

Staff News: Take 5

Friday 28 August 2020

Welcome to this week's Take 5, our weekly staff update, designed to bring you our latest news summary in a five minute read.

The route out of the Coronavirus crisis: face coverings in schools



On Tuesday (25 August) the Scottish Government announced that face coverings will become mandatory in schools from 31 August.

This means that face coverings must be worn by:

- Adults and secondary school pupils while in corridors or communal spaces
- Adults and any child aged 5 and older while on dedicated school transport

There are exceptions for those with breathing difficulties or certain disabilities and schools are advised to do what they can to ensure no one is stigmatised for being unable to wear a face covering.

Face coverings will be provided by our schools for pupils who do not have one. No child will be penalised for not having one.

Remember face coverings are not a substitute for other hygiene measures.

For all the latest guidance visit <https://www.gov.scot/>

Should you book a test?



NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) have launched an appeal to remind people of the protocol around testing.

- You should only book a test if you have coronavirus symptoms or are asked by a public health worker to do so
- Symptoms are the onset of a new, persistent cough, a temperature/fever, loss of taste or smell and you only need one of these symptoms to be tested.
- When someone develops symptoms, other members of the household should isolate for 14 days but do not require a test unless they themselves develop symptoms.
- If Test and Protect advise that you have been in close contact with someone who has coronavirus, you do not require a test unless you develop symptoms but you must still isolate for 14 days.
- Only call NHS 24 (111) if you are unwell, concerned about your symptoms and require medical advice.
- In order to avoid spreading the virus to vulnerable patients, parents are asked not to take their children to the Royal Hospital for Children for a test.

For full information on testing go to: www.nhsinform.scot/

Working safely during coronavirus guides



The First Minister confirmed last week that we will remain in Phase 3 of the roadmap to recovery for now, meaning that non-essential offices and call centres will remain closed for the time being.

To provide you with ongoing support during this time, we have developed a new page in the 'Staff information' section of our website. 'Working safely during coronavirus' features lots of useful information for working in our depots, in our schools and from home.

Each guide includes details on how to stay safe at the workplace, tips for maintaining your health and wellbeing, what to do if you develop symptoms and, if you are working from home, how to complete the mandatory Display Screen Equipment (DSE) awareness course on iLearn.

Full details and access to the guides can be found here www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/workingsafelyduringcoronavirus

Renfrewshire Leisure reopenings



Good news for local gym-goers this week as Renfrewshire Leisure (RL) have announced their plans for the reopening of facilities.

On 14 September the following centres will reopen:

- On-X Linwood Sports Centre
- Lagoon Leisure Centre
- Renfrew Leisure Centre
- Renfrew Victory Baths
- Erskine Sports Centre and Erskine Swimming Pool

The RL team stress that safety is at the heart of every decision they make, and all locations will comply with the latest guidance on hygiene and physical distancing.

All RL members will have their monthly membership fees frozen until November both as a thank you for their on-going support and to cover payments made in March.

You can find more information and details on other RL facilities at <https://www.renfrewshireleisure.com/>

Young People's Celebrating Renfrewshire Fund



If you work with young people, or have young family members who live in Renfrewshire, get ready to help them apply for a share of the 2020-21 Celebrating Renfrewshire fund.

Anyone aged 12-25, or groups who work with young people, can apply for a share of the £150,000 fund for innovative projects which make life better in Renfrewshire. The best ideas - chosen by their peers - will be awarded up to £2,000 each.

Schools are encouraged to submit an application - as long as they can show the award would benefit the wider community.

All applications must be submitted by 13 September and successful projects will be chosen by young people via a vote on the Young Scot website.

For everything you need to know, including online support with applications, go to www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/CelebratingRenfrewshire



Our Health, Safety and Wellbeing at Work webpage is there to provide you with information and contacts to help you keep well during this time.

Visit: www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/health-safety-wellbeing



Don't forget, we'd love to hear from you!

If you have a story to tell or something interesting to share, get in touch with us at: internal.communications@renfrewshire.gov.uk