

Staff News: Take 5

Thursday 6 August 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 a cluster of Coronavirus cases identified in the Grampian area this week, lockdown restrictions were reintroduced from Wednesday 6 August, in the City of Aberdeen, for an initial 7-day period.

The local lockdown will be closely monitored and the First Minister has said the government 'will be looking for lessons that we can apply elsewhere in Scotland.'

We have been working hard to develop contingency plans and will be ready to take the necessary steps to protect our local communities, should the need for a local lockdown in Renfrewshire occur.

For now, we want to reassure you that it is safe to continue going about your daily business as long as we all continue to follow the guidelines at all times.

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

We are Scotland

This week's local restrictions in Aberdeen serve as a reminder that while we've come a long way since the beginning of lockdown, the situation is fragile, and we all have a collective responsibility to ensure we don't undo all our good work.

Whether you are travelling to work, visiting family and friends, out shopping or eating out, it's vital that we all continue to follow the guidelines as our first line of defence against the virus.

Remember FACTS

- Face Coverings
- Avoid crowded spaces
- Clean hands and surfaces regularly
- Two metre physical distancing from others
- Self-isolate and book a test if you have symptoms

Test and Protect

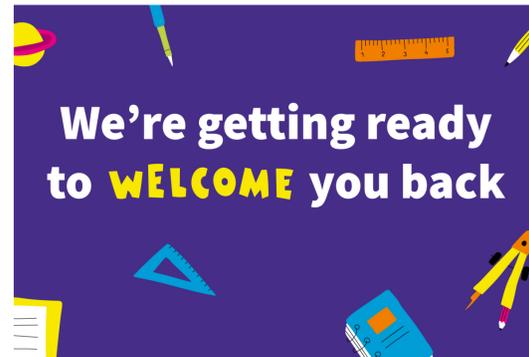
Don't forget, if you think you have symptoms of Coronavirus, no matter how mild, you should immediately inform your manager, self-isolate at home for at least ten days and book a test straight away.

Managers

Please remember to inform HR of all COVID-19 related absences and returns to work and don't forget to update Business World.

For more information on keeping safe and booking a test, visit www.nhsinform.scot/

Welcome back!



As we prepare for the reopening of our schools, nurseries and early years centres next week, we know many of you are looking forward to getting back to doing what you love, reuniting with colleagues and our children and young people.

With the help of colleagues and pupils from across our schools, we have created a welcome back video featuring all the measures in place to make schools safe and ready for the reopening next week.

The video will be launched on our website and shared through our social media channels. Don't miss it!

We know this year's return to school will be unlike any other and we've tried to provide as much information as we can to support our staff, parents and pupils during this time.

You'll find all the latest updates and FAQs at www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/openingschools

Be a tourist in your own town



For those of us who work, live —or both in Renfrewshire, it can be all too easy to rush past the many hidden gems in our towns and villages. Why not become a tourist closer to home and explore what's on offer in your local area?

From local sites steeped in history, to beautiful green spaces, from shops, cafes, pubs and restaurants, to striking wall murals and incredible architecture, there's plenty of ways to steal back summer in Renfrewshire.

As we gradually emerge from lockdown, our local businesses need you to spend local and with this month's Eat Out to Help Out scheme there couldn't be a better time for it! If you're out and about on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday during August, why not do your bit for the area by spending local whilst getting an amazing 50% off at participating local eateries? Look out for contact tracing and remember to provide your contact details when eating out.

For more ideas on ideas on things to do across Renfrewshire visit: paisley.is/visit/explore-renfrewshires-towns-and-villages/

Our values: it's in the bag!



Our values aren't just words, they are who we are and shine through in everything we do. Waste collector Chris Fleming recently demonstrated this as he went the extra mile to be helpful after coming across a lost handbag on one of his rounds.

He immediately contacted the owner – who just so happened to be a family friend of our sustainability, place and assets manager, Karen Anderson.

Karen's friend got in touch to say, 'What a service!... Could you please thank all the team and particularly Chris. We are so impressed! Thank you.'

Chris said, 'I know how it feels to lose or misplace something important like that, so I was glad that I found it before it got into the wrong hands! I think it's really important that we all do our bit to look after each other, especially these days'



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