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COVID-19 Local Delivery Plan for Return to Schools and Early Learning and Childcare

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Introduction

Since the closure of all Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) settings and schools on 20 March 2020, learning for children and young people has continued from home. In Perth & Kinross Council (PKC), school staff have worked tirelessly to develop and improve the ways in which this has been delivered, to ensure that parents and carers are able to support learning, and that children and young people have learning which is adapted to suit their needs. In addition, over the period of lockdown, critical childcare for key workers and vulnerable children has been provided seven days a week and over holiday periods.

On 21 May 2020, Scottish Government published the document *“Coronavirus (COVID-19): Framework for Decision-Making - Scotland’s route map through and out of the crisis”*. The route map gave an indication of the order in which the current restrictions would be changed once it was deemed safe to do so. *“Excellence and Equity During the COVID-19 Pandemic - A strategic framework for reopening schools, early learning and childcare provision in Scotland”* was published on the same date and on 28 May 2020 *“Coronavirus (COVID-19): Reopening schools guidance”* was published. These documents provided clear guidance for local authorities to plan for a phased return to schools and ELC.

Perth & Kinross Council Education & Children’s Services (ECS) developed a plan which mirrored the [national phasing plan](#) .

On 23 June 2020 the Deputy First Minister announced that the Scottish Government’s aim was to work towards schools returning in August on a full-time basis with no physical distancing between children and young people. This aim was conditional and dependent on the latest scientific and health advice. A decision will be made on 30 July 2020 about whether a full or part-time return to schools is to be implemented.

The LPDP is now a contingency plan, and this Local Delivery Plan (LDP) is to support a **full-time return** to schools and ELC if it is possible to do so.



The Current Position

Perth and Kinross Model of Delivery of Learning and Childcare Provision

In line with Scottish Government guidelines, PKC asked partner providers and childminders to support in delivery of childcare. Currently six partner providers, and eighteen childminders are working with us to deliver critical childcare. The decision was made to place younger children and family groups together where possible with partner providers, and children who would benefit most from a home setting with childminders. Six Children's Activity Centres (CACs) were developed, along with two specialist provisions who remained open for some of their pupils.

In Perth and Kinross, the Children's Activity Centres were initially open seven days a week and over the holiday period. The need for weekend provision reduced and has not been operating over the summer holidays. The average attendance has increased during the period of closure and the numbers of approved key workers and vulnerable pupils grew. By early June, average attendance was between 240-290 children per day, with approximately 500 children accessing childcare in total.

Provision Over Summer Holiday Period

In total there are now 296 children registered for childcare in Children's Activity Centres over the summer. The table below details the highest and average rate of daily attendance over the six-week period.

Summer Childcare	Average attendance over 6 weeks	Highest Rate of Attendance
CSOA	12	13
Invergowrie	14	24
Kinross	10	11
Newhill	24	32
NICC	29	34
Tulloch	29	32
Partner Providers	17	42
Childminders	2	5



The Current Position

Plan for a Full-Time Return to Schools and ELC

It is acknowledged that the return to schools and ELC on a full-time basis, with no physical distancing in place between children, but with 2 metres between adults and children, will require careful implementation during the first week. It has therefore been agreed across the Tayside Collaborative that two In-Service days for staff will take place on 10 and 11 August 2020. This will allow time for staff to make themselves familiar with the protocols in place, and to prepare for the return of children and young people.

Pupils will then return on a phased basis on 12, 13 and 14 August 2020, according to the plans schools and ELC settings put in place to suit their contexts. All pupils who can do so will then return full-time on Monday 17 August 2020.

Home Learning - Access to Digital Devices and Connectivity

Most children and young people have been accessing their learning at home, through a variety of paper-based resources and online and digital means. A significant effort was made to identify those families for whom digital access to learning was hampered by a lack of either internet connection or devices. Over 350 devices on mobile internet packages were supplied to families, ensuring that all children and young people were able to make best use of the digital and online learning plans in place. Many other iPads and laptops were supplied by schools to families who were experiencing challenges with the demands on the number of devices in the household but had sufficient internet access.

Schools have taken varied approaches to online learning for pupils to allow them to engage in meaningful ways. This has been supported by the [PKC Remote Learning Hub](#) which provides resources, advice and support to parents, staff and pupils. All pupils access Glow or other online tools to access learning and feedback delivered by teachers.

Work will continue to ensure that the pace of progress in the use of digital technologies is optimised, and a review of the current strategy will take place as part of the Recovery Plan for ECS.



The Current Position

Support for Vulnerable Children and Young People and with Additional Support Needs (ASN)

From the outset, provision has been made for children and young people who were assessed by Headteachers and social work colleagues as vulnerable. This has been through attendance at Children's Activity Centres, partner providers, childminders, specialist provisions, and through the direct support from social work and other community supports. The GIRFEC (Getting it Right for Every Child) practice model has continued to ensure that Child's Planning processes has involved parents and partners, and that plans have been reviewed to meet needs. Work is now underway to consider how a full-time return to school and ELC will impact on individual Plans and the adjustments required to support a successful return.



Considerations for PKC Delivery Plan

Key Principles

Decisions made regarding the opening of schools and ELC provision must align with the national framework, and also be guided by the agreed aims and objectives within the National Improvement Framework, including the shared vision of excellence and equity for education, Curriculum for Excellence, Getting it Right for Every Child and other legal requirements.

