

Aberdeen Grammar School

OUR VISION

Working together

Learning together

Achieving together



OUR VALUES

Ambition

Growth

Success

Monday 27 April

Dear Parents and Carers

Please find below an update on a range of key issues.

New Senior Phase Timetable (from Monday 11 May)

I can now confirm that we will begin new Senior Phase courses on Monday 11 May.

Current S3 Pupils

Our current S3 pupils will move into S4 and begin their national qualifications on Monday 11 May. We ask that they continue to complete all work set by their current teachers until Friday 8 May.

Current S4 and S5 pupils who are returning to school

Our current S4 and S5 pupils will begin their new courses on Monday 11 May. This is a change to the school calendar as the SQA exams and study leave for S4-S6 pupils were due to start on Monday 27 April.

It is important that our senior pupils see timetable change as the start of new courses and new learning. As such, on 11 May, we ask that all pupils who are returning to school for session 2020-21 log on and engage with the work set by their new teachers. It is essential that no pupil gets left behind at the start of new National Qualification courses.

To mark the end of this session's timetable and to give staff time to plan teaching and learning for new courses, teachers will not be posting new materials for current S4-6 pupils on Google Classroom. If they wish, S4-S6 pupils can access learning materials on our website - link

Subject Choices

All pupils in the current S3, S4 and S5 will receive an email confirming their subject choices. **There will be no subject choice changes at this time.** In line with normal procedures, there will be an opportunity for reconsidering course choice after the SQA examination results in August.

New Broad General Education Timetable (from Monday 25 May)

Current S1 and S2 Pupils

Our current S1 and S2 pupils will move on to new courses on 25 May. They should continue to engage with all learning activities set through Google Classroom until Friday 22 May.

Our S1 pupils will receive an email confirming their subject choices. Our S2 pupils will continue with their current subjects in S3.

Online Learning

Staff continue to explore new ways of communicating and teaching in a virtual learning environment. For example, Google Meet is one tool which may be used to facilitate pre-recorded or “live” teaching.

Aberdeen City Council has produced a guide on the safe use of Google Meet [Digital Learning Advice for Pupils and Parents](#). I must emphasise the importance of all pupils behaving in an appropriate manner when taking part in a Google Meet. Any misuse of this tool will be followed up through the usual channels. I am confident that our pupils value learning and will support their teachers as they work hard to deliver key course content.

Information about the change of timetable and the use of Google Meet will be posted on Google Classrooms next week. The guide will be shared with pupils and key points highlighted.

A dedicated page is now available on the school website <https://grammar.org.uk/learning-teaching-resources-2/> which signposts links to online learning materials. These are extension resources which may be accessed by pupils to complement their work on Google Classrooms. We are in the early stages of populating this resource. As the term progresses, we will add more materials.

School Leavers

We have a number of young people leaving school this term. I am always very proud of our pupils and what they go on to achieve.

We will be contacting our school leavers through House Teams and wish them all well as they progress to the workplace or further study.

School Trips

I do not have a further update at present. The information remains as detailed below:

Aberdeen City Council continues to work with providers and further information will be provided two weeks before the scheduled date of any trip or activity. This applies to trips scheduled as part of Activities Week and to World Challenge.

Attendance

If your child is unwell and unable to complete home learning activities, please inform the school by emailing AberdeenGrammarSchool@aberdeencity.gov.uk on the first day of absence.

We are monitoring pupil engagement with Google Classrooms. Thank you for supporting your child and the teaching staff by establishing a routine and a way of working at home. We do have a minority of pupils who have not joined or accessed Google Classrooms. If you have difficulty accessing the classrooms, please email the school address and we will provide support.

I will continue to provide weekly updates throughout the term. As always, thank you, in advance, for your understanding and support.

Kind Regards

A. Murison

Alison Murison