

1st April 2021



Plans for the Summer Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the Easter holidays, I am writing with some information about arrangements for next term.

We are expecting that all pupils will be back in school full-time, with measures in place to reduce the risk of covid transmission which are detailed below. However, the final decision on whether this will happen will be taken by the government next week and announced on Tuesday 6th April. Should the decision be that we are not able to return to full-time provision, then we expect to remain on the current rota system, and I will be back in touch with parents with further details.

Other notices included below are:

- Staff changes
- Change to school meal prices
- At-home covid testing
- S1 students going off site at lunchtime from April 26th
- A reminder of the calendar for the Summer Term

I encourage you to share the contents of this letter with your child, and to contact us if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Jane Partridge

Head Teacher

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Staffing Changes (S1-6)

This term we have said goodbye to four members of staff:

- Eileen Thomson (History and RME Teacher)
- Catherine Lennon (Guidance Teacher)
- Ronald Ritch (Head Janitor)
- Carley Mackay (Support for Learning Assistant)

Each of these has been a valued member of the Stromness Academy team and we are very sorry to see them go – they will be missed. We wish them all well in the next phase of their lives.

The following staff are joining us for the Summer term:

- Danielle Ritch and Oliver Henderson (Youth Workers)
- Matt Drake (Social subjects and PE Teacher)

Stromness Academy covid procedures from 19th April 2021 (S1-6)

The information below was shared with pupils during registration on 31st Mar – 2nd April. These arrangements are subject to confirmation by the Scottish Government, due on Tuesday 6th April, and to any changes the government may make after that. However, if things continue to go well locally and nationally, we anticipate our procedures to be as follows:

- Social distancing
 - 2m distancing is not required in school or on school transport. However, we should keep as much distance as we can from other people wherever possible.
 - If you go off the school premises, you will need to follow the covid rules in place in the community. At the time of writing, this requires 2m distancing, and groups of no more than 6 young people.
- Arriving at school
 - Put your face covering on and clean your hands on arrival.
 - S1/2/3 will come in the main door and once in the building will need to stay in the foyer, theatre or gym. Pupils are required to spray disinfect chairs and tables they have used when they leave for registration
 - S4/5/6 will enter the building through the door at the bottom of the Maths stairs and go to the red area / dining room.
 - You should leave the social areas prior to 8.50 and be in your registration room by then.
- Moving around the school
 - Face coverings need to be worn at all times in school.
 - There will only be 1 bell a day, that is at 3.35pm. All other movements around the school will be staggered to reduce the amount of people in the corridor at any one time. Timings of the day will be displayed and pupils should take responsibility for arriving to lessons punctually.
- Timetable
 - The normal timetable is running, including registration.
 - Activities on a Friday is a combination of Accelerated reader/Study and house challenges to win House Points.
 - We expect an update shortly allowing more students to attend college courses than has been the case this term. Please check your college email account and school bulletin for the latest information.
- In lessons
 - Face coverings need to be worn in all lessons.
 - Lesson times are the same as they are now, but your teachers will tell you when to pack away and leave the room.
 - There is no formal social distancing in lessons however you should sit where your teacher tells you to and as far from others as possible.
 - The teacher's desk will have distance marking tape on the floor and you should not go into this area.
 - You must stay 2m from your teacher and other adults in the school.
 - Rooms must be ventilated and so all doors and most windows will be open.
 - Mobile phones should be silent and out of sight unless your teacher has given you permission to use them.

- PE continues to be outside. Please come dressed for outdoor PE on days when you have classes, and bring a change of clothes to put on afterwards if needed.
- The S6 room is unavailable; pupils may continue to sign out or study in the rooms allocated.
- We have 2 youth workers (Danielle and Oliver) who will be working with some pupils during lessons and after school on a Friday.
- Breaktimes
 - Monday – Thursday S4/5/6 are on first break and lunch, and S1/2/3 are on second break and lunch.
 - Friday S1/2/3 are on first break and lunch, and S4/5/6 are on second break and lunch.
 - Queues are reduced to 1m distancing. You should stand on the line / spot and move forward only when the person in front of you moves.
 - There is only 1 lunch queue, join the end, it will move quickly.
 - We are asked to distance as much as possible. There will be 4 seats around a table in the dining room and theatre; please do not move them.
 - Masks need to be worn when you are not eating, no lollipops allowed in school.
 - Keep an eye on the time as there are no bells inside the school. There are bells outside to tell you when it is time to come back into the building.
- Leaving school
 - This is the only bell you will hear in school, it's to make sure that nobody misses the bus!
 - Go straight out by your nearest exit – either the main door or the fire exit at the bottom of the Maths stairs.
- Buses
 - There is no social distancing on buses, but you must wear a face covering.
 - Eating and drinking is not allowed on buses.
 - They will wait 5 mins at the end of the day; please leave the building promptly.
- Covid Testing
 - All pupils who have consented to be part of the at-home testing programme should self-test twice a week. Pick up further test kits as you need them in the foyer at the end of the school day.

