

Shetland Islands Council

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Anderson High School
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Our Ref: VN/ek/L200804a

04 August 2020

Dear AHS Parents/Carers

Anderson High School Arrangements for the return to school, Tuesday 11 - Friday 14 August 2020

1. Introduction

On Friday 31 July, Mrs Budge, the Director of Children's Services, wrote to inform you that the Scottish Government confirmed on Thursday 30 July that all Scottish schools will reopen full-time in August. Mrs Budge's letter explained that a number of measures will be in place to reduce the risk of transmission of Covid-19 and to support the health and safety of our school community as we return.

2. Phased return to school, Tuesday 11 – Friday 14 August 2020

Mrs Budge explained that given the length of time children and young people have been away from school, the fact that many children will be starting out in a new school, and the need to go over important safety procedures and arrangements, the local authority is planning a phased return to school.

3. Arrangements for Anderson High School

Monday 10 August 2020	Staff Return	This is also the Clinic Day for S5/6 pupils who wish to discuss SQA results/course choice with their Pupil Support Teacher. Appointments should be made in advance on 01505 808008.
Tuesday 11 August	S4, S5 and S6 pupils return	Older pupils, who are in a qualification year, will return to school first. Pupil Support Teachers will be able to give priority to S5/6 pupils who wish to discuss their SQA results/course choice.

Wednesday 12 August	S1 pupils return (S4/5/6 also attend)	S1 pupils are new to the school and will be met at the front door and directed to class. Health and safety information will be shared and reinforced throughout the day.
Thursday 13 August	S3 pupils return (S1 and S4/5/6 also attend)	Health and safety information will be shared and reinforced with S3 pupils.
Friday 14 August	S2 pupils return (all pupils are in school)	Health and safety information will be shared and reinforced with S2 pupils.

Pupils with complex additional support needs

Ms Michelle Grant's team will be contacting families to discuss with you the best arrangements to support your child's return to school.

4. What happens next?

I will write to you again at the start of next week, week commencing 10 August 2020, with further information about life at school this term.

In the meantime, if you have any queries about your child's resumption of full-time education in August please contact the school on 01595 808008. You can also leave a message for your Pupil Support Teacher.

5. Some questions answered

I have attached some key information about returning to school. Please can you talk this through with your child at home before they return to AHS.

If you have any general practical questions please let me know and I can try to include any relevant information in my letter to all parents/carers next week.

Thank you for your ongoing support. I am very much looking forward to our return to school next week.

Yours sincerely

Valerie M L Nicolson
Head Teacher

Return to Anderson High School – Information for Pupils

1.	What should I bring to school?	You should bring the minimum of personal possessions to school. As far as possible, keep your possessions with you. You will need your school bag, interval snack, and a packed lunch if you wish. You should not share your personal possessions with other pupils. You can bring your own hand sanitiser and tissues. Make sure you have your timetable , or a photo of it on your phone.
2.	Do I need to bring a mask/face covering?	We have been advised that face coverings are not required in school settings. However, anyone wishing to wear a mask/face covering in school can do so at any time.
3.	What happens when I arrive in school?	When you arrive in AHS, you will hand sanitise at the front door . You should make your way up to your Period 1 class, not gathering in the centre of the school. As the buses arrive at different times, your entrance to school will be naturally staggered.
4.	Jackets?	If you need to hang up a jacket, you must use the pegs for your year group: S1/2 - your pegs are on the ground floor, in lower dining S3/4 - your pegs are on the first floor, in upper dining S5 - your pegs are on the first floor, at Music Practice rooms S6 - your pegs are on the second floor. You may also use the S5 pegs.
5.	Lockers?	If you had a locker last year, you can automatically use this now and keep it for the year. S4-6 pupils will be offered lockers at the start of term. We encourage you to take these. Thereafter, all remaining lockers will be offered to younger year groups, as soon as we can. There will be no charge for lockers this session.
6.	What happens around the school corridors?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep left at all times. With our wide corridors and stair cases, keeping left will help keep us all safe.• Move clock-wise around the floors.• There are hand sanitiser stations around the school.• There are elbow hooks to help you open some of the corridor doors.
7.	What happens in class?	You will go to all the classes on your timetable. In each subject, your teacher will explain the health and safety rules for working in that department, and keeping you and your teacher safe.

8.	How is the school cleaned?	Our school is following all of the advice from the government and Shetland Islands Council. This includes more day cleaning around the school . Please help us by using the bins and keeping everything neat and tidy.
9.	What happens at interval time?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be staggering the start of morning interval - we will explain this when you get back to school. • Please bring your morning snack with you to school - there will be the opportunity to buy a snack but this will be limited. • Please stay with friends in your own year group. • Please go outside if the weather is dry.
10.	What happens at lunchtime?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be extending the stagger at the start of lunchtime. • We would encourage pupils to bring a packed lunch if at all possible. Do not share your lunch with anyone else. • A limited selection of lunch items will be available for purchase, of a packed lunch style. These will cost £2.60 consisting of either a sandwich/sausage roll or pasta salad, 2 side options, fruit and a bottle of water. Please bring the correct change. • We will explain where you can collect lunches from and where you can eat these when you return to school. • Again, please go outside whenever you can. Please stay with friends in your own year group. • A limited selection of lunchtime food may be available at the Halls of Residence.
11.	Pupil Support appointments during the school day?	Given the required social distancing, you will not be able to go into Room 0.07 to meet with Pupil Support Teachers . There is a desk outside the Pupil Support Room where you can make an appointment to see your Pupil Support Teacher. You should only come out of class to see Pupil Support when you have an appointment.
12.	What happens at the end of the day?	Pupil release from class will be staggered. Please do not leave any possessions in the school at the end of each day. Take all your jackets home.
13.	What about my school bus?	SIC school transport is operating its full normal service. If you have any queries contact SIC Transport on 01595 744886.

14.	I don't have good computer access at home. What can I do?	<p>If you do not have access to a computer at home to support your learning, please can you do one of the following:</p> <p>(a) tell a class teacher or your Pupil Support Teacher, and they will pass on this information to help support you, or</p> <p>(b) Parents/carers can email ahs@shetland.gov.uk and our office staff will pass on that information to help you.</p>
15.	I am feeling a bit worried about coming back to school.	<p>Lots of people will be feeling a bit anxious about coming into school. The staff at AHS are working hard to support you. All your subject teachers will be able to give you advice and Pupil Support Teachers will see you every week in PSE lessons and will listen to how things are going. Support for Learning Teachers and Learning Support Workers will be spending time with you if you have additional support needs.</p>
16.	How do I find out about Covid-19 testing?	<p>NHS Shetland has a Testing Scheme in place. Your family can find out more about this at https://www.healthyshetland.com/health-topics/news/uk-government-testing-scheme-up-and-running-in-shetland</p>