

Linwood High School
Stirling Drive,
Linwood
PA3 3NB

Tel: 0300 300 1333

Head Teacher: Gillian Bowie

11th August 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

RETURN TO SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS – August 2021

I am delighted that we will be welcoming our pupils back to Linwood High School on Monday 16th August. I hope you have had an enjoyable summer break.

I am hoping to address any questions you may have in this communication, which will cover:

- New S1 pupils
- Uniform
- Eating arrangements
- Hygiene measures
- Lateral Flow Tests
- Contact Tracing and Self-isolation
- Visitor access to the school

New S1 pupils

We will have everything in place to support our new S1 in their first days of school. At 8.50 am, S1 pupils will be welcomed into the school from the rear playground and divided into their class sets. They will sanitise their hands and wear face-masks as they enter the school. All the information they need to make a successful start to their S1 in Linwood High School will then be issued. Support staff will accompany them between and during classes. This will help them to familiarise themselves with the school layout and their timetable.

Pupils will be dismissed at 3.40 pm as normal at the end of the day.

Uniform and equipment

It is expected that all young people will wear the full Linwood High uniform on their return to school. We are very proud of Linwood High School and our uniform as we believe it promotes a sense of equity and belonging to the school community. Noted below is a reminder of what we expect our pupils to wear, and we fully support Renfrewshire Council policy on school uniform.

- Black Blazer with school logo
- White shirt or blouse with school tie (light blue junior tie, dark blue senior)
- Smart black trousers or skirt
- Plain black jumper or cardigans
- Black footwear
- PE T-shirt (school logo)

Please note that denim jeans and black leggings are not part of the school uniform and we do ask that pupils remove coats, scarves and hooded tops in class as they again are not part of the uniform.

School ties and PE T-shirts are available from the school office and please contact the school regarding blazers. Please contact the school if you have any issues obtaining school uniform.

Eating arrangements

There is a full dining facility for morning interval and lunchtime. Pupils may bring their own snacks and packed lunch. S1 pupils do not have permission to leave school grounds at lunchtime. Any other pupils who choose to do so must be mindful of the need for a face mask to be worn in local shops. **Any pupil leaving the school area will not be able to re-enter the school building until the necessary hygiene procedures are followed.**

Pupils entitled to free meals will be provided with a choice of hot and cold meals. You can apply for free meals through <https://bit.ly/3a34ZK9>



Children's Services

Pupils will be encouraged to be outside in the fresh air, where we also have picnic benches. Outdoor areas will be zoned. S1-S3 will be directed to the area outside the street, S4-6 will be directed to the area outside the PE/Tech department. Alternative arrangements will be made in the case of poor weather.

Hygiene measures

For the next six weeks we will be maintaining the safety measures we have had in place previously. Hand sanitising stations are fixed at all pupil entrances. Pupils will enter the school building via the following doors and will sanitise their hands upon entry and exit.

S1 – S3 through the door at the street area

S4 - S6 through the main pupil entrance

Pupils are reminded to wash hands as often as possible using warm water and soap, of which there is plenty. They may also use their own hand sanitiser throughout the school day. Pupils should also sanitise hands when entering and exiting the building. Enhanced regular cleaning of hard surfaces throughout the school and toilets will take place during the day. Due to the necessity of movement between classrooms, young people will be expected to wipe down their desk/chair/surface when arriving and before leaving class for their own safety.

Young people and staff are required to wear face masks in the classroom and moving around the building.

Please note, we will be maintaining a 2m physical distance between staff and pupils as much as possible in classes and throughout the school. Pupils must also be mindful of respecting the space of other pupils.

Clear procedures are in place in the event of a pupil/member of staff showing symptoms of COVID 19 during the school day.

Lateral Flow Testing

All staff and pupils are strongly encouraged to continue using lateral flow testing prior to the start of school and twice weekly thereafter. As per last session, test kits can be collected from the school office. New S1 pupils will have been issued with consent forms at the end of term and must return them to receive test kits.

Contact Tracing and Self-isolation

The welcome changes to contact tracing and self-isolation are detailed in the letter sent to you from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. The link to this is here <https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/TP-Schools-1108>

Please contact the school should you require any additional information regarding this.

Visitor access to the school

As always, we seek to provide a welcoming environment for our parents however, following government guidance, I must insist that no unplanned visits take place. Please contact the school office in the first instance to arrange a visit. This will allow us to ensure adequate space is available for any meetings and surfaces can be cleaned between meetings. Visitors to the school will wait in the entrance 'bubble' until met by a member of staff.

Pupils being collected for appointments during the course of the day should be met by parents or carers at the front of the school building.

Pupils travelling to school by car should continue to be dropped off on Stirling Drive unless you have a specific arrangement with the school. I ask that all parents and carers adhere to this policy and do not enter and drop off in the school grounds.

No doubt on our return we will adapt and identify where improvements can still be made. Health and safety requirements and risk assessments will be regularly reviewed in line with government guidance. Our main focus is to settle your young person back into the school environment safely and productively, maximising class teaching time and supporting the well-being of our school community.

I look forward to welcoming our pupils back from on Monday 16th August and will keep pupils, parents and carers informed of any further developments as we get more information and guidance changes.

Finally, some of you may have noticed a name change at the top of this letter. I'm delighted to say I married during the summer holidays and my name has now changed to Mrs Bowie. I'm sure many will still call me Miss Macartney!

I hope this letter provides some information to get session 2021-22 off to a great start.

Yours sincerely



Gillian Bowie
Head Teacher