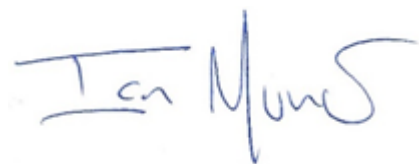


Dear Parents and Guardians

I hope my note finds you well. Whilst this term's switch to remote learning brought challenge, we also saw much creativity and innovation across the whole Dollar community. There will be a need, I am sure, for continued agility of thought and collaboration as Scotland progresses out of lockdown. This will be true with regards to the reopening of the school campus and I thank you for your support in advance.

The following update deals primarily with the reopening, as well as arrangements for the last week of term and other important matters.

Kindest regards



Ian Munro  
Rector

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### **RECTOR'S UPDATE. FRIDAY 19 JUNE 2020**

- Return to school
- Last week of term: Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 June
- Book Return
- SQA Update
- FVI Modules
- Top Six
- Rugby and Hockey
- Duke of Edinburgh Award

### **Return to school**

It is with great enthusiasm that we look forward to welcoming pupils back to campus on 20 August. We have split this section of the update into four subheadings: Health and

Safety, Curriculum, Transport and Uniform. Due to the fluid nature of the current circumstances we can comment on these areas with varying levels of confidence.

For example, the Health and Safety measures we have put in will be applicable across all possible scenarios, where as our approach to Curriculum and Transport will be governed by whatever physical distancing guidance is in place come the start of the new session.

## Health and Safety

The Health and Safety Guidance, for the planned safe return of pupils to our campus, in August, can be found [here](#).

We hope that this guidance gives reassurance that due consideration of all the Health and Safety implications is at the heart of our decision-making process. Please also note that this 'checklist' is based on *current* Scot Gov guidelines for the reopening of schools, which can be found here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-re-opening-schools-guide/pages/overview/>. It will be adapted accordingly, as and when Scot Gov advice changes and evolves.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the members of Dollar Academy's Parent Association that have been involved in contributing to this guidance.

We will be writing to families of **boarders**, next week, with further information about arrangements for their safe return to school, and, for our international arrivals, the arrangements that we are putting in place to help with any quarantine period.

## Curriculum

We are committed to welcoming back to campus as many pupils as possible in August. Much work has been undertaken in recent weeks to plan for a range of scenarios, a high-level overview of this is presented in the table below for your information.

Option	Physical Distancing	Prep and Juniors	Senior School
A	1m	All pupils return to campus	All pupils return to campus

<b>B</b>	1.5m	All pupils return to campus	All pupils return to campus, but with possible structural adaptations to the curriculum and inventive use of resources including the school estate
<b>C</b>	2m	All pupils return to campus	Pupils return to campus, but there is some requirement for phasing/rotation, supported by remote learning.

We will monitor things closely throughout the summer and provide updates as appropriate. We hope to be able to finalise our curriculum plan at the start of August by the latest, but we obviously must be cognisant of Scot Gov direction.

The Scottish Government have been clear in their determination to see as many children as possible return to school safely come August, and we will continue to explore all possibilities to ensure that we maximise the number of pupils on campus should 2m physical distancing guidance remain in place. For example, marquees will be erected on-site over the summer to provide flexible teaching space and other temporary structures are being explored.

### **Transport**

Looking to the start of next session, we wish to gauge how pupils might make use of the school bus network if physical distancing regulations remain in place.

Current guidance suggests that buses and coaches may only be able to operate at 50% of their normal capacity. Although this may change by the time term starts, we need to understand the likely demand to make the start of term as safe as possible for everyone.

To assist with that planning, please could you indicate your intentions for travel in the Autumn term [here](#).

