



Milne's High School

Education, Communities & Organisational Development

West Street, Fochabers, Moray, IV32 7DJ

Telephone: 01343 820611

Email: admin.milneshigh@moray-edunet.gov.uk

www.milneshighschool.org.uk



20 March 2020

Dear Parent

Thank you for your patience, understanding and support with us at a time of unprecedented challenge in dealing with Covid-19.

As you know, schools and Early Years and Childcare settings will close to pupils as of end of day on Friday 20 March. There is no clear indication at this time regarding the length of time the closure will extend to, however, we will use the following methods to keep you updated and informed.

- Individual school websites and communication methods
- Moray Council Website <http://www.moray.gov.uk>
- Moray Council Twitter page: @TheMorayCouncil
- Moray Council Facebook page

For Milne's High School we are also making home learning information available in several ways. First of all, our website will have a section on Home Learning which has links for general education and subject specific work. Pupils will be required to take greater responsibility for their learning and our website has some links that you may find useful to help support their education at home.

Over the past few weeks, staff have undergone training on using GLOW as a main communication method we will use with pupils during this period of school closure. This is a portal provided by the Scottish Government and has the required security levels. Staff have been trying to ensure that all pupils have an understanding of this system and know their password. Please email the admin address (admin.milneshigh@moray-edunet.gov.uk) and we can help should there be any issues in accessing GLOW. We will endeavour to put materials on Showmyhomework and parents do not need passwords as this can be accessed through the main Showmyhomework website. Please be aware that staff will be available for limited periods to check these portals and may not be in a position to respond immediately to requests.

Our Principal Teachers of Guidance and Principal Teacher of ASN will endeavour to check in with families and respond to any concerns raised by staff or parents through the admin email.

We have contacted all parents who do not have email access at home and have made arrangements to provide materials for home learning.

Please continue to let us know of issues on the admin email which will be checked during the school days of term time and the school office will be open next week. Any updates will be made through the website and you will receive an email. It is worth reminding friends to check their settings as some email accounts filter out the school correspondence as it is from an organisation.

The Depute First Minister has confirmed today that the SQA exam diet and examinations will not go ahead. Schools will be making arrangements for coursework, assessment and units to be completed.

Schools will be shut to pupils next week however we will continue to be open for staff. We are constantly learning from other countries and would advise you that children and young people should avoid small group gatherings which will increase the spread of the virus. Your support with this is appreciated as we take all necessary steps to avoid such events happening.

It is vitally important that Friday 20 March 2020 remains a normal school day in every sense.

Planning is currently underway to support families who receive Free School Meals. We will contact families to find out your requirements for next week. Arrangements for Monday 13 April 2020 onwards will be communicated to you separately.

We are also planning for childcare arrangements for key workers and will be in touch regarding this as national advice develops. **In the meantime, it would be helpful for information gathering purposes if parents who would class themselves as key workers notify the school office by phone or email so that we can assess the need in our community.**

Please be assured of our continued attention and we hope that all our families remain safe and well during these challenging times.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Cameron', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mrs T Cameron
Head Teacher