



CULLODEN  
ACADEMY

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### **Questions received in connection with the re-opening of the school to all pupils from 15<sup>th</sup> March.**

At the end of my letter on 9<sup>th</sup> March, I promised to publish answers to questions emailed in about the re-opening. Please find the questions and answers below- I hope you find them useful.

**1. Will the canteen continue to use order forms, or will it go back to the way it operated before Christmas?**

From next Monday the canteen will go back to its previous way of working with pupils queuing- two metres apart- to select food.

**2. Do we have to wear uniform when we come back?** If you can find it and haven't outgrown it then we would love to see you in uniform. If that isn't the case, we'd love to see you anyway so put on something tidy/smart and make your way down on your allocated day.

**3. Do we have to wear face masks?** Yes- all pupils in S1-6 and all adults will have to wear a mask at all times when indoors- including in class- unless they have a medical exemption which the school have been notified about. We have set up the canteen area to allow for socially distanced eating so pupils will be able to take masks off there when seated in order to eat.

**4. Does each year group still have its own designated outdoor space?** Yes- these remain the same as last time so S1 are out the front in front of the PE changing rooms, S2 out the front in front of Modern Languages and Pupil Support, S3 are round the back of Modern Languages, beside the huts. S4 have been allocated the area beside Music and S5/6 have the quad area. Thankfully the weather forecast for next week is better than this week.

**5. Why can't I swap my group?** Groups have been set up to cater for class size and bus numbers and we believe we have the best balance possible to allow pupils to spend time with their usual teacher. We would have invited requests for changes if we had more time and if the plan was going to be in place for longer. As it is, you will have one Week A day and one Week B day and then hopefully all pupils will be back after Easter.

**6. What is happening after Easter?** We won't know for definite until the first week of the holidays but the wish of the Scottish Government and the plan that we are working to is that all pupils are back full-time after Easter.

**7. What is happening on the buses?** I haven't been advised whether or not Stagecoach will be marking which seats to use on the bus but the rule will be that school transport- like public transport- requires one metre social distancing and so pupils should sit in the window seat then aisle seat on alternative rows and that no-one should be sitting directly beside you.

**8. When will we find out about our SQA assessments?** As I have been saying since January, the time when you are working at home is only for initial course coverage. We need to get you into school and do some consolidation of your learning and study support before we believe you are ready to do yourself justice in assessments. These next two weeks are a bonus, but they don't change the plan that after Easter we will have 4 weeks of consolidation before the main assessments begin. There may be some practical subjects which assess sooner if your skills development is such that making you wait would be unhelpful, but the key thing is that you will always have plenty of advanced notice. You will receive a letter with details of when all these assessments will take place in the next two weeks.

**9. Do I have to do these COVID tests you mentioned?** No- the Scottish Government are very clear that they are voluntary, but they and we would strongly encourage you to use them. The more times where these tests encourage someone to isolate when they are positive but didn't know it because they didn't have any symptoms, the less times we have groups of 30 or more pupils at home self-isolating for 10 days.

Also, if you are in S1-3 they are not currently available to you though I believe they will be offered to all secondary school pupils after Easter.

**10. How do I get one of the COVID tests?** Firstly, a consent form must be completed- if you are at least in S4 and under 16 it must be completed by a Parent or Carer and returned to the school. They can be found in the Google PSE classrooms, completed and emailed in to [culloden.academy@highland.gov.uk](mailto:culloden.academy@highland.gov.uk) If you are 16 you can sign your own consent form. When we have the form, you can collect some kits- just ask at reception. We are very happy for pupils to call in individually to collect kits before their first day back but please avoid break and lunch time and do not use it as a reason to meet up with friends.

**11. Do I still need to register online on the days I am working from home in the next three weeks?** Yes please- we still have a legal duty to register all pupils and so this system remains in place until Easter.