The PKC Local Education Delivery Plan has adopted the following key principles set out in the national strategic framework:

- 1 Safe:** *protects the physical, emotional and mental health and wellbeing of children and young people as well as staff.*
- 2 Fair and Ethical:** *ensuring every child has the same opportunity to succeed, with a particular focus on assessing progress and identifying gaps in learning and ensuring that wellbeing is at the heart of the curriculum.*
- 3 Ability to prioritise learners at key points and/or with specific needs.**
- 4 Clear:** *is easy to interpret and understand, and has the confidence of parents, staff and young people so that they can plan ahead.*
- 5 Realistic:** *the options are both viable and effective.*

Health and Safety Considerations

This plan and accompanying operational guidance take account of the range of information produced by the Scottish Government, Health Protection Scotland and other national organisations to support the full time return to schools and ELC. A range of guidance has been produced by Education & Children's Services to support schools and ELC. Specific guidance developed to support planning in relation to blended learning, additional support for learning, child and staff wellbeing and transitions will continue to evolve, as part of our contingency planning, and our planning for a full-time return.

The priority to ensure that children, staff and our communities remain safe and are protected from COVID-19 is paramount. Guidance relating to health and hygiene practices must be adhered to without any deviation.

Local authorities are working closely with the Scottish Government and schools to ensure that plans for school reopening are in place. As further national guidance is issued, this plan will evolve and adapt. Plans implemented at school level require a significant level of detailed planning, and clear communication with all stakeholders has been part of their development. Effective practice will continue to be shared between schools and local authorities, particularly across the Tayside Regional Improvement Collaborative.

It is recognised that planning for a return to schools is happening in a dynamic and rapidly changing environment, where guidance can be quickly revised. This plan will remain under continuous review to ensure its currency with the latest information available.



Considerations for PKC Delivery Plan

Critical Childcare

The Local Delivery Plan takes account of the need to maintain provision for the children of key workers and identified vulnerable pupils, as is currently the case.

It is planned that existing CACs will continue to operate in their current locations until Tuesday 4 August 2020. Partner providers, 3rd sector partners, and childminders will also operate as such until then.

Should a phased return to school be necessary in August, critical childcare will then be provided in every school where it is possible to do so, or in nearby hubs where space and/or staffing prohibit this taking place in any schools setting. Critical childcare will continue to be provided through partner and childminders for those children below primary school age.

Should a full-time return to school and ELC be possible, then in line with the Tayside Collaborative, free critical childcare will cease to be provided by the local authority on 4 August 2020, and normal childcare arrangements will be available to parents, including access to nurseries, childminders, 3rd sector organisations and Out of School Care (OOSC).

Communication and Consultation with Staff, Pupils and Parents

Regular communication is taking place with staff and Professional Associations representatives about planning for return to school. This includes updating information about staff who are shielding or requiring to isolate and how physical distancing and hygiene/infection control measures are being put in place. Prior to any return of staff, school and centre managers have worked in collaboration with staff and Professional Association representatives together to devise and agree risk assessments.

In planning for schools to reopen, pupils and parents are being kept informed about dates for return and other operational considerations such as transport and school meals. Guidance has been provided to promote mental wellbeing during lockdown and in relation to preparation for the return to school. Information will also be shared about risk assessments and schools' procedures for physical distancing, hygiene and cleaning routines. Where it is necessary, individual risk assessments will be developed for pupils who require them.

ECS has made arrangements to meet with trade unions, headteacher executive groups and the Parent Council Chairs Network in early August, to update them on the arrangements for returning to school and ELC.



Considerations for PKC Delivery Plan

Health and Safety

Risk Assessments

Every early learning and childcare centre and school will be required to have COVID-19 risk assessments in place which have been devised and agreed with the participation and involvement of staff and Professional Association representatives. They must make specific reference to where COVID-19 measures result in any amendments to practices. This process will be complete once final national guidance is issued, and in the meantime, work is underway to develop generic assessments and exemplars which can be utilised by schools and ELC and adapted to their context.

Access and Use of Cleaning, Hygiene and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The availability and use of PPE in schools and early learning and childcare centres is to be based on the latest national guidance. [Guidance from Health Protection Scotland](#) states that the regular use of PPE is not required within education and childcare settings whilst undertaking regular and routine functions and duties as other infection control measures are in place. Where situations dictate that physical distancing requirements cannot be maintained or the specific nature of duties presents additional risks, the risk assessment will determine the nature of any PPE required.

A robust cleaning and hygiene regime is required to ensure a safe return to schools and ELC. PKC schools and ELC settings are well-resourced to ensure that sufficient cleaning, hygiene and PPE resources are in place so that the required protocols are followed in each setting.

Test and Protect

An important measure that is planned into risk assessments and procedures for schools is the ability to respond rapidly to the changing status of the virus, either nationally or locally. That includes being able to quickly close or reopen schools and respond to staff or pupils having to isolate under the government's Test and Protect programme. Risk assessments and resilience planning take account of these measures. We are working closely with NHS Tayside to ensure full access to Test and Protect and have confirmation from them that it is available in Perth and Kinross.

Readiness of Schools and ELC

Buildings must be fully prepared for reopening to staff and pupils. Plans and protocols have been devised for cleaning routines, health and safety checks, building (including ventilation) checks, fire safety checks and for the provision of PPE and hygiene supplies. Colleagues from across services are working to make sure that the full Learning Estate is operational and ready to safely receive staff and pupils.



Considerations for PKC Delivery Plan

Transport

In PKC, consideration of the impact of providing home to school transport in a safe and physically distant manner is an important factor in our planning, including managing the flow of traffic at the start and end of the school day. Each school is working with the Council's Public Transport Unit and they will liaise with transport operators to determine the operating procedures for daily transport in preparation for pupils returning on 12 August 2020. This will include working with Parent Councils to support school active travel plans.

