how to use the platform. However, if any support is required then please email the school office and someone will get in touch.

For Satchel One, pupils should be able to log in through their Glow Accounts and parents have an individual login that allows them to track the tasks their pupil has. For assistance with Satchel One a lot of queries can be answered by going to <https://help.satchelone.com/en/>

If this doesn't help then please email the school office and we will be able to help you.

Support

We are aware that some pupils understandably struggled with Home Learning during the last lockdown and also we are aware that the last lockdown had a significant impact on the mental health of pupils, particularly with stress and anxiety. We have identified a number of pupils who we feel could benefit from support either with home learning, organisation or mental health and someone from school will be in touch to offer support, this is entirely optional and we will respect the wishes of pupils and families with this.

However, our support is not limited to a select group. Our Health and Wellbeing page of our website has a number of useful resources and links that may help pupils and/or parents/carers in supporting their children's wellbeing. There are also contact details for our PTs of Pupil Support, who can be contacted at any time for any pupil or family that requires support. The link to the page is <https://www.wallacehall.co.uk/health-wellbeing>

We have also produced a Frequently Asked Questions document regarding Home Learning which can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2LwXGlm>

Finally, we are aware how difficult a period this will be both academically and mentally for pupils and families. Please get in touch with the school if you feel there is anything we can do and we shall do our best to help.