

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Senior Phase Return to School – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021**

This letter is intended to update S4/5/6 Learners and their Parents/Carers about Calderside Academy's plans for the phased return of pupils to in-person learning.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 the Scottish Government announced that from the 22<sup>nd</sup> February, small groups of Senior Phase Pupils, currently studying certificated qualifications, would be allowed to attend school, to take part in learning which cannot be undertaken remotely. This is applicable to certain practical subjects only.

The 22<sup>nd</sup> February is **not** a full time return to school. The default arrangement for all pupils continues to be a remote learning at home offer. Pupils will be invited into the school building on prearranged days/times to engage in specific tasks as directed by the school. Further detail about how this will be managed is covered in the accompanying document.

### **Health and Safety**

The school already has in place robust infection control measures such as enhanced cleaning regimes, access to hand sanitisers on entry and exit and within classrooms, the appropriate use of face coverings, 2m distancing between staff, and between staff and pupils. In addition, as part of the phased return to school for Senior Phase Pupils, all pupils in secondary school buildings and on school transport will now be expected to adhere to strict 2m physical distancing between other pupils. We would like to remind pupils and parents of the need to strictly follow all relevant guidance and would also request that parents avoid contact with other parents and young people at the school gates, on the way to school and after school in order to reduce the risk of community spread of the virus.

Pupils will be reminded about compliance with the existing safety procedures in place including the wearing of face coverings within senior phase classes, in busy communal areas within school and when for any reason they leave school building. Please also remember face coverings are required for all pupils on designated school transport. Pupils will also be advised of the additional enhanced precautions in respect of 2m physical distancing.

The school will ensure that S4/S5/S6 pupils remain separate from pupils who are already in school for other reasons.

### **Interval and Lunch Arrangements**

Interval and lunch will be at the normal times of 10.40am and 12.35pm respectively.

All young people attending should either bring a packed lunch or they should purchase items from the school canteen. This can be done via the Fusion App or via the canteen in the morning.

No pupil will be allowed to leave the school grounds at interval or lunchtime for the 2 weeks we have planned so far. The 2m social distancing must be adhered to both inside the building and in the outside areas. There will be no lunchtime sports.

### **Transport**

From the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021, 2m physical distancing applies on secondary school transport. This

will significantly reduce the capacity of vehicles. Where pupils may be attending on a part day basis, if more convenient than other arrangements can be made with parents or via public transport. Mask should be worn when entering and leaving the vehicles as well as during the journey.

Pupil/parents should complete the online form available on the school website by 4pm on Friday to indicate their preferred pick up point for school buses. This information will be collated on a Friday and sent to the Transport provider for use the following week.

### **Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Testing**

As part of the phased return to school, all learners who attend school to take part in learning which cannot be remotely undertaken, will have access to, twice weekly, at-home testing, using lateral flow devices (LFDs). Testing is voluntary and no learner will be excluded from taking part in face to face learning if they do not wish to take a test. However, we would encourage senior phase learners to participate to contribute to the wellbeing of the school community.

We will provide you with a letter with more information on Lateral Testing including a consent form which must be completed and returned to the school before providing the home-based testing kit. Testing takes place twice a week in the home with 3 days in between each test. A video link on lateral testing is available for you to view:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ>

Testing kits can be collected from the stage area in the Street first thing in the morning, during morning interval and at lunchtime. Please remember to bring the completed consent form. If a consent form is not completed for a pupils under the age of 16 then no kits will be issued.

### **Timetable Information**

To facilitate strict 2m physical distancing in the school building and on school transport, pupils will be invited in to attend on prearranged days/times to take part in learning which cannot be undertaken remotely.

The accompanying document details the courses that will be offered and when young people in S4-S6 should attend school. If your child is in doubt as to which day their class attends they should message their class teacher through Google Classroom for confirmation.

Please discuss the important Health and Safety information contained in the Guide document with your child.

### **General Enquiries**

If you have further questions or concerns please contact the school office by telephone on 01698 717180, or by email [office@calderside.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@calderside.s-lanark.sch.uk) and the office staff will contact the relevant Pupil Support PT or DHT.

Thanks and take care,

Skayne Dodds  
Head Teacher