Gaelic Medium Education (GME)

Schools that deliver GME will continue to provide an experience that is based upon the principles of the total immersion and immersion phases. It is recognised that support at home, and for the at-home learning element of blended learning, for GME pupils is a challenge for most families. To support this, Education Scotland is developing a resource base supporting learning at home and Bòrd na Gàidhlig have also developed an initiative called #cleachdaigantaigh (use it at home) that identifies a range of opportunities for online learning. Further exploration of the use of these resources will continue as part of the schools contingency planning.

Curriculum and Learning

It is recognised that a period of reconnection is required as staff and pupils return to school and ELC. Wellbeing is of paramount importance, and the curriculum offer will consider that children and young people need time to reconnect with their peers, with staff and to get used to new ways of working. The curriculum will reflect that, and careful consideration will be given to the balance of time for subject areas, and methods of delivery. Levels of engagement in learning at home during the closure period will have varied, and therefore a process of contextual assessment of progress will take place to determine progress, and to identify any gaps in learning. Careful consideration will be given to risk assessments in delivering some aspects of the curriculum, with activities which are regarded as higher risk such as PE and group singing activities. The use of outdoor learning opportunities will continue to be a key feature of planning for schools.

Supporting Learning and Wellbeing

The priority on re-entry to school will be supporting the wellbeing of children, young people and staff, which should take place through a nurturing approach. Key principles for nurturing wellbeing include:

- *Promoting feelings of safety*
- *Recognising loss*
- *Supporting emotional containment*



Considerations for PKC Delivery Plan

- *Prioritising connectedness and social relationships*
- *Fostering resilience, including identifying opportunities for growth and development*

Many resources and approaches already in use will be supportive to children and young people's wellbeing on re-entry to school. As well as universal principles for nurturing wellbeing, children and young people who would benefit from targeted support will be identified, their needs considered, and plans made.

Re-engagement with more formal learning will be responsive to the needs of the school community. While children and young people will need time to adjust both to returning to the school environment and also to formal learning, familiar structures and predictable routines can provide a sense of security. Schools will consider what their recovery curriculum will look like, balancing opportunities for play, social and emotional learning activities, and reconnection with a steady return to academic activities.

Through the process of contextual assessment, children and young people who may benefit from more intensive support in particular areas, academic as well as social and emotional support, will be identified and interventions planned, working collaboratively with partners where appropriate.

Support for Children and Young People with Additional Support Needs

Throughout lockdown and into each phase of delivery, GIRFEC approaches to planning have continued for children and young people who require support to address barriers to their learning. The LDP ensures that children who require targeted and specific support will receive it to ensure equity, and to address the difficulties which some children and young people have faced by not being in school. It is recognised that for some pupils, learning at home in some respects has been a positive experience, and where it is assessed that this would be beneficial, an element of home learning may be provided for those pupils to support transitions back into full time attendance.

Specialist provisions within primary and secondary schools and Fairview (Special) School have developed plans to enable a full-time return to school for pupils as safely as possible. Their approaches take account of the individual needs of and include specific actions needed to maintain safety for all. Guidance for staff working in this area has been developed to support them in key areas, such as managing intimate personal care and behaviours.



Considerations for PKC Delivery Plan

Workforce Planning

Work is well underway to ensure that the staffing required to ensure a full-time return of pupils is available. Schools have already determined, based on current health guidance, how many may still be required to work from home due to shielding, or because of serious underlying health conditions. A mapping exercise to gather data on available staff who could be deployed, such as outreach, peripatetic or support staff is ongoing, as well as establishing the availability of supply staff.

There is a need to ensure that additional staffing can be deployed so that the local education delivery plan can be fully implemented. Many schools have already secured the additional staff they require for this. Additional staffing has also been secured through the engagement, on 1-year contracts, of probationer teachers who have just finished their induction year and who had not yet secured a post. Appointments to vacancies from a pool of appointable candidates have been made. Further contracts may also be offered to this group to support recovery. The numbers of supply teaching staff have also expanded, with applications from teachers returning to the profession after a break, for example, following retirement.

Inclusion staffing has been realigned so that additional pupil support assistants can be allocated to settings or to children and young people who would benefit from their support. These plans will evolve as the return to schools progresses.

Individual School Plans

All schools submitted their model of attendance for a part-time return, and these will remain in place as contingency plans. A few schools required additional support to maximise attendance, and ECS are continuing to develop these plans with them. This includes the consideration of additional staffing, access to other buildings for additional learning spaces and transport requirements.

Schools and ELC provisions, with support from ECS, are now developing their individual school plans for a full-time return to schools, amending their health and safety procedures to reflect the updated national guidance, planning for a phased return in week one, and developing a curriculum which meets the needs of their pupils.



A Local Delivery Plan for Return to School and ELC

The table below provides a summary of the planning which has taken place, or is planned for, in each phase of recovery. ECS is continuing to plan for full-time or phased return to school and ELC.

