

Staff News: Take 5

Thursday 9 July 2020

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

The route out of the Coronavirus crisis: latest guidance

With announcements this week from the Scottish Government confirming the transition to Phase three out of lockdown and further easing of restrictions, key points include:

- Extended outdoor visits (up to five households and a maximum of 15 people) and indoor visits (up to two households and a maximum of 8 people) permitted from Friday 10 July. This includes overnight stays.
- Those in shielding can form an extended household bubble to meet indoors and meet up to two households per day outdoors (maximum of 8 people) from Friday 10 July
- Couples from separate households no longer need to physically distance from Friday 10 July
- Dates for reopening of bars, restaurants, hairdressers, barbers, and the re-opening of the tourist industry have been set for next week

The 2m rule remains however some exceptions will be made for the hospitality sector, in line with national guidance. Face coverings are mandatory on public transport and from Friday 10 July will also be required in shops. Please remember to follow the guidance on frequent handwashing and good hygiene.

For full details on all the latest and upcoming changes visit <https://www.gov.scot/>

Calling all parents: got little ones at a Renfrewshire School?



Applications for Free School Meals and Clothing Grants for 2020-21 are now open.

Those who were awarded a Clothing Grant and/or Free School Meals during 2019-20, were in receipt of qualifying benefits, and have had no changes to their circumstances, can now complete an online renewal form for the new school year. Anyone who has had a change in their circumstances or is applying for the first time can now complete a new application form online.

Applications received before Friday 31st July will be paid before the start of the school term. We will aim to process any applications received after this date as quickly as possible.

For full details go to: www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/10308/Other-sumealspport-and-information#free-

For all the latest updates on changes to Council Services go to: www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/coronavirus-changestoservices

Steal Back Summer



We don't know about you, but the summer holidays rolling around again feel like a glimmer of normality in what's been a far from normal year.

And although we're still not living as we would ordinarily, the holidays are a great opportunity for us all to do a little more exploring in our own backyard – to discover new places, revisit old haunts and take back summer for ourselves.

To help you do this, we've pulled together a bucket list of activities that you can do safely in Renfrewshire over the coming weeks, all aimed at keeping you fit and feeling good, busy on rainy days and always learning new things about our area.

Discover your To Do list here: <https://paisley.is/discover/steal-back-summer-with-paisley-is/>

Online Learning: Microsoft



To help support you in your continued development during these unprecedented times, we will be sharing regular online learning guides providing useful information and links to eLearning, websites, webinars and related articles for further reading.

The second issue, available now, focuses on improving your digital knowledge and skills of Microsoft packages.

With more staff working from home and frontline staff accessing systems and connecting with colleagues, there has been an increase in demand for resources to help you work smarter. Whether you are a beginner or a little more advanced, this guide will support you to build your skills in using Microsoft packages including Word, Excel, Outlook, OneNote, PowerPoint, Skype and Teams.

Access the guides here: <http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/health-safety-wellbeing>

We are helpful



"We go above and beyond. Anything that we're asked, if we can, we will."
Lynne Tervit

Our Facilities Co-ordinator Lynne Tervit features in the second of our #LivingOurValues case studies, which this week focuses on:

'We are helpful, we care about getting things right and are always approachable.'

Lynne loves working with a team who pride themselves on building a great rapport, caring for others and going above and beyond for our customers.

Don't miss Lynne's short film together with a short profile and details of how you too can get involved at <http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/wearehelpful>



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