

## Falkland Islands Department of Education - Guidance

This guidance is for parents, childcare providers and members of the public to support the re-opening of schools, childcare providers and Stanley House following the school closure.

The information in the following pages is set out to allow you to navigate easily to the relevant information you need, and dip in and out as needed. We hope you find it useful.

If you still have questions about returning to school, Stanley House or to your childcare provider, please make direct contact with them.

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## Update on current status and measures in place to re-open schools and Stanley House

In the absence of any evidence of Covid-19 in the Stanley population, it is proportionate that ExCo has agreed to re-opening the schools, Stanley House and childcare providers next Monday, the 11th May.

It has been five weeks since we closed the schools and we are very much looking forward to seeing all of our students again. We are very grateful to families for all you have done supporting your children at this time, whether it has been with their home learning or making sure that you have had quality time together – it all counts.

All advice says that we should begin structured educational activities as soon as it is safe to do so. This will lessen any negative impact that a significant school closure can cause to our children's educational progress as well as their social and emotional well-being.

The schools, childcare providers and Stanley House have demonstrated that they can effectively implement a closure as and when required. Therefore, should the situation require it, schools can be closed quickly and emergency childcare put in place, to respond to need.

We recognise that this situation will affect people in different ways, therefore we would urge parents to contact the schools or Health Service, if they want to talk through their concerns. The School Nurse and Clinical Psychologist, along with the CPN team are able to take referrals for children and families who might be struggling with the fear and anxiety that surrounds COVID.

### **Useful contact numbers:**

Infant Junior School and Camp Education	27294
Falkland Islands Community School	27147
Stanley House Hostel	27443
School Nurse Service	28080

### **Current status**

- The schools (inc Camp Education) and Stanley House will re-open on Monday 11th May.
- Childcare providers have been advised that they can re-open on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May.
- Camp Education re-opens on Monday 11th May. Due to travel restrictions, there will be changes in place, for example restrictions prevent Camp Education travelling teachers from travelling to West Falkland. Parents of children who usually work through Camp Education have been contacted, so that you are up to date with your situation.
- Those students who are unable to attend school, for example children who must continue to self-isolate on medical advice, and/or students in Camp who cannot travel to school because of travel restrictions, will receive support for remote learning. Schools will be in touch with more news about how that will work with families.

- There are no restrictions for people who live on East Falkland to travel to Stanley to bring their children to school and to Stanley House, so long as they don't enter or exit MPC.
- Falkland Landholdings have advised that FLH staff or people living on their farms will be able to travel through East Falkland as needed to take their children to school.
- The schools do not have capacity to provide support for remote learning where parents choose not to send their children back to school without medical advice, and where it is possible for them to travel to school. If parents would like to talk through concerns, please contact the schools or the School Nurse service on 28080.
- Year 11 students will not return to school on Monday 11th May. Falkland College and FICS are planning a transition programme for Year 11 students, more information will be sent soon which will include information about students pursuing employment opportunities.
- Stanley House will re-open on Monday 11th May, in line with need. All parents are being contacted so that we can assess need and make appropriate staff and accommodation plans. We understand that current travel restrictions prevent students on West Falkland from returning to school and Stanley House, therefore support for remote learning will be in place.

## Protocols in place in Falkland Island schools to support re-opening after school closures

### **Managing cleaning and hygiene**

- Regular reminders about hygiene and teaching about hygiene where appropriate; handwashing; coughing etiquette; posters to be displayed in common areas
- all areas of school / childcare setting to be cleaned every day and rubbish removed
- school desks cleaned regularly (all desks cleared at the end of the day for cleaning)
- all toilets every day;
- high touch areas cleaned regularly: (toilet flushes, door handles, light switches, banisters)
- ensure supply of cleaning / hygiene products (soap, hand sanitiser, surface cleaner, cleaning cloths, disinfectant)
- keep classroom doors and windows open, where practicable