Lockdown	Phase 1	Summer Activity	Phased Return	Full-Time Return
<i>Up to 8 June 2020 Complete</i>	<i>8 June - 1 July 2020 Complete</i>	<i>2 July - 7 August 2020 Ongoing</i>	<i>Contingency Planning Ongoing</i>	<i>From 10 August 2020 Timescale to be confirmed</i>
<p>Risk assessments developed and agreed in partnership with staff and trade unions.</p> <p>Health & Safety measures put in place.</p> <p>HR guidance for staff in relation to health and shielding.</p> <p>Continuation of Critical Childcare.</p> <p>Preparation for opening buildings.</p> <p>Considering basic school day structures.</p> <p>Communication for staff, pupils and parents.</p> <p>Work to commence on determining building capacity and transport impact <i>(ongoing)</i>.</p> <p>Further update to curriculum offers for early years, primary and secondary.</p>	<p>HTs co-ordinated with school staff to plan for return from 8 June 2020.</p> <p>Planning for curriculum in August.</p> <p>Survey of key workers to identify summer demand.</p> <p>Organisation of learning spaces and setting up buildings for return.</p> <p>Transition for new P1 and S1 and enhanced transitions where safe and possible.</p> <p>Continuation of critical childcare.</p> <p>HR support for staff returning to school <i>(ongoing)</i>.</p> <p>Agree attendance patterns for August and communicate with school community.</p> <p>Transport Plan <i>(ongoing)</i>.</p> <p>Complete risk assessments for return of pupils <i>(ongoing)</i>.</p>	<p>Ongoing support for identified vulnerable pupils agreed by professionals.</p> <p>Provision of critical childcare.</p> <p>Operation of a number of early years provisions across the authority area.</p> <p>Review of risk assessment, building capacity and transport needs in line with government guidelines prior to August opening.</p> <p>Contingency planning to continue should National guidelines on physical distancing change.</p> <p>Signage placed in all schools and ELC to support safe practices in handwashing, hygiene and safe movement around the building.</p> <p>All property checks completed to ensure a safe return to buildings.</p> <p>Risk assessments completed for subject departments, staff who require them, and visitors to buildings.</p> <p>Cleaning and PPE equipment ordered and delivered to schools and ELC.</p>	<p>All school and ELC return 10 August for two In-Service days. Children and young people begin to return on 12 August 2020.</p> <p>Contingency planning to maximise attendance in schools which require further support.</p> <p>Contingency planning for providing critical childcare if required.</p> <p>Continue to develop blended learning approaches.</p> <p>Support for pupils returning to school</p> <p>Responsive closure plan in place if virus status changes.</p>	<p>Continued development of the primary, secondary and learning curriculum offers.</p> <p>Dependent on virus status and latest scientific and government advice, the operational maxima for schools will be adjusted to allow more to attend.</p> <p>Increasingly regular operation of schools and ELC whilst maintaining any required precautions.</p> <p>Maintenance of a responsive closure plan should a school or centre be connected to a virus outbreak.</p> <p>Gradual relaxation of restrictions and additional measures around school transport, cleaning and catering as dictated by government advice.</p>

A Local Delivery Plan for Return to School and ELC

Summer Holiday Period: 2 July - 4 August 2020

This delivery phase involves the maintenance of provision over the summer holiday period for eligible children of key workers and for vulnerable pupils where it is deemed necessary for their wellbeing to attend. Planning and preparation for a full-time return to school and ELC is taking place through the development of a Local Delivery Plan. Contingency planning will continue should a part-time return be required.

Delivery Theme	Childcare	Summer Activities	Preparation of School and ELC Planning for Full-time Return
Staff Activity	Staff allocated to work in partner providers or CACs will continue to do so.	Local Delivery Plan developed for a full-time return to school and ELC.	Property and business and resources teams working on all appropriate safety checks and improvements in schools and ELC centres. Guidance and risk assessments being developed and shared across schools and ELC following updated guidance from Scottish Government after 30 July 2020. Liaison with NHS on all health protocols required, including test and protect. Transport arrangements pursued.
Critical Childcare	Early years settings will continue to offer places, by agreement, for children of key workers and other targeted groups.	3rd sector partners working in conjunction with local authority will provide respite for vulnerable children and young people over the holiday period.	
Reopening of Early Learning and Childcare	Guidance and risk assessments developed and shared across schools and ELC. Fortnightly meetings with all funded providers to support their reopening.	As above and Partners and childminders will be supported to transition critical childcare back to their usual client base.	Guidance and risk assessments developed and shared with schools and ELC. Officer support to ensure buildings meet health and protection guidance.



A Local Delivery Plan for Return to School and ELC

Phased Return to Schools and ELC from August 2020: Contingency Planning

This is currently PKC Contingency Planning

This phase of delivery involves the systematic return of pupils to school buildings in a safe and progressive manner that observes physical distancing requirements. This phase will involve a blended approach of in-school and home learning that balances direct teaching and the completion of follow-up tasks. **Please note that this is now the PKC Contingency Plan for schools reopening, for all, starting from 10 August 2020 for staff.**

Delivery Theme	Early Years Settings	Primary Settings	Secondary Settings	Scottish Government Phase Guidance for Education and Childcare
Staff Attendance	All staff to attend In-Service before children return	All school staff able to return will do so as planned.		Children return to school under a blended model of part-time in- school teaching and part-time in-home learning. Public health measures (including physical distancing) in place. All childcare providers reopen subject to public health guidance, with available capacity prioritised to support key worker childcare, early learning and childcare (ELC) entitlement and children in need.
Pupil Attendance	<p>Eligible children will return to attendance at nursery from 12 August onwards.</p> <p>Each early learning setting will have plans determining the operational maximum that can attend.</p> <p>Places allocated based on guidelines published by the Scottish Government.</p> <p>Settings will develop a communication plan that will provide clear and consistent information to parents about the operation of nurseries and which children can attend each day.</p>	<p>Primary schools will operate on maximum pupil attendance that can be achieved whilst following public health guidance.</p> <p>Pupils will attend on a rotational basis across four days of the week. The other day will focus on targeted support for individuals or small groups and preparation for online learning.</p> <p>Attendance will ensure family groups are on the same pattern.</p> <p>Wearing uniform during this phase will be optional.</p>	<p>Secondary schools will operate on the maximum attendance achievable and will adopt attendance patterns appropriate to their capacity, staffing and transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Pupils will attend on a rotational basis for a minimum of 40% of the time, and more where achievable.</p> <p>Wearing uniform during this phase will be optional.</p>	

