



NBHS WEEKLY UPDATE

Friday 5 June 2020

EAST LOTHIAN PRESS RELEASE – 4 June 2020

Update on Children's Hubs and teachers' return to schools

Following the announcement from the First Minister last week (28 May 2020) that Scotland has entered Phase 1 of its recovery route map, East Lothian Council has issued an update on what this means for its Children's Hubs and schools. More details will be published in the coming weeks as further information is made available by the national Education Recovery Group.

Chief Operating Officer for Education Lesley Brown said: "Our Hubs were welcomed by the families who have been eligible for this provision. It has allowed our keyworkers to continue with their essential roles and provided stability and support for their children while they do so. As our staff return to schools we must look at how we can combine the requirements to continue to provide this emergency childcare, plan for a new and very different academic year, and continue to support distance learning. Children currently attending the six Children's Hubs will move to their own school for childcare during June. Parents are being informed about this change and the arrangements being put in place to support their child.

"Learning from the Hubs has also been helpful to us as we establish new routines and practices and this experience will be vital as we move forward."

Teachers' return to school

Head Teachers have already begun planning for the reopening of school buildings in June. From 8 June, they will be putting in place arrangements for school staff to have access to the building as required to start planning for the new school session. Throughout June, schools will also continue to provide distance learning and support for children. The Education Service will be surveying parents in the coming weeks, to gather their views about the reopening of schools.

Children's Hubs

As more school buildings open and education staff return to their own schools, the Children's Hubs providing emergency childcare for keyworkers' and vulnerable children will close. Children will instead move to receive support within their normal school setting from 8 June. This further provides those children an opportunity to become reacclimatised to their surroundings and re-establish relationships with their usual teaching team. It will also enable the council to provide more spaces for children who are considered vulnerable. Schools remain closed to all other pupils.

Summer holiday provision

Plans are well underway to offer keyworkers' children and vulnerable families' spaces at summer holiday provision offered in four centralised locations. Spaces will be limited only for keyworkers who will be required to work over the summer break, require emergency childcare and have no alternative provision. As with the Easter holidays, this will be led by staff from across the council and will focus on fun activities such as outdoor play, arts and crafts, and music. Families already attending Hubs will be invited to apply for summer holiday provision.

SCHOLAR

Next week, new S4 pupils will be getting access to SCHOLAR - the online learning resource from Heriot Watt University. It offers resources to support Nationals, Highers and Advanced Highers in science, maths, languages and business. A full list of supported courses can be found here:

<https://scholar.hw.ac.uk/why.html#availableCourses>.

Pupils will receive an email with their login details. Pupils can use SCHOLAR as an independent study resource, and many teachers will be directing pupils to particular activities through Google Classroom.

Wellbeing Challenges

On Monday, the health and wellbeing team will invite pupils to take part in a series of wellbeing challenges over the next two weeks. Evidence of pupils' achievements can be submitted in a variety of ways, from written statements to video footage. We aim to produce a picture collage and video in the last week of term to celebrate their efforts and have something to look back on. Here is a snapshot of what some staff members have been up to during the lock down. We look forward to seeing your entries.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cDI8JXRbnefppHBHSfEL4Zk8AmezHR_l/view?usp=drive_web

Parent Council Meeting

We are holding a virtual Parent Council meeting on Tuesday 9 June at 7.00 pm.

Virtual Work Experience Programme – S5/S6

Open for students considering apprenticeships OR in need of valuable work experience to add to their CV's. The organisers work with many global/FTSE 100 companies, they will be playing a big part in the week facilitating webinars and workshops. You will be given the opportunity to engage with these companies during the week and get exposure to their sectors. Prizes will be given out (iPads, learning resources and gift vouchers). RAF, PwC, EY, Capgemini, IBM and many others will be taking part.

Key details:

22nd June - 26th June

9am - 16:30 each day (times may vary)

First come first served basis (FREE Opportunity)

Student MUST sign up using the link below and will need to inform you / school they have applied (please do send out via parent mail so that parents / carers are made aware of this opportunity)

All students that take part in the full week will get a written reference and can include this on their CV's and make reference to the global companies they heard from

The Experience:

Introduction to the business world (working in the corporate environment)

Employability skills (CV writing, STAR exercise, the whole recruitment process explained in full detail to big brands) (Digital Interviews, Psychometric Testing etc.... the whole lot)!

Business challenges around emerging technologies, new products and innovation/change strategy

Projects to work on in their assigned groups & mentors to monitor progress

Prizes and office experience days up for grabs to stand out students during the week

Each student will get their own digital log book so they can keep track on their progress for the week

It is first come first served and all students will need to register via the link below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/7D8GFX5>

Careers Information

Skills Development Scotland want you to know that you will be able to continue to contact the Careers Adviser for support, via telephone, Skype or online. Please be reassured that SDS Careers Advisers will continue to proactively contact pupils to offer them ongoing support. They also update information and post vacancy information at edubuzz.org/careers and Twitter [mickburns2](https://twitter.com/mickburns2). Any school leaver from S4 to S6 who needs help can contact our Careers Advisers by calling the local centre on 0131 665 3120, or contacting the NBHS Careers Advisers directly at:

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

The S6 careers talk has been delivered online this year and you can view it [here](#):

The link has a really useful book of resources we have put together to help all students plan for life after school and can you please make sure they have completed the questionnaire!

Medical Schools virtual open days – click [here](#)

University of Glasgow online activity for prospective students - click [here](#)

Search current vacancies – click [here](#)

NHS Trainee Ambulance Care Assistants – click [here](#)

S6 Head Team

The process has begun for recruiting the Head Team for session 2020 – 2021. This week, prospective candidates were given the opportunity to meet with Mrs Neri, year head for S6, and last year's Head Team to hear about the reality of the roles. Applications had to be in today and candidates are producing a 2-minute pledge video. Voting by staff and fellow S6s takes place next week, as do interviews with Mrs Neri, Mrs Rodger and a member of last year's Head Team. It's a very rigorous process, and always a really enjoyable one. We look forward to introducing our new Head Team soon. Following that, the recruitment for House Captain teams will start, organised by our guidance teachers.

Phase 1 Physical Distancing Guidelines

Since the easing of lockdown restrictions with the Scottish Government's move to Phase 1, we have been hearing of large groups of young people congregating throughout East Lothian, including in the Lodge Grounds in North Berwick and at our local beaches. We are also seeing smaller groups of young people around the town and our villages, certainly not taking account of the lockdown rules. This is of extreme concern. We urge all the young people in our school community to heed the guidelines to the letter, and ask parents and carers to continue to reinforce this message with their children. Thank you.

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. communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk