



Kirkwall Grammar School

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Head Teacher: Mr D Hawkins

Monday April 20, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

The new term, albeit a very different one, starts today. I sincerely hope that you had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday with your family but more importantly I hope you're safe and well in these unprecedented times. I am sure you will appreciate that the new term will be very different and will present new challenges for our school community. I would like to assure you that we will do all we can, with your help, to make sure your children receive the best possible access to their learning and education. By working together, we will ensure that our young people continue their appropriate curricular pathway despite the inevitable disruptions.

Our immediate plan is as follows:

1. It is hoped that from Monday April 27, all pupils in the current S1 to S5 will be expected to register online by 12.00 each day. We are currently setting up Registration Classes through Microsoft Teams where they will be able to log on and register their attendance. Absentees will be contacted by Guidance staff and or Year Heads to ensure all is well with your child. More information about this will follow as we make progress on this matter.
2. S1 and S2 pupils should continue to access Broad General Education materials to be provided, online, by staff.
3. S3, S4 and S5 pupils will move into the Senior Phase and initially consolidate the skills and knowledge required to prepare them for moving on to study their chosen subjects for the next year. We hope to confirm our senior pupils' course choices later this week. We know that a large number of pupils have already been contacted by their class teachers through Microsoft Teams to join their new subject classes and this process will continue over the new week or so. We hope all pupils will start on their new courses during this time.
4. We will continue to provide updates on SQA developments.

A great deal of uncertainty surrounds the current situation, but we will work together to get the best possible outcomes for our young people. We will continue to provide updates regularly via social media and group texts. Please get in touch with your child's Guidance Teacher or the appropriate year head with any concerns.

All the very best to you and your family,

Yours sincerely

Don Hawkins
Head Teacher