



1 January 2021

Good afternoon

This message outlines the arrangements which will be in place in Glenlola Collegiate next week (4-8 Jan), and for the rest of January, in response to the Education Minister's most recent announcement and further details provided to schools yesterday afternoon.

The link to the Minister's announcement is:

<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/news/weir-announces-changes-schools-reopening-arrangements>



### [Weir announces changes to schools` reopening arrangements](#) [| Department of Education](#)

Weir announces changes to schools` reopening arrangements 31 December 2020; Statement from the Education Minister to the Ad Hoc Committee 21 December 2020; New measures to support children with Special Educational Needs 18 December 2020; Schools to return in January - Weir 18 December 2020  
[www.education-ni.gov.uk](http://www.education-ni.gov.uk)

### **Arrangements in GCS will be as follows:**

#### **Next week (4th-8th January):**

- Monday 4th will be used by teachers as a preparation day, so remote teaching/learning will begin on 5th January.
- All pupils will work remotely from home using Google Classroom.
- The Minister's announcement allows for flexibility regarding pupils who have external examinations. *Therefore, the Mathematics Department may, where appropriate, make arrangements with **relevant** Year 12 pupils via Google Classroom to come into school in order to prepare fully for their January examination.*
- Vulnerable children and the children of key workers will be accommodated in school during this week.
- **ALL PERSONS ON THE SCHOOL CAMPUS MUST WEAR FACE COVERINGS AT ALL TIMES** (exemptions due to medical and other exceptional circumstances which have already been agreed will still apply).

**The remainder of January (from Monday 11th):**

- **STAFF AND PUPILS MUST WEAR FACE COVERINGS AT ALL TIMES AND IN ALL SETTINGS, INCLUDING IN THE CLASSROOM** (exemptions due to medical and other exceptional circumstances which have already been agreed will still apply).
- Pupils in Y8-11 will continue to learn remotely from home.
- Pupils in Y11 taking Single Award Science will be contacted via Google Classroom regarding arrangements for the external examination in February.
- Vulnerable children and the children of key workers in Years 8-11 will be accommodated in school during this period.
- Pupils in Y12, 13 & 14 will return to school and resume lessons.

We expected that January would be a very challenging month and we must now respond by complying fully with the guidelines. I am confident that we will all continue to work together for the good of all. Better days are in sight.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

WE Thompson  
Headmaster



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