

S1 Transition Virtual Meeting - Response to Questions

Information Availability

Will slides be available after the meeting to view?

PowerPoint slides will be uploaded to the Transition section of the school website.

How will we receive packs?

Packs will be posted and will contain whole-school information as well as our Contingency Plans should we need them in the future.

PSD Telephone contact

Would have been nice to speak to someone rather than a text telling me what class my child is in.

For those who got a text, instead of a call, when will we get a call?

Are there still some outstanding texts of emails about PSD classes/teachers?

The S1 PSD Team has contacted **all** pupils using the contact information they had available. Unfortunately they were not always successful in gaining a response and messages were left where possible. Many of these calls were made from home and would have appeared as No Caller ID. Whilst we appreciate it is frustrating that calls may have been missed, our PSD Team continue to make every effort to make contact where needed. A small number of people were contacted by text if we had been unsuccessful in reaching you. Further attempts will be made to contact you to speak to your child before the end of term. Whilst we understand it is frustrating that pupils may have missed their call, we really did try our best to ensure pupils were aware of their class and PSD teacher.

If pupils are still unsure of their PSD teacher and class please send an email with the name of the pupil to pupilsupportstmodans@stilring.gov.uk and we will respond with class and PSD teacher.

We look forward to meeting all pupils in August.

Transport

If the return to school is full time, they'll need their bus passes. Will these be sent out during the holidays? Or better still, as we don't know yet, I assume they will be sent out anyway?

I had previously said I would drive my son to school when we was asked to help minimise the numbers on the buses but if they return to 5 days will be issued a bus pass/place on the bus automatically?

Local Authorities are responsible for all transport arrangements. Bus passes will be distributed during the summer holidays for all pupils who are entitled to a bus pass. Contingency plans will only be put in place should Government guidelines require social distancing on school transport. Any further questions regarding school transport will need to be directed to the bus companies.

Learning

How will you manage deadlines for learning etc? Recognising that some young people, when learning from home, may not be able to do so, or may have limited access to support or wifi (eg grandparents house). Will there be allowances for this when work is not completed.

There are lots of reasons behind different levels of engagement with online learning during this period and it is very important that young people are not disadvantaged because they have been unable to do so or will continue to find this challenging. Stirling Council are continuing to support families who may not have access to ICT equipment and we, as a school, have been able to provide MiFi to some families who have not had access to WiFi. Our teachers are very skilled in managing the needs of all learners and differentiating learning and activities according to individual need. All our staff are fully understanding of the many challenges that our families may have and will support pupils to progress with their learning. We would encourage your child to communicate with staff if a piece of work is causing difficulty or a deadline is unable to be met. Your child's PSD Teacher will also be happy to support your child to liaise with their teachers.

Great to hear children having computing and learning the digital skills to enable them to access digital learning. Will there be any additional digital support for children with asn, such as dyslexia? Will the chrome book have specific apps or assistive technology?

Our PT ASN and PT PSD have met and communicated with all primaries through lockdown to gather information for each pupil with additional support needs. Information is provided to all staff for all pupils and staff will be aware of the needs of each pupil and will be provided with relevant support strategies. This will include pupils with Dyslexia.

Chromebooks will be provided to all new S1 pupils. Pupils will have access to Read and Write Gold and other relevant Apps to support their learning.

Contingency Plan - Timetable/School Week

Will friendship groups be taken into consideration when splitting into groups A and B in order to make them less anxious?

We completely understand the anxiety and concern that will exist around friendship groups being split across the A and B groupings and would love to be able to take this into consideration. However, it is just not possible when we are having to prioritise siblings, buses and option choices. Each class across the school needs to remain at or below capacity and any movement can have a knock on effect across the board. We will be working very hard to support our young people to cope with the challenges of the situation that we face and will support them to develop the resilience to cope with this. We need to remind them that this is for a very short time and that they have already shown a great deal of strength when dealing with the uncertainty and isolation of lockdown.