

## COMMUNICATION TO ALL SCHOOL BASED FSD EMPLOYEES FROM THE HEAD OF FM & HUMAN RESOURCES - COVID-19, No.46, 16 APRIL 2021

This message contains important information following the First Minister's announcement on 6 April 2021 regarding the return of secondary school pupils to onsite learning in Tayside from 19 April 2021.

I hope that this latest briefing finds you and your family well.

### **Full-time Return of Secondary School Pupils**

On 6 April 2021, the First Minister confirmed that all secondary school pupils will return to full-time onsite learning from Monday 19 April 2021.

This is positive news for all and operationally for Tayside Contracts' employees, this will mean that once again we will have to adjust the numbers of our employees working within these settings to take account of this return. Your manager will have already been in touch with you to inform you how this will impact on you.

For those of our employees who received a letter from the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) and are shielding, this does not change anything for you and you are still required to shield and not attend work until Monday 26 April 2021 when you are permitted to stop shielding and return to work.

### **Risk Assessments and Physical Distancing**

Please note that even if you have already received your first, and perhaps even second dose of the vaccine or are soon invited to receive either, you should continue to adhere to all Tayside Contracts' COVID-19 risk assessments and control measures which are published on our website [here](#).

Although it is pleasing to see that the prevalence of the virus is reducing, it still poses a risk and therefore it is vital that we continue to keep each other safe by following the relevant risk assessments and control measures.

Further, you may have read or heard in the press that the Scottish Government has advised that secondary school pupils are not required to adhere to the strict 2 metre physical distancing rule and instead schools will consider how they can strengthen other mitigations. **However, this relaxation does not apply to Tayside Contracts' employees who are required to continue to observe the 2m physical distancing rule in relation to both secondary schools pupils and all adults within the workplace.**

### **Asymptomatic Testing for School and Early Learning and Childcare Setting Based Employees**

Finally, I also want to take this opportunity to remind you of the School/Early Learning and Childcare Asymptomatic Testing Programme, which has been put in place as part of the package of coronavirus risk reduction mitigations in schools across Scotland.

Whilst participating in the testing programme is entirely voluntary, I am strongly encouraging all employees to participate wherever possible, in order to contribute to the wellbeing of our school community.

If you have not already consented to participate in the testing programme but now wish to do so and have misplaced the documentation previously sent to you, please speak to your line manager who will arrange for the relevant information to be re-sent to you. Please note that you will not be issued with a testing kit until you have completed and returned the necessary pro formas to confirm your consent.

Should you have any questions about any of content of this briefing please speak to your line manager or a member of our HR Team.

Please continue to refer to Tayside Contracts' website [www.tayside-contracts.co.uk](http://www.tayside-contracts.co.uk) on a regular basis to check for further updates.

If you have not already done so and wish to provide your email address to us in order to benefit from electronic access to communications such as these, please forward your email address to [Communications@tayside-contracts.co.uk](mailto:Communications@tayside-contracts.co.uk) We will not forward your email address onto any third parties or use it for any other purpose other than to communicate with you.

**Frank Reilly, Head of FM and Human Resources, 16 April 2021**