### **Managing people and spaces in school buildings and childcare settings**

- Keep staff, students and parents updated, as appropriate, about the situation
- Avoid unnecessary visitors in schools
- No physical assemblies
- No events which encourage large groups to assemble e.g. sports tournaments; end of term shows; exhibitions; prize giving ceremonies;
- Social distancing to be modelled and applied as much as possible (*see Appendix 3 for advice*)
- Any parent teacher meetings held by telephone or using virtual platforms
- Staff meetings in smaller groups or curriculum teams – repeated if necessary
- where possible, use separate tables for students
- limit movement of students around the buildings i.e. no movement between cohort classes in primary school for group work; controlled movement in secondary schools
- If possible, PE could be outside and playtimes staggered to prevent too many children in the same environment.
- support the well-being of staff, students and families through provision of support materials, lessons/activities to support well-being and reduce associated anxieties

### **Entrance and Exit - FICS**

- Hands cleaned on entry.
- To avoid congestion outside of school, FICS students must arrive between 8.15 – 8.30am and come straight into school proceed straight to their tutor group classrooms. No congregating outside of the school or in the FICS 'street'. Students must be at school by 8.30am.
- At break-times all students will go outside, unless the weather is inclement, at which point they will go to their tutor classrooms. Students will be asked not to congregate in large groups.
- Ordered exits from classrooms and schools at dismissal times, escorted by teachers at break, lunch and the end of the day.

### **Entrance and Exit - IJS&CE**

- Hands cleaned on entry.

- To avoid congestion outside of school, IJS&CE children must arrive between 8.45 – 9.00am and come straight into school proceed straight to their classrooms. children must be at school by 9.00am
- Playtimes will be split into 3 groups to reduce the amount of children in the space.
- A large cohort will be split into 3 classes to allow more distancing.
- Children At pick-up times, please wait spaced apart in the playground if you are collecting your FS or KS1 child, if you are collecting a KS2 child try to arrange to pick them up a short walk away from school to reduce numbers in the playground at this time.

### **Management of Attendance**

- Take register throughout 15 mins arrival window, apply attendance policy after that time
- Those unable to attend school, such as children who are self-isolating on medical advice, and/or those in Camp who cannot travel to school, but will have distance learning provision will be registered as 'educated offsite'
- Children working and playing at school will share other viruses. Any child who is unwell with a viral illness must stay at home and remain home until fully recovered. If an illness is discovered while they are at school, they will be sent home. Families should be reminded to call the KEMH to report illness and family quarantine measures will continue, so siblings and parents should remain home from school and work.

### **Food and eating**

- No school provided snacks
- No tuck shop
- Wash hands before and after eating own snacks
- If bring own snacks, ensure they are nut-free, and please encourage healthy snacks

### **Other items**

- No school clubs, school will only be in session for usual hours, no extended hours
- PE may be outside, please ensure appropriate PE clothing is provided
- This is the winter term, playtimes will be outside daily, please ensure students are appropriately dressed for the weather.

## Guidelines to implement social distancing in schools and childcare providers

(Adapted from the UK DfE advice for schools and childcare providers)

**To help ensure that the risk of virus spread for both staff and children is as low as possible, education and childcare settings should:**

- tell children, parents, carers or any visitors, such as suppliers, not to enter the education or childcare setting if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)
- ensure class sizes reflect the numbers of teaching staff available and are kept as small as possible
- stagger break times, and the movement of pupils around the school, to reduce large groups of children gathering
- discourage parents from gathering at school gates
- try to follow the social distancing guidelines

Social distancing within education and childcare settings with very young children will be harder to maintain. Staff should implement the above measures as far as they are able, whilst ensuring children are kept safe and well cared for within their settings.

