



Head Teacher's Update 12th March 2021

Please find an important update regarding several aspects of St. Augustine's, including the plan for your child(ren) to return to the building.

Return of **some** learners on Monday 15th March

Please note that individual details have been emailed out to you this morning. Here is a summary for all learners:

Year	Days in school building	Timings
S1	Monday – full day	0840 – 1530
S2	Tuesday – full day	0840 – 1530
S3	Wednesday – full day	0840 – 1530
S4	Monday – Wednesday (afternoons only) Thursday – full day (note 0900 start) Friday morning	1300 – 1530 0900 – 1530 0900 – 1200
S5/6	Monday – Friday (mornings only)	0900 – 1200

All learners in the specified year group will follow the above days and timings. Those learners who are in the “mini” school currently will continue with their arrangements and join their relevant year group as appropriate, although they will attend in school uniform and finish at 3:30 each day.

With the increase of in school learning, please be aware that the provision of remote learning will be affected in these three weeks leading to the Easter holidays.

For BGE learners arriving in the morning, the building will be open from 0830 to allow a staggered feed into the relevant classrooms. For S5/6 learners, the building will be open from 0850 for similar reasons.

Health & Safety (H&S) Notice – please read

Please note that we welcome learners back into the school building but we need to follow H&S protocols which include:

- All individuals must always stay 2m apart.
- All individuals must always wear a face covering, except when eating. (this includes when in a classroom)
 - The usual individual exemptions will still apply

- Learners will spend any breaks/lunches outside. They may purchase a “grab and go” lunch from the canteen but will eat outside. If there is inclement weather, then we will make other arrangements.
- Windows will be open in classrooms and we ask that learners continue to dress appropriately with warm jumpers as outdoor coats will be removed.
- We will continue to ask learners to wipe down their work station after they leave.

These are strict guidelines which staff and students must follow. We appreciate your support in communicating how important it is to adhere to these and follow staff's instructions.

Uniform/Equipment

Please note that we ask all learners to wear school uniform and bring their own equipment to school, including their school iPad where one has been issued (fully charged). That said, please do not worry if your child does not have the correct clothing the most important point is to have them return to the building and in school learning.

Health & Well Being

Please see the following sway presentation from Mrs Macdonald our Health and Well Being Development Officer (follow the link):



Family Focus: Supporting our Wellbeing

Building on the 'Motivational Mornings' we have been running on Teams for pupils, this is the first of our Family Focus Resources that we have put together to give you some information, tip...

[Go to this Sway](#)

March to Tokyo

Results in so far for our March to Tokyo:

620,885 steps – approx. 497km which is just shy of London.

David House coming out on top this week – they did more than the other two houses put together so a sterling effort!

If you wish to be involved, count your steps and let Mrs Macdonald know.

Morning Check-ins

Mrs Macdonald, our Health and Wellbeing Development Officer, has set up a daily “check-in” for all learners! Every morning from 0845 – 0915.

Please access the “**STA Auggies Wellbeing 2020**” team which has all these activities and resources to support learners across a variety of different themes. In addition, you can follow **@StahsWellbeing** on Twitter.



If you have any concerns/issues or would like to talk to someone about your wellbeing, please contact Mrs. Macdonald: Julie.Macdonald@st-augustines.edin.sch.uk

S5/6 Parent Consultation

Another successful parent consultation took place last night. We will be asking feedback from parents/carers to gather your views for future implementation. Thank you for your support in this.

Remote Learning

We continue to deliver remote learning for all our learners following the guidelines from the authority, which can be found [here](#). We encourage our young people to engage with the material as much as possible and seek support if they need it. Please find support in using “Teams” [here](#). This week, Monday 15th March – Friday 19th March is **Week B**.

SQA Updates

Please find an update from the SQA [here](#); we texted this link yesterday. The SQA have a blog and you may find this [post](#) informative.

Formal Assessments for Seniors

Please be aware that after the Easter holidays, seniors will have opportunities to undertake formal assessments during class time. These formal assessments will be in line with the assessment tools the SQA use for the relevant subject, although an adapted version. We will organise a calendar to ensure that your child does not have more than two assessments in one day and give you as much notice as possible regarding these dates.

In the meantime, seniors must engage with staff to complete all tasks set to the best of their ability. If there are any issues or questions, please ask the relevant member of staff, we are only too pleased to help.

Junior Engagement Reports

We will not send a junior engagement report next week. The reason is: we want to focus on continuing to give high quality learning and teaching experiences, especially with the return of learners to the building next week.

Term Session Dates for 2022/23 and beyond (repeat notice)

The authority has prepared a survey about the timing of school holidays over the next three years. Parents and staff groups have contributed to the wording of the questions. The survey should only take a few minutes to complete.

The link to the survey is: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/schsd2022>

Dates for your diary (repeat notice)

Please find below key dates from this week until the last day of the Summer term. We will keep to these dates and may add to the calendar depending on what the Scottish Government dictates in response to the pandemic. For example, we know two more inset days are planned for staff, we just don't know when.

S3 Reports to Parents/Carers	Tues 30 th March
Easter Holidays	2 nd – 19 th April (inclusive)
Bank Holiday	Mon 3 rd May
Inset day – Staff only	Tues 4 th May
S2 Report to Parents/Carers	Fri 14 th May
Bank Holiday	Mon 24 th May
Parent Council Meeting	Thurs 3 rd June 6pm (tbc)
S1 Report to Parents/Carers	Fri 18 th June
End of Term	Fri 25 th June

A message from St. Margaret's Parent Council (one of our Cluster Primary Schools) (repeat notice):



A moment of reflection –
(courtesy of the RE faculty)

“And everything I’ve taught you is so that the peace which is in me will be in you and will give you great confidence as you rest in me. For in this unbelieving world you will experience trouble and sorrows, but you must be courageous, for I have conquered the world.”

John 16:33

May God keep you and your loved ones healthy and safe.