A Local Delivery Plan for Return to School and ELC

Delivery Theme	Early Years Settings	Primary Settings	Secondary Settings	Scottish Government Phase Guidance for Education and Childcare
Critical Childcare	CACs will prioritise places for key workers in the first instance, with additional spaces for vulnerable children.	When agreeing attendance at school, first priority will be given to children of key workers when they have no other care. Enhanced transitions from home to school for vulnerable children will be provided where needed.		
		Enhanced transitions for nursery to P1 children will be completed.	Enhanced transitions for P7 to S1 children will be completed.	
Curriculum	The early years curriculum will continue to be heavily play-based and focus strongly on outdoor learning and play. Tracking of experiential learning should be in place to ensure equitable experiences for children attending at different times or days.	The focus of the in-school curriculum in the early years should be play and experiential based and balanced with high-quality direct teaching in key areas of Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing. In upper primary, the in-school curriculum will focus on quality teaching experiences in the core areas of Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing. For all pupils, there will be a blended curriculum that will balance direct teaching in schools with time learning at home.	Where possible, curriculum delivery will be in line with the school's timetable. A strong focus for prioritising delivery will be those undertaking national qualifications. Where possible, timetable co-ordination could be used to increase the breadth and capacity of teaching across schools. This may also be digital online learning, such as the Perth City Campus or Virtual Campus courses. Careful tracking of learning is needed to ensure that the teaching experience of pupils attending on different days remains consistent.	



A Local Delivery Plan for Return to School and ELC

Delivery Theme	Early Years Settings	Primary Settings	Secondary Settings	Scottish Government Phase Guidance for Education and Childcare
Curriculum <i>(continued)</i>		<p>Schools will support Gaelic Medium pupils, particularly in P1-3, with intensive support for oral literacy and immersive language experiences.</p> <p>Careful tracking of children's progress and achievement will be necessary across all aspects of learning experience.</p>	<p>Schools will maximise the use of online learning offer as well as direct teaching in school.</p> <p>Blended learning will be the norm for pupils with direct teaching on certain days in combination with home learning and engagement with online learning content.</p> <p>Where necessary, time can be allocated to gathering evidence for any SQA appeals processes.</p>	
Home Learning	When children are not in attendance at nurseries or childcare centres, staff may provide engagement activities for them to undertake at home with a focus on active and outdoors play and creativity.	<p>Blended learning will be the norm for all pupils, where teaching and learning during attendance in school will be complemented by home learning.</p> <p>Guidance is available to support and extend the blended model formulated by schools.</p>	<p>Blended learning will be the norm for all pupils and the exact nature and balance of this will depend on the attendance model used by each school.</p> <p>Direct teaching in schools will sit alongside home learning that follows up on the core teaching input and teachers will provide a mix of in-school and remote input.</p> <p>Use of co-ordinated timetables will allow the common delivery of home learning for some subjects/ lessons when not in school.</p> <p>Guidance is available to support and extend the blended model formulated by schools.</p>	

A Local Delivery Plan for Return to School and ELC

Delivery Theme	Early Years Settings	Primary Settings	Secondary Settings	Scottish Government Phase Guidance for Education and Childcare
Transitions	Where it has not been possible to support the intake of new children to nursery in June, time will be prioritised from 12 August for parents and children to visit safely and familiarise themselves with the setting before formally starting.	<p>Where it has not been possible to provide transition from nursery to P1 in June, this should be a priority for the new P1 intake in August for children to have time to transition gently into school from 11 August. Individual schools are best placed to plan this depending on their own circumstances.</p> <p>Where a need for enhanced transition into school or between classes has been identified allowance should be made for this on the week beginning 11 August.</p>	If it has not been possible to transition P7 to S1 in June, it should be a priority for timely and supported induction of S1 into school from 11 August. Weeks 1 and 2 can be developed to prioritise transitions and support vulnerable groups.	
Support for Children and Young People	<p>Any existing or newly-identified needs will be supported in line with the Early Years Staged Intervention Framework.</p> <p>Wellbeing/mental health support will be provided, as required to any young children affected during the crisis by bereavement, emotional distress or any other concerns.</p> <p>Emotional wellbeing and reconnection will be a major focus of the curriculum.</p>	<p>Data regarding vulnerable pupils gathered during the lockdown will be shared with schools. Child Plans and other support plans will be initiated or revised accordingly.</p> <p>Mental health and wellbeing support will be available through a range of staff including Guidance Staff (Secondary Schools), the Educational Psychology Service and partners.</p> <p>Schools will recognise that the period of closure will have impacted pupils' support needs in different ways and Child's Plans or IEPs will need to be reviewed and updated to reflect this.</p>		