**Education and childcare settings are asked to:**

- make sure anyone who is feeling ill stays at home
- ensure all staff and children:
  - wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds frequently
  - are encouraged not to touch their faces
  - use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste
- ensure help is available for children and young people who have trouble washing their hands
- inform parents and communities about the measures that you are taking and get their help to implement them
- engage parents and children in public health education resources
- increase cleaning of surfaces in classrooms, including desks and handles, and within toilet blocks
- ensure adequate supplies of personal and domestic cleaning products are available
- for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, work with healthcare professionals and parents to decide how best to continue supporting the children and young people to stay healthy

**What parents can do:**

- continue to talk to your children about coronavirus (COVID-19), social distancing and the importance of handwashing
- follow all health guidance for households with illnesses
- Please don't gather at school entrances or in playgrounds, and apply social distancing so that your children have the good practice modelled for them
- Look out for more information and guidance that we will send out to you.
- If you still have questions, please phone and ask, we want to make sure you are well-informed

## Parent information to support children's wellbeing

During this difficult time we're here to support your child and your family in whatever way we can. You might have noticed signs of increased anxiety in your child as they're outside of their normal routines. These might include:

Ages 3-6 years:

- Regressing to behaviour they've outgrown, such as thumb-sucking or bed-wetting
- Showing greater fear at being separated from you
- Tantrums
- Trouble sleeping

Ages 7-10 years:

- Expressing sadness, anger or fear
- Sharing false information that they're hearing from their peers or seeing online
- Wanting to talk about coronavirus all the time
- Not wanting to talk about the current situation at all
- Having trouble concentrating

Teenaged pupils:

- Acting out – this might include things like picking fights with you or with siblings
- Becoming afraid to leave the house
- Distancing themselves from their friends and family
- Exhibiting intense emotions but being unable to talk about what they're feeling

We've put together some resources to help you support your child. We hope you find this information helpful.

If you have any concerns about how your child is coping or you need any other support please contact the schools or the School Nurse.

## Take care of yourself

It's really important right now to take care of your own physical and mental health. Children are very perceptive, and they react to what they sense from the adults around them.

Here are some things you can do to help keep yourself healthy:

- **Connect with others** – maintain relationships with people you care about through phone and video calls
- **Exercise** – take some time every day to move. You could go for a walk or run. You'll also find lots of fitness videos online for everything from yoga to dance. Find something you enjoy and that makes you feel good
- **Eat healthy meals** – try to keep a well-balanced diet and drink enough water
- **Get some sleep** – being anxious or worried can have a big impact on your sleep. If you're struggling to get a good night's sleep, try to develop a calming bedtime routine – for example, do 10 minutes of yoga or listen to calming music. There are also apps you can download that provide guided meditation to help you get to sleep more quickly
- **Turn off the news** – it's important to keep up to date, but the 24-hour news cycle can make you more anxious. Limit your exposure to the news to only a small amount of time, just enough to know what the latest government guidance is
- **Do things you enjoy** – now that we're all spending more time at home, we can finally take up that hobby we've always meant to learn. Try baking or gardening or learning to knit. These are also great activities we can share with our children
- **Set goals** – it's easy to lose track of the days in our current situation, so it can be helpful to set daily and weekly goals to give us a sense of control and purpose. Examples might be setting a goal of walking for half an hour at least 3 times this week or reading a new book
- **Connect with the outdoors** – we are surrounded by wide open spaces, make the most of it, or if the weather is not suitable you can still open a window to let some fresh air and sunlight in. Put a comfortable chair by the window so you can look outside and get some air as you read a book
- **Talk to someone** – during this difficult time, sharing with family and friends how you're feeling and what you're doing to cope can be helpful for both you and them.

## How to talk to your child about what's happening

No matter how calmly you manage the current environment, children are likely to be anxious, so it's important to talk to them about what's happening.

### **For younger children**

Children pick up bits of information from their friends, from the news and from listening to adults talking around them – but they can misunderstand what they're hearing.

