

Letter from Matthew Bartlett, Head Master

Monday 10th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Return to School: Final updates in advance of Thursday 13th August

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all our community back to St Aloysius' College this week. There are a few final updates which I would like to share with you but there are no changes to the arrangements outlined to you in my previous letter of 3rd August. I would ask that you revisit that letter to remind yourselves of the new routines which need to be followed to keep everyone safe and well in this crucial return to school.

On the first day Senior School pupils will be given timetables and taken through the protocols and procedures. A very similar process will happen in the Junior School.

All letters and guidance can be found in the covid19 section of our website.

Quarantine

The local lockdown in Aberdeen demonstrates how critical it is we follow government guidance. Therefore, *if you have returned very recently from Spain or any other country where there are restrictions in place it is essential that you adhere to these and that your children do not return to school until the period of self-isolation is completed.* If we become aware of any pupils who are in school but should be in self isolation, we would contact parents to request that they are picked up and return home. We will of course work with parents to support any young people until they can return safely to school.

Facemasks

A reminder that facemasks must be worn on games buses to Millerston by all Senior School pupils.

Buses

All school buses are operating as normal, we would ask that pupils wear a facemask whilst travelling on the school bus.

Visitor Policy

Our updated and temporary visitor policy, which explains why face to face meetings are not possible at present can be found on our website. This is very much not where we want to be but the health and safety of everyone has to come first. We appreciate your understanding.

P7 and Senior School Pick Up and Drop Off

Please keep Hill Street clear and prevent traffic piling up in the vicinity of the College. If arriving by car, please arrange a drop off/pick up point away from the buildings that your child can safely walk the remaining distance to the College. This also applies to P7 pupils who are based in the Sports Hall building. We would recommend turning right into Rose Street rather than proceeding up Hill Street or waiting down on West Graham Street. In light of this, P7 pupils may benefit from bringing a mobile phone so they can be texted where you are parked. For these P7 pupils, please also bring a plastic freezer bag to place your phone in, as they will be collected in at the start of the day and returned at the end of the day and we want to minimise any infection risk.

S1-S3

The school day will finish at 3.25pm for pupils in these year groups with S4-S6 finishing at the normal time of 3.35pm. Pupils should leave the College campus promptly to avoid any congestion.

Junior School: access for pupils arriving on foot

Access for Junior School pupils arriving on foot will be via the pedestrian gate on Dalhousie Street (next to the Launderette). You will be met by a member of staff and parents will not be able to enter the playground areas. There will be no pedestrian access from the top of the playground and no entry via the front door. Pick up for after school is from the main Junior School front door, again please do not enter the building.

Saturday and After School Sport

Progress is being made on recommencing Saturday and After School sport under appropriate safe protocols. We are liaising with other HMC schools in Glasgow to ensure shared procedures apply. Further details will be sent out at the end of this week, but we expect to recommence Saturday provision on Saturday 22nd August and some after school provision in the week commencing Monday 24th August. Please be aware that it this is likely to be on a 'drop and go' basis and there will be no provision for any spectators at any location.

Results and appeals

You will have read much in the press about the recent SQA results and the impact on young people's outcomes. *The College pass rates at Higher and Advanced Higher were the highest of any Glasgow school: state or independent.* Clearly, we are delighted by this and also by the very strong results at National 5.

However even with this there were some students who have been impacted in a small number of subjects by decisions made nationally. This creates undue anxiety in an already anxious period. We have been working with students to put forward appeals where appropriate and will keep you updated as to how this progresses and the further uplift which is likely to ensue for our results.

Rest assured that I will continue to keep you updated in line with national guidance and advice as we move forward. I look forward to greeting you in person, albeit at a distance, later this week.

Kindest regards



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GREAT THINGS HAPPEN IN THE GREEN BLAZER