



NBHS WEEKLY UPDATE

Friday 26 June 2020

HMI Report

It was such a pleasure to share our HMI Report with you on Tuesday this week. I do hope that you will manage to find the time to read the full Summarised Inspection Findings at some point over the summer if you haven't done so already. It is testament to the great work that goes on in our school every day. I have been overwhelmed with messages of congratulations to the school this week: they have come via email, phone calls, Twitter, Facebook, Whatsapp – and from as far afield as Canada and New Zealand. What has been lovely is how sincere the messages are: people are genuinely pleased for our school community. Though it seemed such a long time to wait for the publication of the report, it has actually been a joyful thing to celebrate in this last week of what has been such an unusual and challenging session.

Lockdown Wellbeing Challenges

Pupils and staff have undertaken a number of wellbeing challenges during the lockdown period and we have sent a video of our efforts to their google classrooms. They have worked so hard over the last few months and have clearly been looking after their physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. We hope they enjoy the video and have a great summer holiday. And a huge thanks to Mr Macdonald for pulling it all together!

August Return

Today, you will have received a letter about our planned return in August explaining how we are taking account of Scottish Government guidance and planning for different eventualities. The letter will also be on our website. It contains important information about our Plan B, should school not be able to return at full capacity in August due to COVID-19 restrictions. We sincerely hope that we can put our Plan A in place, though.

Our pupils, families and community have faced huge challenges over recent months, and in August staff and pupils need to take time to reconnect with each other. To support this, nurture will be a focus on our return: wellbeing and relationships will be central to all that we do. More detail is available [here](#) for those who wish to further explore how schools can fully embrace nurturing principles. Parents and carers have already been sent information on nurture by the East Lothian educational psychology service; this information is also on the school website in the Remote Learning section.

Dress Code

A reminder that when we return in August, our usual Dress Code policy will still apply. You can find the Dress Code on the school website. However, we recognise the need to be flexible in our approach to the Dress Code, given the challenges many families currently face. We hope, though, that our pupils will feel proud and happy to put on their school clothes once more when they return to school in August. For our new S1 pupils, they will be able to purchase school ties via the SchoolPay

system (link can be found on the school website). Our P7-S1 video presentation provides further information on this, as well as on other aspects of school life which parents and carers who are new to the school will find useful. This presentation is on the school website.

Free School Meals and Clothing Grants

Many family circumstances have changed as a result of Covid-19 and some families may now be eligible for Free School Meals and/or a Clothing Grant. If you think this may apply to you, please visit the [Free School Meals and Clothing Grants](#) area of the East Lothian Council website for further information. East Lothian Council now has an online application form [here](#), although paper copies are available if required. If you would like some help completing this form please contact your child's Guidance teacher when school resumes. They will be happy to help you.

Course Choice Changes in August

In light of the uncertainty regarding social distancing in August, we will be using an online form for senior phase pupils to submit requests to change course. We will issue the link to this in August, and will process all the requests after the deadline for submissions, which will probably be Friday 14 August.

Careers Information

We are Mick Burns and Jennifer Jones and we provide career support from Skills Development Scotland to pupils at North Berwick High School. We hope you and your family are keeping safe and well during this pandemic.

During this time, like pupils, Career Advisers are unable to attend school, but we continue working from home, for us this is likely to be until at least October.

With this in mind Skills Development Scotland still want to support pupils to develop their Career Management Skills to help them make career decisions that are right for them, as they move through school and eventually leave.

We may be contacting your young person in the senior part of the school between now and October (including the summer holiday) to discuss their plans for the year ahead although you or your young person can also contact us at a time that suits you by calling our local Musselburgh office on 0131 665 3120. Alternatively, you can contact us directly as follows:

Thank you for your time and we look forward to working with your young person in the year ahead,

Mick Burns Careers Adviser

Email: mick.burns@sds.co.uk

Mobile: 07887 831454

Jennifer Jones Careers Adviser

Email: jennifer.jones@sds.co.uk

Mobile: 07887 831389

UCAS UPCOMING EVENTS

<https://www.edubuzz.org/careers/2020/06/23/ucas-upcoming-events/>

STANDARD LIFE ABERDEEN'S TRAINEESHIP 2020 – EDINBURGH

<https://www.edubuzz.org/careers/2020/06/23/standard-life-aberdeens-traineeship-2020-edinburgh/>

COVID-19 JOBS AND SUPPORT

<https://www.edubuzz.org/careers/2020/04/14/covid-19-jobs-and-support/>

Employer websites for vacancy searching

<https://www.edubuzz.org/careers/2019/01/11/employer-resources/>

Open University in Scotland Upskilling Modules

<https://www.edubuzz.org/careers/2020/06/24/open-university-in-scotland-upskilling-modules/>

Heriot-Watt Open Days

<https://www.edubuzz.org/careers/2020/06/26/heriot-watt-virtual-open-day/>

Links to most of our resources and talks can be found at: [edubuzz.org/careers](https://www.edubuzz.org/careers) and we will update these over the summer.

Piano – free to a good home

Upright Danemann piano, free to a good home for anyone who can come and collect it. Piano in full working order and still in tune, although there are one or two scratches in place. Comes with piano stool that also stores music if needed. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. We live in North Berwick, near the High School. Email: emilyjordan06@gmail.com

Communication

Just a reminder that if you wish to contact school you can email us at the address below, or contact your child's guidance teacher directly. During the summer break, we will be monitoring the communications email inbox, though not on a daily basis. We will also update you with any important information that comes in over the summer regarding the re-opening of school in August.

communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk

And finally...

To everyone in our school community – pupils, parents, carers, wider families, staff, partners – thank you so much for everything that you do throughout the year to support and enhance the life of North Berwick High School. Now, it's time for us all to take a very well-earned rest from school work for six weeks. I wish you all a very happy, relaxing and safe summer break. Enjoy the holiday!

Lauren Rodger
#proudheidie