#### **> Deal with the news head-on and talk about it openly and calmly, giving them the facts**

- Give them age-appropriate information – take a look at:
  - [BBC Newsround hub](#) – regularly updated with information and advice
  - [#covibook](#) – for under 7s
  - [Children's guide to coronavirus](#) – a download from the Children's Commissioner to help explain the situation to children
- Teach them how to know if information they find on the internet is reliable. Explain how some stories on social media may be based on rumours or inaccurate information
- Encourage them to take breaks from listening to or reading the news – overexposure isn't helpful

#### **> Encourage questions**

- This will give them the confidence to reach out, if they have anything to ask
- Be reassuring but honest when answering questions – it's ok if you don't have all the answers
- Be ready to answer the same question over and over – children tend to repeat themselves when they're feeling uncertain or worried, so you might have to answer the same questions more than once as they seek extra reassurance

#### **> Be a role model**

- Recognise and manage your own worries first
- Be open about your own feelings and let them know it's normal to be concerned – for example, let them know you're also finding the news a bit worrying and what you're doing to stay calm

#### **> Explain how our body's immune system protects us**

- It's constantly working against germs without us knowing. We can't and don't need to control this process
- Explain that we're taking precautions against this particular germ because it's a new one which our bodies haven't come across before
- Remind them how important it is that they eat healthy food, sleep and exercise, as this helps to fight germs

- If it helps, reassure them that the effects of this virus on healthy young people are very mild

➤ **Keep doing your bit to help children reduce the spread of germs**

- Remind them to maintain good hygiene like bathing daily and wearing fresh clothes
- Encourage them to sing 'happy birthday' twice when they're washing their hands

**For older children**

Older children will have the same anxieties about their own health and that of their family and friends as younger children. But they're also likely to feel socially isolated, and worried about the result of school closures on their education and what life will be like after the pandemic is over.

In addition to the steps above:

- **Reassure them** tell them the guidance about how grades will be awarded – you could also check that they understand it. Ask for support from the school if needed
- **Encourage them to maintain social ties** – relationships are especially important for older children, so give them room to keep in touch with their friends
- **Equip them with accurate information** – for example:
  - [Mythbusters](#) from the World Health Organization
  - [Data visualisation pack](#) from Information is Beautiful (regularly updated)
- **Share tools to help them manage anxiety**
  - YoungMinds: [practical steps to take if you're anxious about coronavirus](#)
  - Mind: [how to take care of your wellbeing when staying home](#)

**If your child struggles with higher levels of anxiety**

Some children are naturally more anxious, such as those with existing phobias or obsessive-compulsive disorders. The current situation can make those anxieties worse.

- Get them to do activities such as counting, ordering and sorting tasks which can help them calm down
- Encourage them to use relaxation techniques such as controlled breathing
- Look out for obsessive or compulsive behaviours and try to get ahead of them early by challenging unhelpful thoughts and assumptions
- If you're worried about your child's anxiety, you can access support through the School Nurse Service 28080

## Where to turn to for help

It's okay to not be okay. We all need someone to talk to sometimes. If you feel overwhelmed, there is online support or people you can call on for support:

ORGANISATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p><b>Mental Health Foundation</b></p> <p>Provides information and support for anyone with mental health problems or learning disabilities</p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk">www.mentalhealth.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Mind</b></p> <p>A mental health charity</p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.mind.org.uk">www.mind.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Samaritans</b></p> <p>Confidential support for people experiencing feelings of distress or despair</p>	<p>Phone: 51515</p> <p>Direct line to Samaritans UK</p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.samaritans.org.uk">www.samaritans.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>SANE</b></p> <p>Emotional support, information and guidance for people affected by mental illness, their families and carers</p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.sane.org.uk/support">www.sane.org.uk/support</a></p>
<p><b>YoungMinds</b></p> <p>A charity dedicated to children's mental health</p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.youngminds.org.uk">www.youngminds.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>NSPCC</b></p> <p>Child protection charity</p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.nspcc.org.uk">www.nspcc.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>KEMH</b></p> <p>School Nurse Service</p> <p>CPN Service</p>	<p>Phone: 28080</p> <p>Phone: 28082</p>

## Frequently Asked Questions and Answers about re-opening schools - May 2020

### **Q&A about Social distancing in schools and childcare settings**

#### **Q: What does effective social distancing involve in practice in educational settings?**

As much as possible, children, young people and staff should be spaced apart more than usual.

