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Dear Parent/Carer

On Thursday we sent out a survey asking about how online learning and learning at home was going for S1 – S3 pupils. Many thanks to all of you who have responded. We will use this information in two ways – to share with our class teachers so that can respond to some of the specific information and to develop a more strategic view going forward. This is new to all of us and it was always the case that we would learn and develop as we go on. Your feedback is vital to ensure we move on in the right direction.

One of the main issues is undoubtedly the senior phase and those pupils who had been studying for National, Higher and Advanced Higher courses. With the announcement of no examinations and no expectation of further work by the SQA this has led to a period of limbo for our senior pupils. I would like to set out how we plan to address this.

All secondary Head Teachers have been 'meeting' regularly to plan a coordinated approach to moving learning forward for our senior phase pupils. Together we will be launching our new National, Higher and Advanced Higher courses on 11th May, three weeks earlier than planned for in the school calendar. In the lead up to this, in order to give staff time to plan this learning, we will not be posting materials for current S4-6 pupils. However, there are materials that all pupils can access at this time through Scholar and BBC Bitesize where they can continue to consolidate their learning. We realise that this requires significant independent learning which can be challenging.

Before the 11th May all pupils in S3, S4 and S5 will receive a letter by email with their course choices and new Google Classroom codes (these may also be shared by their current teachers). On 11th May we would ask all pupils to ensure they log on and establish a routine to complete the work that is set. It is vital that pupils do not get left behind at this early stage. In English and Maths pupils in current S3 will stay in the same Google Classrooms as they move into S4.

This will mean that S3-5 move on in their timetables. For S1 and S2 we plan to move on to future learning on 25th May as already in the school calendar. We will contact S1 and S2 parents nearer the time to explain what this will look like, but we want to make sure that pupils in S2 do move on to their new choices this term.

We hope that this explains how we will progress learning during these difficult times. I thank you in advance for your continued support, but if you have any queries or concerns, please contact your child's guidance teacher.

I hope you and your families are keeping safe and well

Lesley Adam
Head Teacher

Integrated Children's & Family
Services

Rob Polkinghorne
Chief Operating Officer

