

Parent/Carer Information

Learners Returning to School



Preparation for return August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

When I last wrote to you we were awaiting an announcement from Deputy First Minister, John Swinney MSP, and he confirmed last week that all children and young people will return to school next week.

In Moray we have two in-service days on 10 and 11 August and then we will be delighted to welcome back all our children and young people on Wednesday 12 August. We are aware that some staff and learners may be concerned or be anxious about this and so much work has been undertaken to ensure that preparations are in place for their safe return.

We are sharing 'generic' Moray guides with you today (parent/carers and learner top tips). I know you will be anxious to see these however it is important that we had the opportunity to share and discuss their content with various groups to make sure you will have all information necessary in line with the Scottish Government's guidance for schools reopening. Some schools will stagger start times for year groups or cohorts and individual Head Teachers will advise you of these. Details related to individual schools will be issued by Head Teachers either later today or tomorrow using normal communication channels. If you are anxious about any aspect of school return, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school from Monday 10 August and they will happily discuss this with you.

In line with our Moray Council values, we endeavour to be fair to all our learners in welcoming them back on 12 August. Each school will put in place induction processes so that learners are aware of how school will operate. You may wish to share elements of the learner guide with your children to support this.

It is really important that Moray's learners get back to school and quickly establish routines and readiness to learn. All internal induction and transition programmes will be completed by 14 August with full-time new normal learning fully in place from 17 August. In the last few days of the holidays families will wish to prepare children and young people for their first day back.

I will write to you again as the term starts and thank you all for your patience and understanding as we awaited national guidance as well as engaged in discussion with Head Teachers and other colleagues.

Hoping you are keeping safe and well and managed to get some break with your family over the shortened summer holiday period.

Kind regards

Vivienne Cross
Head of Education (Chief Education Officer)
6 August 2020