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Dear Parent/Carer

Further Update on the Re-opening of Breadalbane Academy w/b 19th April 2021

As you will be aware, the First Minister announced last week that all secondary schools should reopen fully after the Easter holidays. I am now writing to confirm that we are looking forward to seeing all secondary pupils return from Monday 19th April.

In advance of this, may I draw your attention to arrangements that will be in place to ensure a safe return for all. Many of these were in place between August and December but there are also some changes. I would ask you to read this letter carefully and share it with your child.

- **Infection Control**

We will continue to focus on minimising any risks of transmission through a range of infection control measures. Pupils will be asked to wash/sanitise their hands on arrival at school and undertake the previous classroom infection control routines.

Sanitising stations will be sited at each entrance to the building. We will now revert to using the entrances we used in the first and second term:

- S1-S3: Enter through side door of assembly hall**
- S4-S6: Enter through Alma Avenue doors**

- **Ventilation**

Good ventilation continues to be central to the government's infection control advice. We will therefore continue to leave as many windows open as conditions will allow, and I would therefore reiterate our advice that pupils come appropriately dressed to allow them to remain comfortable during lessons. Although we will not be reintroducing school uniform until August, I would ask that all pupils dress in a way which is appropriate for a school context.



- **Physical Distancing**

Although physical distancing is now not required between pupils, staff will continue to have to stay 2m away from pupils and from each other. Classrooms have been arranged to ensure that this happens and pupils must continue to follow their teachers' advice in relation to this.

Despite there being no formal requirement to enforce physical distancing between pupils, we will be discouraging pupils from social physical contact such as hand to hand greetings/hugs with their peers.

In order to minimise contact between pupils at lunchtimes, we also intend to continue with two lunch sittings, as we did during the recent partial reopening. Pupils will be allocated to sittings as follows, which will rotate on a weekly basis:

- **S1-3 1.00-1.25**
- **S4-6 1.30-1.55**

Please note that that pupils can use the dining facilities at these times to consume packed lunches as well as food purchased from Tayside Contracts. We would also request that pupils continue to pre-order for morning break and lunches as they did during the partial reopening.

Pupils will be allowed to leave the campus at lunchtime, but we would appreciate your support in reminding them that they are still required to physically distance when in the community, such as visiting shops at lunchtime.

- **Face Coverings**

We will be continuing to ask all secondary pupils to wear face coverings when inside the building, unless consuming food. There is a slight change in government guidance regarding face coverings in that all secondary pupils are now required to wear these. Previously, this had only been a government recommendation for S1-3 pupils. As before exemptions to this rule, where appropriate, can be agreed through discussion with guidance staff.

- **Asymptomatic Testing Programme**

As of the new term, all secondary pupils are requested to take part in the COVID home testing programme. There have been a number of separate communications on this matter and **we would encourage all pupils to test in advance of their return to school on Monday**. It should be noted, however, that participation in the home testing programme remains voluntary. Consent can be given via the online [Consent Form](#), and test kits can be collected from the school office this week.

- **Transport**

School transport will run as normal from Monday 19th April. There is no requirement for physical distancing on dedicated school transport and face coverings should be worn.

- **Absence from School**

If your child is unable to attend school, you should contact the school in the usual way.

If the absence is due to Covid-19 symptoms, self-isolation or a positive test for Covid-19, you must let us know as soon as possible and follow all Test and Protect guidance.

We would specifically request that you do not send your child to school if they are unwell and follow national guidance if they are displaying Covid-19 symptoms.

We are really looking forward to getting all our secondary pupils back on Monday to a safe and engaging environment. As always, the safety of all will depend of the many of acts of individuals in continuing to stick rigidly to infection control guidance. I know that I can continue to depend upon our young people in this regard. We will continue to update our website to inform you of any updates regarding COVID arrangements. In addition, Perth and Kinross Council updates information for parents/carers on its website www.pkc.gov.uk/coronavirus/schools and also its Facebook and Twitter sites.

As ever, please do get in touch with us directly at the school if you have any queries whatsoever.

Yours faithfully

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

John Devine
Headteacher