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30th November 2021

Dear Parent Carer

Storm Arwen Update & Return to School Wednesday 1st December 2021

General Update

I hope you and your families have enjoyed a return to power, heat and a chance to recharge devices! Apologies for the slight delay in this message reaching you – we have been awaiting confirmation from Aberdeenshire Council on the status of school buildings and services. A copy of the Aberdeenshire Council statement can be found [here](#).

I am pleased to confirm that Inverurie Academy will reopen fully to students on Wednesday 1st December with a return to the usual timetable. This includes a return to the scheduled assessments for National 5 (as timetabled for Wednesday 1st December) and also a return to the S1 Virtual Parent Evening later in the day.

The relevant schools-related portion from the Aberdeenshire Council update can be found below:-

- If you use school transport, this will run as normal.
- Director of Education and Children's Services Laurence Findlay is keen to thank everyone for their patience. He said: "We are getting there and look forward to welcoming many of our young people back tomorrow. Thank you to everyone who has gone above and beyond during these difficult few days, whether that's helping with schools or setting up provisions for those who need it. We understand many families are still without power and we are here to support you, alongside a variety of partner organisations including Police Scotland and the Red Cross as well as many local groups, businesses and volunteers. Please use the assistance centre number below if you need it. And if your school is open but you can't get there please don't worry – school staff will work with you. The wellbeing of families comes first."
- The storm assistance centre line remains open until 10pm tonight. Call 08081963384 for advice on where you can access welfare facilities, free hot meals and financial advice and assistance.
- Children's services social work teams are also open and available:
<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/children-and-families/children-and-families-team-offices/>
- Those who are entitled to statutory free school meals will receive an additional payment this week to make up for the two days missed in school, plus more if your school is

closed for longer. A copy of a letter entitled **Storm Arwen - Updates for families eligible for Free School Meals** has been included with this letter.

Continued COVID-19 vigilance

Given the recent publicity about a new variant, it would be greatly appreciated if you could remind students in your family about the importance of continued wearing of face-coverings and regular hand-washing to allow us to maintain a strong community response.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M Jones', written on a light-colored background.

Mr M Jones
Head Teacher