A Local Delivery Plan for Return to School and ELC

Delivery Theme	Early Years Settings	Primary Settings	Secondary Settings	Scottish Government Phase Guidance for Education and Childcare
Health and Safety	Existing robust daily building cleaning routines will be maintained in nurseries and childcare centres. Work with staff to review the Health and Safety plans identified in June, in terms of risk assessments, building checks and fire safety plans.			
Environment/ Infrastructure	<p>A system is in place to record and track the attendance of nursery children each day.</p> <p>Transport only provided where it would normally operate for specific circumstances and by prior agreement.</p> <p>All children eligible for ELC from August will be offered a free nursery meal when they are in attendance.</p> <p>Meals may be taken in playrooms/classrooms while possible restrictions are in place.</p>	<p>Attendance will be recorded in SEEMiS using the appropriate codes for in-school and at home learning.</p> <p>Guidance provided on recording and coding Attendance/absence during the phasing period.</p> <p>Provision of a bagged lunch for children attending schools. This will include those entitled to FSM (and universal provision to P1-3 attendees).</p> <p>Meals may be reviewed in October 2020.</p> <p>School management will work with catering staff to agree arrangements for lunch service depending on the facilities at each school. For some settings that may mean staggered lunches or eating in classrooms.</p> <p>Where FSM-registered pupils are not attending at school, an equivalent monetary payment will be made.</p>		



A Local Delivery Plan for Return to School and ELC

Full-Time Return to Schools and ELC from August 2020: Timescale to be Confirmed

This phase of delivery sets out how a full time return to schools and ELC will be implemented with no physical distancing required between children and young people, but with 2 metres physical distancing between adults, and between pupils and adults. All measures set out in this phase of the plan are indicative and wholly dependent on government advice, to be confirmed on 30 July 2020.

This phase will continue to be amended and updated as more advice is issued. Risk assessments will continue to be updated as new guidance emerges.

Delivery Theme	Early Years Settings	Primary Settings	Secondary Settings	Scottish Government Phase Guidance for Education and Childcare
Staff	<p>More staff able to attend work as lessening of restrictions around notifiable health conditions and shielding requirements is issued.</p> <p>Physical distancing of 2 metres required between adults and between children and adults.</p> <p>Clear protocols in place for movement around school and between groups of pupils and staff.</p>			<p>Schools and childcare provision, operating with all necessary precautions.</p>
Pupils	<p>Children and young people return to schools without the need for physical distancing between each other.</p> <p>Test and Protect measures will be followed in school and ELC settings.</p> <p>Protocols around cleaning and use of resources and equipment strictly adhered to.</p>			
Critical Childcare	<p>The need for dedicated provision for children of key workers will cease.</p>			
Curriculum	<p>The Early Level curriculum will continue to have a strong focus on play and experiential learning. The curriculum offer will evolve back to more regular delivery but will hold on to aspects of innovative and new practices developed during lockdown.</p>	<p>As curriculum delivery returns to more conventional approaches, the aspects of innovation and best practice developed during lockdown should be maintained, especially where that involved flexible online learning and increases in equity of provision.</p>	<p>As curriculum delivery returns to more conventional approaches, the aspects of innovation and best practice developed during lockdown should be maintained, especially where that involved flexible online learning and increases in equity of provision.</p>	

A Local Delivery Plan for Return to School and ELC

Delivery Theme	Early Years Settings	Primary Settings	Secondary Settings	Scottish Government Phase Guidance for Education and Childcare
Home Learning	Where nursery-age children have been identified as needing to continue in long-term shielding, regular contact with home will continue to be provided by their key worker.	Approaches to and resources developed for home learning should be retained and used where it can support children with interrupted learning or who have difficulty attending school. Where children have been identified as needing to continue in long-term shielding, home learning will continue to be provided by their teacher.		
Transitions	As plans move forward for 2021, arrangements for transition for the next academic year expect to return to previous arrangements. Where a child has had to shield for a long period of time beyond the school reopening date, transition arrangements for return will be made when it safe to do so.			
Support for Children and Young People	Any children in ELC with additional support needs will be supported in line with the Early Years Staged Intervention Framework. Support for wellbeing and mental health will continue to be available from support services as required.	Any pupils with additional support needs will be supported in line with the Staged Intervention Framework and will have the appropriate support plan. Support for wellbeing and mental health will continue to be available from support services, as required. A particular focus (in Primary schools with GME provision) will be maintained on support for learners in Gaelic language.		



A Local Delivery Plan for Return to School and ELC

Delivery Theme	Early Years Settings	Primary Settings	Secondary Settings	Scottish Government Phase Guidance for Education and Childcare
Health and Safety	<p>Rigorous cleaning routines will be in place and will include the need for frequent cleaning of contact surfaces.</p> <p>Risk assessments and hand hygiene protocols will be in place to support safe practices. Risk assessments in place for staff and pupils who require additional mitigations.</p> <p>Risk assessments in place for all curricular activities which require additional mitigations such as PE and group singing, science and practical activities.</p> <p>Limiting movement around the building for groups of pupils will be in place.</p> <p>Limiting movement of adults around and visiting buildings will be in place.</p> <p>Rigorous approaches to implementing test and protect procedures.</p> <p>Continuity plans in place should COVID-19 be detected in a member of staff or pupil.</p>			
Environment/ Infrastructure	<p>Transport provided where it is possible to do so, but alternative arrangements may be necessary to ensure statutory entitlements are in place.</p> <p>Meal provision for eligible children attending full-day nursery sessions.</p>	<p>School transport services will follow public health guidance in respect of distancing, hygiene, ventilation and cleaning regimes. Dedicated school transport services will operate more fully. All home to school transport will operate as dedicated school transport to ensure only school pupils are travelling.</p> <p>Kitchens and dining areas will open more fully. This may change operational arrangements in individual schools.</p> <p>As kitchens return to normal operation, menu choices will be re-instated and hot meals will be provided more widely.</p> <p>Protocols and guidance will be developed to support the continuation of IT equipment that has been loaned to learners and families.</p> <p>A bank of digital devices will be retained for distribution to children needing to isolate under Test and Protect arrangements as required.</p>		



