

Wallace Hall Update – 25.06.20 - COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

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

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

Primary Wordpress website: <https://whplearning.wordpress.com/>

S1-S3 Wordpress website: <https://wallacehalllearninghub.wordpress.com/>

Public Health Phone Number: 01387 272724

NHS24 Phone Number: 111

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

Dear Parent/Carer

We hope you are all well and staying safe.

Whole School

Planned Return of Schools

Dr Gillian Brydson, Director - Skills, Education and Learning has asked us to share the following information with all parents:

Dear Parent/Carer

We welcome the Scottish Government's announcement that we should now prepare for children to be able to return to school full time at the beginning of the next school session. On Tuesday 23 June the Deputy First Minister announced that the planning assumptions have been updated based on good progress on limiting the spread of Coronavirus. Based on this advice, and following Full Council today, Dumfries and Galloway schools are planning for a full return for all pupils from 12 August. School transport in particular continues to be difficult to conform with the social distancing measures required. We still need time to make these arrangements with transport providers and we will continue to update parents over the summer holiday.

I recognise that the health advice may change and therefore it is wise to have contingency plans in place. I assure you that these plans are well progressed with blended arrangements to support your child's progress in learning, should we need them.

When children return there will be enhanced cleaning arrangements throughout the schools, and we will continue to promote good hand hygiene measures. I have continued to stress that the safety of our children, young people and staff is central to our planning. In the early stages of returning to schools our staff will focus on reconnecting with children through our Recovery Curriculum as an essential step towards children coming settled and ready to learn again.

Our plans will be shared via Support DG and <via Group Call, >and directly through your school.

As we approach the end of term, I thank all parents/carers, pupils and staff for all your efforts since March – we all have had to think hard about what is important to us as communities. Our schools have shone and I am proud to live and work alongside you in Dumfries and Galloway.

Yours sincerely
Gillian

We are sure that more information will follow from Dr Brydson over the coming week as she receives clarity from the Scottish Government.

So, following the announcement from the First Minister on Tuesday, our plans at Wallace Hall for a blended learning approach are now on hold and we are planning to welcome all pupils back on a full time basis from August 12th, all going well with the containment of COVID-19 in Scotland.

We are sure that parents and pupils have welcomed this news, as have we. We now await further guidance from Scottish Government and our Local Authority on how that will look. We will share any information we get with you and can hopefully give you some clarity before the holidays begin next week.

We will now plan for a full re-opening and focus on the health & safety aspect, ensuring that we can comply with the necessary measures to allow a safe return for pupils and staff. As you know, we have been planning for a blended approach and will continue to fine tune our 'Plan B' in case we need to implement it. We don't want to confuse anyone by sharing these plans with you any more than we have already but please be assured that, if the situation had to be reversed in August or thereafter, we would be in a position to introduce these plans at very short notice.

Communication

We plan to make next Thursday's update to parents the last one until the start of August. This will allow you as parents to relax and will also allow our staff to have a well-earned break. However, if there is anything urgent that we are asked to share with you we will do so.

Home Learning and Study Packs

This coming Monday will see the last of the Home Learning work and study packs going out to pupils. There will be no work set over the holidays but if your child has work to catch up on then they can continue to do that with the work already set.

New Appointments

Congratulations go to the following staff members who have secured posts at Wallace Hall over the past week or so:

Euan Laverty – Acting Principal Teacher Additional Support for Learning – 2 days per week – Wallace Hall Academy

Sean Bell – Principal Teacher of Maths and Business Education – starting October 2020

Andy McNay is joining our primary school in a permanent teaching role and our primary probationer is Astrid Lyttle.

We also have a Biology probationer in the Academy and she is Kim McVeigh.

I am sure you will all join us in sending your congratulations and best wishes to them all.

Childcare Bookings

Our Childcare Hub is full for next week and will end on Thursday 2nd July as that signals the end of the school term.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported the Hub over the past 13 weeks or so. It has been a huge team effort and we believe that we have provided a safe and nurturing environment for the children who attended.

Summer Holiday Bookings for Childcare Places

We have just had confirmation that the summer holiday hub at Wallace Hall will be running. If you applied for a place you should have been contacted by now by a member of staff from our local authority.

