



**Education Resources**  
Executive Director **Tony McDaid**  
Head Teacher **Richard McGowan**  
**Lesmahagow High School**

**If calling ask for:** Barbara Lee  
**Phone:** 01555 896010  
**Date:** 12 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to provide further clarification regarding the arrangements for this term in light of the First Minister's decision to move to a new lockdown situation across the country.

Schools and early learning establishments will be open from Monday, 11 January until 1 February 2021 for children of key workers and very vulnerable families only. For all other children, there will be access to online learning from home. It is important to be clear that there will be no difference between the 'at home' learning offer and the 'in school' learning offer. Pupils will access the same materials and learning experiences remotely as those who are on site.

Our learning at home documents have been emailed to all pupils and parents and are displayed on the school website at: <https://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/working-at-home/> Should you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning, please contact the relevant Pupil Support teacher. Contact details for all members of the Extended Leadership Team can be found on the school website at: <https://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/contact-us/>

### **Children of keyworkers**

Keyworker parents who meet the criteria set out by the Scottish Government can apply to have their children attend at school to allow them to continue their work supporting communities to overcome the effects of the pandemic. Parents have been issued with forms that they can complete and return to school if they wish to apply for keyworker placements. Each request will be considered in relation to the guidelines set out by the Government on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and parents will be informed as soon as possible if the request has been agreed.

### **Vulnerable Children**

A very small number of children have circumstances that mean that some in-school support may be required to support their health and wellbeing. The Scottish Government's position is that those who work directly with children and young people are best placed to identify those who would benefit from such support. In the case of schools, this is the Head Teacher in consultation with school staff. It is important to be aware that our duty of care to our most vulnerable children, must be balanced carefully with the need to reduce social contact to prevent the spread of the virus between households and across society.

This is an evolving situation and an assessment of the level of need within a family can change. Head Teachers and senior school staff have already identified those children that they deem vulnerable and schools will periodically reconsider priority families based on information from other agencies and that arising from continuing, direct engagement with families.

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I hope this information helps to provide clarification and I look forward to working with you in the New Year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate in contacting the school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

*Barbara A. Lee*

Barbara Lee  
Acting Head Teacher

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