



Executive Director of
Education
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Beyond U – Secondary Parent and Carer letter – August 2021

Thursday 12 August 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

Back to Secondary school arrangements – August 2021

During the last 18 months I've promised to keep families updated on the Scottish Government's advice and guidance for schools and nurseries to help manage the spread of the virus.

I'm delighted to welcome back our children and young people to schools and nurseries as the country moves to Beyond 0 level of restrictions from Monday 9 August and the removal of many of the restrictions that we have all been living with during the pandemic.

However, the Scottish Government has decided to keep in place most of the restrictions that have been in place in our schools and nurseries for up to six weeks of the new term.

We are now in a much more positive place and although some of the restrictions will remain for a few weeks, I'm sure you will agree that it's good news that whole classes will not routinely be asked to self-isolate if someone in the class tests positive for COVID-19.

I'm also pleased to say that the restrictions on drama, PE, music and dance can now be removed and this will be welcomed by our young people.

This will result in less disruption to both families and our staff and of course benefit your child's continued learning.

The Scottish Government advice retains the use of face coverings for all 12 years and over in certain indoor settings including schools. They should always be worn indoors by staff and pupils. This will be the case for up to six weeks.

For your information, I've attached a letter from the Director of Public Health which gives clear advice on what families need to do if their child test positive or their child is identified as having prolonged contact with someone who's tested positive for the virus.

This includes a link to the location of testing centres across the city where you will be able to get a PCR test for your child if they are contacted as a very close contact. A negative PCR test will allow your child to return to school without the need for the 10-day self-isolation.

One of the major changes is that our schools and nurseries will no longer be involved in contact tracing and this will all be done via Test and Protect.

This has been an extremely tough and challenging year and I would once again like to take the opportunity to thank you and your family for your resilience and support as we've navigated through this time.

It is now time to for our schools and nurseries to do what they do best and continue to support Glasgow's children, young people and their families as we reconnect and recover from the pandemic and look forward to a much brighter future together.

You can read the full, updated Scottish Government guidance at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-reducing-the-risks-in-schools/pages/overview/>

Yours sincerely

MAUREEN McKENNA
Executive Director of Education Services