School meal prices (S1-6)

With effect from the beginning of April 2021, the pupil meal deal price will increase by 10p to £2.70. Please can I also remind parents that top-up of your child's account should happen online, and your child should use their Young Scot card for contactless payment in the Dining Hall; both of these reduce the risk of covid transmission from pupils touching key pads.

At-home Covid testing (S1-3)

Thank-you to everyone who has returned their consent form for S1-3 covid testing. On their last day of this term, pupils are being given information about how to carry out the test and, if they have handed in a consent form, will be given their first test kit to bring home. They should then take their first test before returning to school on 19th April, on Sunday evening or Monday morning. They will be able to collect further test kits as they leave school in subsequent weeks.

If your child has not yet brought in their consent form, it can be brought in during school hours until Friday 2nd April. There is also an opportunity to drop off consent forms and collect test kits at the school between 10am and 11am on Thursday 15th and Friday 16th April.

Scotland's National Clinical Director, Professor Jason Leitch, has recorded a question and answer session for S1 pupils on the Testing Programme which you might like to view with your child:

<http://e-scoil.com/lateral-flow-device-testing/>

At-home Covid testing (S4-6)

Thank you to all the senior pupils who have been helping to reduce the risk of covid transmission in school by carrying out self-tests at home and logging their results on the government website. If your child wishes to join the programme, or needs more test kits so that they have one ready to take before returning to school after the holidays, they can collect them from the School Office before the end of term. There is also an opportunity to complete consent forms and collect test kits at the school between 10am and 11am on Thursday 15th and Friday 16th April.

Scotland's National Clinical Director, Professor Jason Leitch, has recorded a question and answer session for S1 pupils on the Testing Programme which you might like to view with your child:

<http://e-scoil.com/lateral-flow-device-testing/>

Leaving the school premises at lunchtime (S1)

As from 26th April, S1 pupils will be permitted to leave the school premises at lunchtime. Parents will receive a separate letter about this from Miss Morrison (Head of Year).

Stromness Academy

Summer Term Timeline 2021



There are differing requirements for SQA assessment for different subjects this year, leading to us planning 2 distinct periods for SQA assessments:

19 Apr – 14th May Normal lessons for all S4-6, with shorter assessments carried out in some subjects in class time. Teachers will inform pupils if/when they will be having assessments during this period.

18th May – 28th May Longer assessments carried out off-timetable. We are working on a schedule for this and hope to have it completed by the first week of the Summer Term at the latest. When not in an assessment, pupils will attend normal lessons for revision, collection of other assessment evidence such as coursework, and feedback on completed assessments.

Week commencing	Activity
19-Apr-21	Normal lessons. Assessments and SQA evidence gathering for N5/H/AH in normal lesson time
26-Apr-21	Report to parents of S4-6 pupils of current working grade and target grade for end of course Normal lessons. Assessments and SQA evidence gathering for N5/H/AH in normal lesson time
03-May-21	Bank Holiday Mon 3rd May – School closed to pupils Normal lessons. Assessments and SQA evidence gathering for N5/H/AH in normal lesson time Thursday 6 th May Periods 3&4 National 5 English assessment for S4/5/6 pupils who attend College on Fridays Friday 7 th May Periods 1&2 N5 English assessment for all other S4/5/6 pupils
10-May-21	Normal lessons. Assessments and SQA evidence gathering for N5/H/AH in normal lesson time Thursday 13 th May P3& 4 N5 English assessment for S4/5/6 pupils who have College on Fridays (in college column D time) Friday 14 th May P1&2 N5 English assessment for all other S4/5/6 I(n PSE/PE/RME time)
17-May-21	In-Service Day Mon 17th May – School closed to pupils From Tues 18 th May, timetable of assessments S4-6 pupils remain in normal classes when not in assessment, for revision, continued evidence collection and feedback on assessments
24-May-21	Timetable of assessments S4-6 pupils remain in normal classes when not in assessment, for revision, continued evidence collection and feedback on assessments
31-May-21	S4-6 required in school if they have incomplete SQA evidence. Leaver events Fri 4 th June (tbc depending on covid restrictions at the time)
07-Jun-21	In-Service Day Mon 7th June - School closed to pupils Report to parents of provisional grades for SQA. These are the “Teacher judgements” of grades based on the evidence/assessments collected. They are provisional as they are still subject to a process of checking and moderation. Timetable Change Tues 8th June – all pupils staying on at school for the 2021-22 session are required to attend their new classes from this date.
14-Jun-21	Lessons in new timetable Quality assurance of provisional grades.
21-Jun-21	Submission of provisional grades to SQA. End of Term Friday 25th June