

Dear AHS Parents and Carers

## **AHS News, 07.05.2021**

I am writing to thank you for your ongoing support of the school, as we continue to work through this time of managing Covid-19, and to share some general school news with you.

### **Covid-19**

We continue to follow all the national health and safety advice for schools. With the exception of those with specific exemptions, pupils and staff wear face coverings around the school and in class. Nearly all pupils are remembering to bring their own face coverings every day. It is important that these are worn on school transport too. Hand sanitizer stations remain around the building. Everyone moves in a clockwise direction around the galleries. Period by period wiping of desks still takes place. Please do ask your child to collect the lateral flow test kits from the School Office.

### **Late coming and attendance**

Given the period of school closure, it is particularly important that we make the most of our time together this term. I would greatly appreciate your support in making sure your child arrives in school, ready for lessons, by 0850.

### **Reporting and Parents' Nights**

I am pleased that in spite of the period of school closure, we have been able to honour our full reporting cycle for the year, with all pupils receiving full and interim reports on time. I am also pleased that our four online Information Evenings (for S2, S3, S4 and P7) were well attended and enjoyed great feedback from those who were there. You can find all the slides from these evenings, as well as our new school video tour, on our website at [www.anderson.shetland.sch.uk](http://www.anderson.shetland.sch.uk) We are awaiting more information about when it will be appropriate to hold live parental events in school once more.

### **Spring Parental Workshops**

We will hold our Spring Parental Workshops again this year, using the online platform V Scene. You will receive a separate communication asking if you would like to join a discussion group, led by a Depute Head Teacher (Mr Redman, Mr Robertson or Mrs Scollay), to give you a chance to talk with us about our school improvement plan – last year and next.

### **SQA Qualifications this year**

Those of you who have younger children will maybe not be aware of the time S4 – 6 pupils, and school staff, are spending on the qualifications this term. Due to Covid-19, there are no national exams this May. AHS is following the SQA advice, with short assessments being held in subject classes, sometimes over several periods in the week. Teachers are judging when best to give assessments, waiting until the class is ready to give people their best opportunity. Teachers are working with colleagues across Shetland to quality assure the provisional grades, awarding these to pupils by the end of term. As you can imagine, this SQA process has to be a key focus for teachers in AHS at the moment, as we work together to support our young folk through this time.

### **Leavers and Staying On next year**

Pupils in S4, S5 and S6 who are now leaving school have to complete all their assessments first, and then an AHS Leavers' Form. Pupils in the current S4 and S5 who are staying on for S5 and S6 in session 2021-22 are continuing on their full timetable until Thursday 10 June 2021 inclusive.

### **Key dates ahead**

|                 |                                      |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Thursday 20 May | In Service Day                       |
| Friday 21 May   | Occasional Holiday                   |
| Monday 24 May   | Occasional Holiday                   |
| Friday 11 June  | In Service Day                       |
| Monday 14 June  | New timetable starts, for all pupils |
| Friday 25 June  | Last day of term                     |

The full term dates for 2021-22 are on our website at [www.anderson.shetland.sch.uk](http://www.anderson.shetland.sch.uk) and you can also catch our news by following us on facebook (just search Anderson High School Lerwick).

With best regards

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Head Teacher

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