If you need to book a place, then please do so via the following link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKRmoBe-n4o5IvpSS_-QBM6BUOFJNRFhMTENWVDY3STZKRFFNWec5MEQ5NC4u

If you have any queries, please contact CV19education@dumgal.gov.uk

Production of Visors/Partnership with Halo Trust

If you missed the piece about us on Border News on Tuesday evening please click on the following link to view:

<https://youtu.be/j4ffeipHOJU>

Best Start Grants

You may qualify for a BEST START GRANT if you or your child meets the eligibility criteria. All information about eligibility and payments can be found at this link: <https://www.mygov.scot/best-start-grant-best-start-foods/>

Free School Meals – Boxes or Cash Payment

This will continue over the summer holiday for those who are eligible. The last day that Free School Meal boxes will go out from Wallace Hall will be Friday 3rd July. If you have been in receipt of the boxes please do not worry, yours will be delivered from another Hub during the holidays. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our kitchen staff and all of our school staff who have been involved in the production, organisation and delivery of free school meals in Mid and Upper Nithsdale throughout the lockdown period.

Free Sanitary Products

Pupils are entitled to receive free sanitary products. If you would like to take up this offer please do so via the following link:

<https://supportdg.dumgal.gov.uk/free-sanitary>

School Management Rota

Here is the school management rota for next week:

	Saturday (standby)	Sunday (standby)	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
w/c 27/06/ 20 Lead	G Arrowsmith	E Traill	K Bryden	R Fulton	J Blair	B Graham
Reserve	N Riley	J Steele	A Meredith	K Bryden	J Carter	R Fulton

Managers can be contacted via the school office between 9am-3pm. However, we would like to encourage everyone to contact us via the school email addresses, as above, as a first option. These will be monitored throughout the day.

Support for Pupils

Please see below several agencies who your child could contact, particularly over the summer holidays, if need be:

Local Supports
<p>Youth Work Service - Youth Work Spaces are being provided over the summer holidays. https://supportdg.dumgal.gov.uk/article/20959/Support-For-Young-People</p>
<p>Cool2talk - (over 12 years of age) is a confidential place for young people to freely ask questions about things that are affecting them. Get a response within 24 hours. https://cool2talk.org/</p>
<p>Educational Psychology and Educational Visitor Telephone Consultation (for parents/carers) 12:30pm – 3:30pm every Tuesday to Thursday You can sign up for a call back by emailing supportinglearners@dumgal.gov.uk Or call 01387 273784</p>
<p>CAMHS - Are a region wide service for children and young people up to aged 18 who are experiencing mental health difficulties. We offer assessment and treatment specific to individual need. CAMHS accepts referrals from all sources with the consent of the person being referred where age appropriate. CAMHS can be contacted Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 5pm by calling 01387 244662 or by emailing dumf-uhb.CAMHS-mail@nhs.net</p> <p>facebook.com/DGCAMHS</p>
<p>ISSU18 - is a region wide service for children and young people up to 18 years who are affected by problematic substance misuse, this can be either their own or a family member. https://www.sfad.org.uk/service/issu18-dumfries</p>
<p>School Nurse - School Nurse self referral number that can be used by young people, parents and carers is 07795291296 available Mon-Fri 9am-5pm</p>
<p>LGBT - https://www.lgbtyouth.org.uk/yp-online-support</p>
<p>Social Work Contact Centre – 030 33 33 3001</p>
National Supports
<p>ChildLine - free and confidential help for young people in UK https://www.childline.org.uk/ or 0800 1111</p> <p>New from ChildLine - The Buddy Zone - mainly for primary aged pupils The Buddy Zone</p>
<p>CEOPS – If you worried about online sexual abuse or the way someone has been communicating with you online? Make a report to https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre</p>

Primary

P1 - P6 Transition Tasks

Tomorrow your child's new class teacher(s) will be posting a letter to introduce themselves and say hello, and a transition task on your child's current class page on the home learning website. On Monday, you will receive details of the time and date for your child to meet their new teacher(s) on Teams next week.

New Primary 1s - Transition Visit

We are looking forward to welcoming the new Primary 1 children on Tuesday 30th June for a short visit to see the classroom, to meet Miss Purves and to answer any questions you might have. You should have received a time to come and visit by email. Please let the office know if you can attend.

Academy

SQA Results and post-certification review process

All pupils in the Senior Phase will receive their exam certificates from the SQA on Tuesday 4th August. In addition, the SQA have also released more detailed information on their post-certification review process which will replace the post-results service they have used in previous years. Details of the SQA announcement and an updated Wallace Hall Academy SQA Policy can be found on the school website using the following link.

<https://www.wallacehall.co.uk/pi-sqa-exams>