



BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY

Be Caring Be Honest Be Respectful Be Your Best

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Head Teacher: Daphne McWilliam



24 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the families we have been in communication with us since Sunday for their prompt and supportive approach to our current situation. I would also like to reassure you, as I did on Sunday, that currently there is no evidence of transmission of COVID-19 at Bridge of Don Academy and that the school has very good control measures in place. The strength of the control measures enabled Public Health to advise that the school remain open to the vast majority of young people.

As you know, school finishes today at 2.55pm and we return on Tuesday 29 September. School finishes for the October break at 2.55pm on Friday 9 October and we return on Monday 26 October.

The announcements made by the First Minister this week will have an impact on all of us as we plan for these breaks from school. They will be more challenging for some than for others; particularly the ban on visiting other households indoors. The rules for young people outdoors are different again.

The New Rules: Outdoors for young people aged 12 to 17 years

This will apply to almost all our young people. **Young people can meet in groups of no more than six outdoors.** This should give them scope to meet with friends outside and enjoy the fresh air – and hopefully fair weather – during the long weekend and the October break. I would also encourage them not to meet up in large groups of more than six at break and lunch when at school. Young people's adherence to the rules will have a positive impact on the continued wellbeing of all in our school community.

Discussing Covid-19 with your child(ren)

There may be a number of young people who are anxious about the current situation in their own school, the wider community and indeed the country. Below is a link to Parent Club which in turn has links to a number of resources relating to Covid-19 which families may find helpful. I have also included a link to Young Scot which is aimed directly at young people which you can pass on to your child(ren).

<https://young.scot/campaigns/national/coronavirus>
<https://www.parentclub.scot/topics/coronavirus>

One of our support teachers has been working with young people who need additional support to explain the new rules but we both thought that other parents would find this information useful. The links to the resources are below. These are National Autism Implementation Team Resources and are image based so may also be useful for younger children.

<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/EiiwtccWoAEQPeB?format=jpg&name=900x900>

<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Eii0snzX0AAj2Jq?format=jpg&name=900x900>
<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Eii4yMKXcAAWmv1?format=jpg&name=large>

Self-Isolation

Young people who are currently self-isolating should be able to access work online through Google Classroom. They will be expected to complete this work and homework as long as they are well enough to do so.

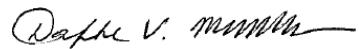
Public Health has advised that all young people identified as close contacts at Bridge of Don Academy should return to school on **Friday 2 October** due to the last possible contact with the positive case being on Thursday 17 September. This may seem odd if you are aware that contact took place earlier in the week, but I ask for your support and cooperation. Only Public Health can advise of the need for and duration of self-isolation, the role of the school is to implement their advice swiftly and communicate with families.

Parent Council

The Parent Council will meet remotely through Microsoft Teams at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 29 September. All those who were previously invited will receive an invite. If you wish to become part of the Parent Council or the 100 Club Monthly Draw please e-mail the school office with your name and your child's name and class. Office bearers will be confirmed at this meeting.

I wish all of you a restful and peaceful weekend. As always if you have any concerns please contact the school directly using the email address above or by telephone.

Yours sincerely



Daphne McWilliam
Head Teacher