Guidance Framework and Supporting Documentation

The following Scottish Government documents were critical in devising the local delivery plan:

- **School & ELC Closure - Guidance about Key Workers & Vulnerable Children**  (31/03/20)
- **Supporting Pupils, Parents and Teachers - Learning During Term Four**  (20/04/20)
- **Physical Distancing in Education & Childcare Settings**  (15/5/20)
- **Framework for Decision Making - Scotland's Routemap Through and Out of the Crisis**  (21/05/20)
- **Strategic Framework for Reopening Schools and ELC Provisions**  (21/05/20)
- **Test & Protect (Summary)**  (26/05/20)
- **Test & Protect - Advice for Employers**  (26/05/20)
- **Non-Statutory Guidance for Reopening Schools**  (28/05/20)
- *COVID-19: Scientific Evidence on Schools and ELC Settings* (27/05/20)
- *ELC Note for all Childcare Providers* (28/05/20)
- **Curriculum for Excellence in the Recovery Phase**  (05/06/20)
- **Support for Continuity in Learning**  (05/06/20)
- **Parent Club - FAQs Scottish Government Advice on Reopening School** 

In addition, the following further informed the development of the local delivery plan:

- *CNES HR Guidance for Employees Returning to School*
- *CNES Health and Safety Risk Assessment*
- *Northern Alliance COVID-19 Transitions Framework*
- *School Site Reopening: Property Risk Management Guidance (Provided by Council Insurers)*
- *APSE Briefing 20-53 Preparing for the Wider Opening of Primary Schools*

Health & Safety and Risk Assessment Guidance referenced:

- *CNES - Health & Safety Policy*
- *CNES - COVID-19 Risk Assessment*
- *CNES - COVID-19 Home Working Risk Assessment*
- *CNES - COVID-19 Risk Assessments H&S Committee Report*
- *HSE - Managing Risks and Risk assessment at Work.*
- *Zurich Municipal - School Site Reopening Policy and Checklist*
- *EIS - Member Advice on Reopening Schools - Health & Safety and Risk Assessments*
- *Unite - Risk Assessment and Procedures: COVID-19*



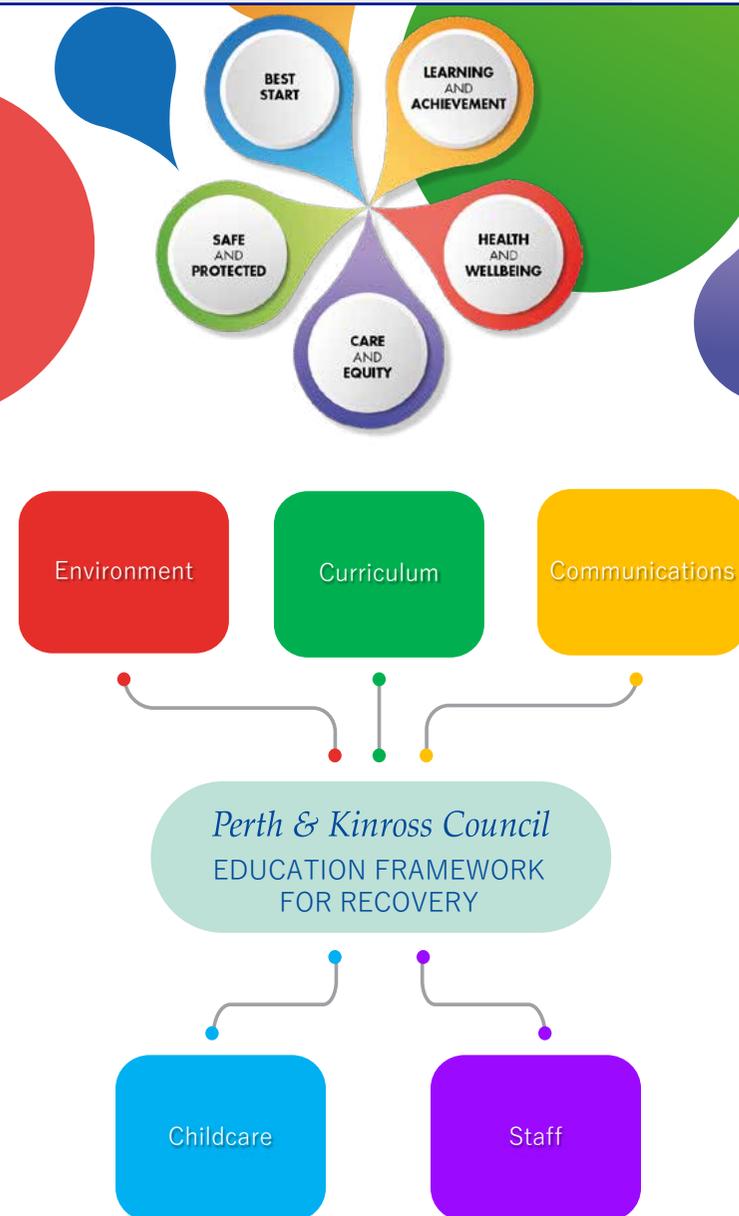
Appendix: ERG Action Plan

Perth & Kinross Council
EDUCATION
FRAMEWORK FOR
RECOVERY
COVID-19

Action Plan for Return to Schools and ELC

This Plan outlines the actions to be taken to ensure a safe return to schools and ELC for staff and pupils from 10 August 2020.

This Plan will be regularly updated as further information becomes available.



Appendix: ERG Action Plan



Environment

This section of the plan covers several delivery themes, including the preparation of buildings, transport, health and safety, cleaning and catering.

