



MacIntyre Academies
Discovery Academy

1st April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your family are managing to adjust to the current way of life that we are experiencing.

We now have only a very small number of children attending school each day. A massive thank you to everyone for your support and flexibility in this unprecedented time. I am incredibly proud of the whole Discovery staff team for their hard work and commitment. We are doing as much as we can to support them too.

The Easter Holidays start from Friday for two weeks (3rd – 20th April) and the school will be closed for this time to all pupils. None of our families with parents / carers as key workers or those who are most vulnerable have indicated a need for provision. However, if you struggle over the Easter break and would like to discuss “emergency provision” please get in touch with us by e-mailing either Matthew on matthew.pike@macintyreacademies.org or our business manager Jo on jo.robinson@macintyreacademies.org . Please leave a phone number for us to call you back, it may be that you will get a reply from the school office phone 02477 10 33 70 but e-mail will be more reliable. (School is opening for some site work during the holidays)

At the moment government guidance is for schools to open for pupils whose parents are key workers and those who are most vulnerable (e.g. who have a social worker). We are working with families and social workers to regularly review the needs of this group of young people.

We will be in touch with you in the last few days of the holiday, target date 16th April, to check in with you and to tell you what our plans are, in response to the government advice at that time. If there is no change to current advice and national school closure is to continue for longer, we will talk to you about what support you need and whether it is best for your child to return to school after the Easter holidays. We know that needs, feelings and anxieties will change over time for our young people and families and we will work with you to make the best decisions.

Please don't put any pressure on yourselves for home learning – do as much or as little as you feel is necessary. The best thing for you and your child is to be calm and have as much fun as you can. Reading, baking, doing art work, or gardening are learning experiences too. You know what your child and family need and if you need any support from us please get in touch with the class team.

I want to assure you that we are here for your family in this time.

Please take care, stay home and stay safe.

Matthew Pike
Principal