



Castle Douglas High School
Dunmuir Road
Castle Douglas
DG7 1LQ

Tel./Fax: 01556 502821

Head Teacher: Mr J Smith

22nd June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

The following might not happen as circumstances may change to alter these plans, however, I have had to plan the return to school based on what we know at this time.

I am sure you will be interested to have an update on the plans that are being put in place to ensure that young people can return to school on August 12th. In school there has been a great deal of planning work happening, firstly to ensure that the school building is Covid19 safe for staff to use during the month of June and then to work out how we can have pupils in school while maintaining the required social distancing rules.

The Covid19 capacity of the school for young people working in classrooms means that we can accommodate approximately 250 pupils at any one time. This is roughly half the school roll, therefore, we have had to work out a plan that will allow us to offer every pupil as much face to face teacher contact as possible while maintaining the safe environment.

Draft Rationale Plan

In response to the Scottish Government publication 'A Strategic Framework for Reopening Schools, Early Learning and Childcare provision in Scotland' this draft plan has been developed by Castle Douglas High School. The contents of this plan are draft and will remain draft so that the plan can be updated in response to further guidance as it is released by the Scottish Government and Dumfries and Galloway Council.

Proposal to allow pupils to start back at school on August 12th while maintaining social distancing.

The school pupil roll will be split into two groups. This split will be done by surname; however, care will be taken to ensure that pupils from the same household with different surnames remain in the same group.

The week will be split into a 3:2 split. See the model on the last page.

Week A

Surnames A-J will be in school Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Surnames K-Z will be in school Thursday and Friday.

Week B

Surnames K-Z will be in school Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Surnames A-J will be in school Thursday and Friday.

The different sections will be surnames A-J and K-Z and if there is no change to government policy then the first term to October will look like the following.

	Week Beginning 17 th Aug		Week Beginning 24 th Aug		Week Beginning 31 st Aug		Week Beginning 7 th Sept		Week Beginning 14 th Sept		Week Beginning 21 st Sept		Week Beginning 28 th Sept		Week Beginning 5 th Oct	
No of Days	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
Surname Group	AJ	KZ	KZ	AJ	AJ	KZ	KZ	AJ	AJ	KZ	KZ	AJ	AJ	KZ	KZ	AJ

The school timetable will run as 'normal' with pupils attending for a full 5 days over a 2 week period. There may be changes to who is in some classes as there have been times where a simple alphabetic split of a class has been unbalanced, however, this will be explained to pupils when they are given updated timetables.

When pupils are not in school they will continue with work set by their teachers during their in school days in preparation for their next teacher contact class. As we are operating on a full model of teaching there will be no provision for digital learning. *This could be reviewed depending on the number of pupils who attend school.* Identifying pupils by 'surname' in this way ensures that siblings and pupils living at the same address will be accommodated within the same 'bubble'.

This model also has the potential to be scaled up or scaled back with minimum disruption should there be a further peak or should there be further relaxation of restrictions.


In addition to this, for some pupils, we will be able to offer a little extra time in school. This could be for many different reasons, but the underlying rationale is so that we can provide for young people who may require some additional support settling back into the school environment and structured routines after such a long spell in isolation.

Currently the school has been set up to accommodate pupils while following the 2m social distancing rules. It is very important that you start now to reinforce with your child the expectation that they will keep this 2m social distance when in school. It is also important that you start to reinforce that young people will not be permitted to leave the school premises at interval or at lunch time. Further information about whether there will be a catering provision in school or whether pupils will have to bring packed lunches will follow.

Pupils will begin to return to school on Wednesday 12th August, however, the 12th, 13th and 14th will be used as induction days to provide pupils with the information they will need in order that Covid19 safety can be maintained in the building. Further information about these days will be issued before the end of terms but it is likely that pupils will only be in school for part of each day.

I hope this helps to allow you to see how pupils will be able to return to school in August based on the current restrictions. If those restrictions change then we will alter our plans to accommodate the new guidance and be in contact to share that with parents.

Yours sincerely



J Smith
Head Teacher



CASTLE DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL
Proposed Structure for August 2020 (DRAFT)



	LONG WEEK			SHORT WEEK	
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week A	Surnames A – J			Surnames K – Z	
Week B	Surnames K – Z			Surnames A – J	

Points to note:

Normal timetable will run Monday to Friday.

Over a two week period pupils will have the opportunity to have experienced a full week in school, with a week of working at home.

Across the fortnight pupils will have experienced their existing Monday to Friday timetable.

Pupils have been identified by 'surname' to allow siblings to be accommodated within the same 'bubble'.

Gives staff and pupils some form of 'consistency' in terms of we know what the timetable is and what is expected.