Delivery Theme	Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale and Progress
Preparation of Buildings	<p>Assess all school buildings for compliance of guidance relating to COVID-19 ventilation and air flow.</p> <p>Complete any remedial works required prior to full school return and advise on any management arrangements that may be required by the school or FM Service.</p> <p>Procure and install signage in schools to support their re-opening.</p>	Property Services	10 August 2020
Health and Safety	<p>Ensure that all schools have adequate supplies to meet their infection control responsibilities when schools start in August 2020. Consider identification of additional handwashing solutions to support infection control.</p> <p>Issue settings with copy of generic risk assessments, for adaptation. Support schools with individual risk assessments for staff and pupils within specified high-risk categories.</p> <p>Work with NHS Public Health to ensure appropriate health measures are in place. Contingency planning underway in the event of a localised outbreak.</p> <p>Provide training for staff and pupils on return to school and ELC.</p>	<p>NHS Public Health</p> <p>Corporate Health & Safety Team</p> <p>ECS Project Officer</p>	By 10 August 2020



Appendix: ERG Action Plan



Delivery Theme	Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale and Progress
Catering	<p>Initial Catering Solution including FSMs in place for August return.</p> <p>Processes in place for Nursery/Primary and Secondary Meal provision for period August to October.</p> <p>Finalise and upload menus for Nursery/Primary/Secondary meals August to October.</p> <p>Pre-order systems in place for Secondaries if required.</p>	Service Manager Contracts and Facilities	<p>31 July 2020</p> <p>Draft menus agreed for all settings. Menus to be finalised and uploaded over next 3 weeks.</p>
Cleaning	<p>Cleaning Arrangements in place for return of pupils.</p> <p>FM Support to schools in place.</p>	Service Manager Contracts and Facilities	<p>Cleaning protocols agreed. Three levels of clean in place in line with current guidance.</p> <p>Staff standing by to assist with signage/furniture reorganisation pending final decision on pupil return plans.</p>
Transport	<p>Full transport arrangements in place for entitled pupils from 12 August 2020 based on full attendance at school with no physical distancing on school transport vehicles.</p>	Service Manager Business Services	<p>Planning continues for full transport with no physical distancing from 12 August 2020.</p>



Appendix: ERG Action Plan



Delivery Theme	Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale and Progress
Transport <i>(continued)</i>	<p>Assessment of available school transport for entitled pupils from 12 August 2020 based on contingency of part-time attendance at school with physical distancing required on school transport vehicles.</p> <p>Separation of transport which serves more than one school. All-through schools will be treated as one school. Planning is underway to separate joint transport and seek to reallocate vehicles.</p> <p>Clarity regarding the impact of the published scientific advice relating to school taxis.</p> <p>Investigation of alternative discharge of legal duty to provide school transport where transport cannot be sourced.</p>	Service Manager Business Services	



Appendix: ERG Action Plan



Curriculum

Delivery Theme	Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale and Progress
Wellbeing	Schools and settings to support wellbeing through guidance given and the development of a curriculum which provides reconnection activities and support to groups and individuals. Guidance and CLPL activities to be available and to be kept updated.	Educational Psychology and Curriculum Team	Materials produced and distributed prior to end of term. This includes a SWAY on Health and Wellbeing for Term 1.
Online Learning	Schools to be supported to put in arrangements for home learning for those pupils who are shielding and unable to attend school. Home Learning guidance to be updated.	Curriculum Team	By 12 August 2020



Appendix: ERG Action Plan



Childcare Services

This section covers the childcare services which will reopen based on current guidance.

Delivery Theme	Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale and Progress
Out of School Care	<p>Plan for the recovery of Kids Clubs and Wraparound Care provision in 15 schools.</p> <p>To support schools to offer a breakfast provision in the 14 schools where this is currently offered.</p> <p>Support Voluntary management safe Start and Out of School Care Services to discuss re-opening of services and clarify support required.</p>	Service Manager Early Years	<p>By end July</p> <p>Updated Guidance required from Scottish Government before final decision made.</p>



Appendix: ERG Action Plan



Staffing

This section covers the actions required to ensure that staffing is in place for a return to schools and ELC, with all necessary health and safety requirements in place.

Delivery Theme	Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale and Progress
Staffing	<p>1 year contract offered to all current probationers available to work from August.</p> <p>Fulfilling school requests for additional staff to support reopening in August.</p> <p>Bringing into our supply pool the additional 14 secondary and 25 primary teachers from recent recruitment exercise.</p> <p>Ongoing assessment of any additional staff required to support schools reopening, wider recovery and to meet contingency plan needs.</p>	Senior Advisor HR	<p>31 July 2020</p> <p>By 10 August</p> <p>Interviews concluded. Checks underway.</p>



Appendix: ERG Action Plan



Communications

This section covers the communication which will be undertaken with stakeholders as the plan develops, and confirmation of the return to schools and ELC is received.

Delivery Theme	Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale and Progress
	Develop new plan for full-time return to schools adapted from current plan.	Head of Education	By end July 2020
	Continue to update any new information for parents on Council website supported by social media during summer holiday period.	ECS Communications Service Manager	Ongoing
	Finalise communications to schools/parents, press release update website pages, FAQs, social media.	Corporate Communications Team	
	Meeting with Primary Headteachers Executive Group and Secondary Headteachers to discuss implications of DFM's statement on 30 July for PKC schools.	Senior Team ECS	5 August 2020
	Meeting with all Headteachers in LMGs to finalise planning details.		6 August 2020
	Meeting with Parent Council Chairs Network.		6 August 2020



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