

People Directorate

Head Teacher: Elaine Harrigan

Girvan Academy
62 The Avenue
GIRVAN
Ayrshire, KA26 9DW
Tel. 01465 716816



Our Ref: EH/LJ

Your Ref:

Date: 18 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

RETURN TO SCHOOL – 12 AUGUST 2020

I would like to thank you for your patience as we continue to plan for our return to school for young people on 12 August 2020.

As a school, we have been working hard to prepare a bespoke proposal that will meet the needs of our young people in relation to both the curriculum and pastoral support. There have been a number of return models discussed at both local and national level. However, South Ayrshire Council have allowed each secondary school to devise the model that best suits their learning community. The proposed return model for Girvan Academy is detailed below:

- The school will be split into 2 groups – Teaching Group A and Teaching Group B. All pupils will attend school each day Monday to Friday.
- Young people will be timetabled for either a morning session (9am-11.30am) or an afternoon session (1pm- 3.30pm).
- Young people will be timetabled to each of their subjects over a 4 week period.
- These 2½ hour extended learning sessions will reduce movement around the school.
- An individual timetable for your child will be sent out prior to our return. This will detail subject allocation across each week and identify when young people are in school. We will endeavour to get this to you within the next few weeks as we plan around transports constraints.

The rationale behind this model is to allow us to engage and interact with young people on a daily basis while implementing strategies to reduce COVID-19. The model will let young people experience all of their subject areas as we resume their education within the school building. I strongly believe that daily contact will allow your child to quickly get back to their school routine.

Health & Safety

In relation to health and safety, our staff are currently setting up socially distanced classrooms using current 2 metre guidance. I am aware that this advice may change in the weeks ahead. Appropriate risk assessments have been carried out and detailed information will be sent to you soon.

Transport

A key challenge to the success of our proposed model is transport. Recently, I sent a survey request to families in receipt of school transport and I was overwhelmed by the number of people who said they would be willing, if necessary, to help transport their child to school. I understand that the proposed model may not make this possible for some families, however, any transport support would be greatly appreciated. We will be in touch during July to confirm transport arrangements and I thank everyone who is willing to help.

www.girvanacademy.sayr.sch.uk

Updates from Scottish Government

I am mindful that guidance and information provided by Scottish Government is frequently updated. This means that by August we may find ourselves in a very different position. Should any changes occur during the summer holiday period, I will continue to write to you with any updates to our planned return. Attached is a copy of the updated school holiday calendar for your planning for session 2020/21.

Finally, I would like thank you for your continued support during this most unusual time. I thank you for the support you have provided your children during lockdown and I am certain it is a time we will never forget.

If you require any further information or clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elaine Harrigan'.

Elaine Harrigan
Head Teacher