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Ref: **MJ/2021/120821**

12th August 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

New Term Arrangements 2021/22

I trust you have had a restful and enjoyable break during the summer holidays and that the young people in your family are looking forward to a return to Inverurie Academy. I write to provide you with an overview of some of the key messages for our return from Tuesday 17th August.

A copy of the parent/carer calendar for 2021-22 has been uploaded to the website and can be found using the link [here](#).

Although some of this information was shared with you in June and so will be familiar to you, there are important updates and we would therefore ask that you read this through carefully together.

COVID-19 Arrangements

Updated guidance from Scottish Government was published earlier this month and can be found [here](#). The key messages from this guidance are that many of the mitigations in place during April – June will continue for the first six weeks of the new term with an update from the Scottish Government to be provided on next steps thereafter. In particular....

- The Scottish Government are encouraging 16 and 17 year-olds to take up the offer of vaccinations as part of our community drive to combat COVID-19. A letter from NHS Grampian has been attached with this communication.
- It is really important that young people and families in the community re-engage with the twice-weekly LFD testing on offer. Please either contact our School Office or ask your young person to visit the School Office to get further test-kits. To this end, a letter from Laurence Findlay, Director of Education and Children's Services has been included on the subject of LFD Testing.
- As part of Scottish Government guidance, all members of the school community will continue to wear face coverings when in school and when using school transport unless there is a medical exemption.
- We will maintain a one-way system throughout the Campus to reduce congestion.

School Day Arrangements

Following consultation with the staff team at Inverurie Academy, and discussion at the Parent Council, we will be moving to a slightly amended school day. This school day retains some

elements of change due to COVID-19 but begins to move back towards normality. I have identified the bits that return to normal and the elements that retain a difference....

What returns to near 'normal'?	What stays different?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The start of the school day returns to 08.40. • The end of the school day returns to 15.00 (short day) and 15.50 (long day). • The lunch break returns to 50 minutes in length. • There is a return to registration at the beginning of the school day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S1-S3 have a different break and lunch to S4-S6. S1-S3 have break from 10.30 – 10.50, and lunch from 12.30 – 13.20. S4-S6 have break from 11.20 – 11.40, and lunch from 13.20 – 14.10.

The detail can be seen in the table below.

Year	Start (Reg)	P1	P2	Break	P3	P4	Lunch	P5	P6 (End)	P7 (End)
S1-3	08.40 - 08.50	08.50 – 09.40	09.40 – 10.30	10.30 – 10.50	10.50 – 11.40	11.40 – 12.30	12.30 – 13.20	13.20 – 14.10	14.10 - 15.00	15.00 - 15.50
Year	Start (Reg)	P1	P2	P3	Break	P4	P5	Lunch	P6 (End)	P7 (End)
S4-6	08.40 - 08.50	08.50 – 09.40	09.40 – 10.30	10.30 – 11.20	11.20 – 11.40	11.40 – 12.30	12.30 – 13.20	13.20 – 14.10	14.10 - 15.00	15.00 - 15.50

First Day – Tuesday 17th August

On Tuesday 17th August, we will therefore be starting promptly at 08.40.

S2-S6

S2-S6 students will go straight to their Register Class (details were provided to students about where to go at the end of last term) and there will be an extended registration to last Period 1 (finishing at 09.40). Thereafter students will return to their usual timetable.

* Students with alternative programmes (e.g. College placements, Foyer Programme) should follow individual advice on attendance *

S1

New S1 students will be welcomed by staff and senior students, gathered into classes and taken to their designated room. They will then be welcomed by key staff for an induction lasting until lunchtime. Buddies will be assigned to ensure that S1 students get from one class to the next.

A reminder that S1 students will remain on Campus during breaks and lunches for the first four weeks of term.

School Uniform

As mentioned in our June letter, we return to the expectation of full uniform from 17th August. The detail of the uniform can be found below with a link to Academy Uniforms [here](#).

Please remind young people in your family that the blazer and tie are compulsory items of uniform, and should be worn every day. The previous temporary arrangements which saw students who had a PE lesson in the morning arrive in their PE kit has also now ended.

Bell System

Laurence Findlay, Director of Education & Children's Services
Serving Aberdeenshire from mountain to sea - the very best of Scotland

Between April and the end of Term in June 2021, we trialed a 'no-bell' system. This was principally to provide as calm and uninterrupted an atmosphere for our senior students as they navigated the *alternative certification model (ACM)*. However, following consultation with our Staff Team, we will be continuing with our 'no-bell' system in session 2021-22.

Year Head & Guidance Changes

We have made a further couple of changes to our Year Head and Guidance structure over the summer. Please review the image below – your first point of contact should be with the Guidance Teacher. Contact can be made by email through the school website [here](#).

SLT Team



Guidance Team



Thank you for your continued support of young people in your family and of Inverurie Academy.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Jones
Head Teacher