### **Uniform**

Dollar pupils will be expected to wear regulation school uniform with the exception being on days of the week when they have PE (or co-curricular sport). On these days, to avoid the potential congestion of changing rooms, pupils should wear Dollar PE kit to, during and from school. All pupils in J1 – F2 should have a Dollar Academy tracksuit. Pupils in older year groups who do not own, or do not wish to purchase a tracksuit **must** wear plain navy or black tracksuit bottoms, or leggings, while travelling or during the school day. An additional white or quint top and trainers, together with a lightweight navy or black waterproof would be advisable.

Blazers remain an essential part of the Dollar school uniform but will be optional during the first 4 weeks of term.

### Prep and Junior School

As for the senior school, with children wearing PE kit on PE days. Pupils should ensure they have waterproof tops and bottoms and suitable footwear eg wellies. Children in P1 – P3 will not be required to wear blazers or ties during the first four weeks of term and for all other year groups blazers will be optional during this period.

These guidelines are subject to change as more information becomes available.

### **Last week of term: Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 June**

The programme with timetable, explanations and all the links you and your children will need to access the activities on offer now that class teaching has finished for the term can be found [here](#). There are whole school activities suitable for children at every level, besides events intended for particular year groups.

### **Book Return**

Next week, from 22 – 24 June, there will be an opportunity for pupils in Form IV, V and VI, plus leavers in any year group, to return any textbooks and/or school resources that they will no longer require. A book drop 'trailer' will be placed in front of the Playfair building on the south side of the main steps (it will be clearly signposted). Whilst we want to encourage all pupils and their families to follow current guidelines (and not travel more than 5 miles), we would appreciate those that do live in the vicinity and can travel to the academy safely, to do so to return their books and resources. Please be reassured that a simple non-contact drop has been arranged and will be accessible between 9am and 5pm. Your efforts in this regard will be a great help to Heads of Department as they take a stock of the text-books and resources required for the next academic session.

Of course, any families unable to return books next week, will be able to do so in August.

The return of books and resources is particularly relevant for Form VI pupils.

Please note, it is important that pupils do not use this as an excuse to gather in groups, in the school grounds and pupils should not attempt to enter any school buildings. Should any pupils meet inadvertently whilst returning books, they will be expected to observe current social distancing guidelines at all times.

### **SQA Update**

The SQA announced this week that in the very near future, they hope to be able to publish further guidance about the appeals procedure. To date this advice has not materialised but as it will bear no resemblance to the historical Post Results Service, our arrangements around Results Day 2020 will necessarily be different. Members of the Senior Staff Group will be in school during the week beginning Monday 3 August as normal to answer any pupil or parental queries. A separate update will be sent closer to Results Day (Tuesday 4 August) to confirm arrangements.

### **Form VI Modules (2020-21)**

Enrichment of the Dollar curriculum is an important part of the school's offering particularly in Form VI. With everything from Italian to Fashion & Textile design and from Practical Craft Skills to Robotics on offer, there is sure to be something for everyone. Details of the module offering for next session will be available from the school website from next week:

<https://www.dollaracademy.org.uk/academic/curriculum>

### **Top 6**

I am pleased to announce the following Top 6 appointments have been made for next session:

<b>Head Girl</b>	Sarah Coutts
<b>Head Boy</b>	Jacob Timney
<b>Deputy Head Girls</b>	Emma Leslie
	Rachel Leslie
<b>Deputy Head Boys</b>	Robert Hawkins
	Ben Salmon

I know you will join me in wishing them well in their new roles.

### **Rugby and Hockey**

We are delighted to announce that Rugby and Hockey will be running a conditioning and skills camp the week beginning the 10 August. All year groups and players will be given the opportunity to attend.

Timetables will be issued on Wednesday 24 June with further details sent nearer the time. All sessions will follow the national governing body guidelines for that current phase. Conditioning work will continue to be issued throughout the summer holiday period via 'Sportstrain'

### **Duke of Edinburgh Award**

An important update *can be accessed* [here](#). Should you have any further questions on any part of the Award, please ask Mr Johns via email: [dofe@dollaracademy.org.uk](mailto:dofe@dollaracademy.org.uk)

**UPDATE ENDS**