



Hamilton Grammar School
Head Teacher: Graeme Sives



Education Resources
Executive Director Tony McDaid

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

If calling ask for:

Phone No: 01698 285777

Date: 17.02.2021

Dear Parent/Carer

With the welcome confirmation of a limited return to school recently outlined in Parliament, we are able to share our plan for accommodating senior phase (S4-6) pupils in the practical subjects most affected by the absence of in school teaching in terms of progressing towards SQA assessments and certification.

All subjects are affected by time out of school but this initial return phase is to allow essential practical work associated with certain faculties to take place, given that up to 80% of some subject awards are predicated on these practical outcomes.

Our model prioritises these subjects most affected, **with dedicated time initially for students in Art, Home Economics, Music and the Technical subjects from Monday February 22nd**. The cap for this is set at 8% of our total pupil roll as an additional Covid mitigation, along with sanitising, mask wearing and 2m distancing at all times. This means that, in the main, class numbers will need to be in single figures and a disproportionate number of teaching staff and rooms will be required to accommodate this. The challenge for the model used by every school is to make progress safely with those pupils in school while simultaneously providing a level of service for the vast majority still learning at home. We have a very successful online offer at present and our middle and senior leaders have sought to protect this while, at the same time, extending the offer to make progress in school with the necessary practical elements. Faculty Heads have worked together to prioritise subject areas and allocation of timings and will review which new subjects will require access to school as phase one subjects reach their targets.

The model is attached at the end of this letter.

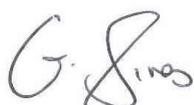
Individual pupils will receive an invitation from their class teacher via Google Classroom (GC) to attend a day of intensive teaching/practical work in school. Some will require more time, some less. It is difficult to be definitive at this stage but, given the coursework requirements, Art and Technical will continue into Week 2 onwards while HE and Music's need will diminish and they will be replaced by classes from the Business/ICT faculty and Modern Languages. In this way we will be able to manage the numbers in school and continue with the online programme.

As senior pupils attend, they will be offered home testing kits, limited stocks of which are now in the building. Full details are supplied with each kit but we will also share the guides and video on the website and via GC so that everyone is prepared in advance and knows what to expect. Our testing days will be Monday and Thursday to give maximum coverage over the working week and, with the

result available in 30 minutes, pupils (and staff) should test themselves before leaving for school in the morning.

Our in school provision for key worker/vulnerable support will continue and this cohort will operate independently of the seniors returning on Monday. Year Heads and subject GC will share more specific detail and individual instructions regarding the return but I hope this overview is helpful for all families at this time. We await the next national update regarding any further extension of pupils in school. Please be assured of our best endeavours for all of our learners and families in the meantime.

Yours sincerely



G Sives
Head Teacher

Week Commencing	Faculty	Subject	Levels
WC: 22 nd February	Design	Woodwork	National 5
		Metalwork	National 5
		Design and Manufacture	National 5, Higher
		Graphics	National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher
		Art and Design	National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher
		Photography	NPA, Higher
	Health and Wellbeing	Practical Cake Craft	National 5
		Practical Cookery	National 4/5
	Performing Arts	Music	National 5, Higher
	ICT (Fridays)	Administration	Higher
WC: 1 st March	Design	Woodwork	National 5
		Metalwork	National 5
		Design and Manufacture	National 5, Higher
		Graphics	National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher
		Art and Design	National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher
		Photography	NPA, Higher

	Performing Arts	Drama	National 5, Higher
	ICT (Fridays)	Administration / Computing	National 5, Higher
WC: 8 th March	Design	Woodwork	National 5
		Metalwork	National 5
		Design and Manufacture	National 5, Higher
		Graphics	National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher
		Art and Design	National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher
	Photography	NPA, Higher	
	ICT (Fridays)	Administration Computing	Higher Advanced Higher
Performing Arts	Music	National 5, Higher	
WC: 15 th March	Modern Languages	Spanish	National 5
		French	National 5
		Mandarin	National 5, Higher
	Performing Arts	Drama	National 5, Higher
	ICT (Fridays)	Administration Computing	National 5 Higher
WC: 22 nd March	Modern Languages	Spanish	National 5
		French	National 5
		Mandarin	National 5, Higher
	ICT (Fridays)	Administration Computing	Higher Advanced Higher

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