This means:

- sitting children at separate desks, where possible
- keeping apart when in the playground or doing any physical exercise
- visiting the toilet one after the other
- staggering break times
- avoiding unnecessary staff gatherings

Clear messaging to young people attending the setting about the purpose of social distancing, and personal hygiene, is particularly important.

#### **Q: What does social distancing involve in early years settings where children are very young?**

We acknowledge that social distancing for settings with very young children will be harder to maintain. Staff should implement the recommended measures as far as they are able, whilst ensuring children are kept safe and well cared for.

Staff should pay particular attention to handwashing before and after supporting children who need help with nappy changing, toileting or eating, as well as avoiding touching their own face whilst at work. Teachers and other staff may want to use age and developmentally appropriate ways to encourage children to follow social distancing, hand-washing and other guidance, including through games, songs and stories. They should encourage parents/carers to reinforce these messages at home, by asking them to remind their children.

As much as possible, settings should seek to prevent the sharing of food, drink, utensils, equipment and toys. Equipment, toys and surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected more frequently.

#### **Q: Are the schools big enough to separate children out? Have you got enough staff?**

Our schools are in a fortunate position in the Falkland Islands, class sizes are not large. In IJS&CE class size are nearly all 20 or under and there is one larger cohort which will be split into 3 groups of 20. Classes are in rooms designed for groups of 30. Therefore there is space to spread out sufficiently.

There is enough staff because we have made changes to how we will teach. We will no longer have smaller group work which releases staff to work with classes.

#### **Q: What measures are being within the school buildings?**

- Keep staff, students and parents updated, as appropriate, about the situation
- Avoid unnecessary visitors in schools
- No physical assemblies

- No events which encourage large groups to assemble e.g. sports tournaments; end of term shows; exhibitions; prize giving ceremonies;
- Social distancing to be modelled and applied as much as possible
- Any parent teacher meetings held by telephone or using virtual platforms
- Staff meetings in smaller groups or curriculum teams – repeated if necessary
- where possible, use separate tables for students
- limit movement of students around the buildings i.e. no movement between cohort classes in primary school for group work; controlled movement in secondary schools
- If possible, PE could be outside and playtimes staggered to prevent too many children in the same environment.
- support the well-being of staff, students and families through provision of support materials, lessons/activities to support well-being and reduce associated anxieties

#### **Entrance and Exit - FICS**

- Hands cleaned on entry.
- To avoid congestion outside of school, FICS students must arrive between 8.15 – 8.30am and come straight into school proceed straight to their tutor group classrooms. No congregating outside of the school or in the FICS ‘street’. Students must be at school by 8.30am.
- At break-times all students will go outside, unless the weather is inclement, at which point they will go to their tutor classrooms. Students will be asked not to congregate in large groups.
- Ordered exits from classrooms and schools at dismissal times, escorted by teachers at break, lunch and the end of the day.

#### **Entrance and Exit - IJS&CE**

- Hands cleaned on entry.
- To avoid congestion outside of school, IJS&CE children must arrive between 8.45 – 9.00am and come straight into school proceed straight to their classrooms. children must be at school by 9.00am
- Playtimes will be split into 3 groups to reduce the amount of children in the space.
- A large cohort will be split into 3 classes to allow more distancing.
- Children At pick-up times, please wait spaced apart in the playground if you are collecting your FS or KS1 child, if you are collecting a KS2 child try to arrange to pick them up a short walk away from school to reduce numbers in the playground at this time.

## **Q&A about hygiene, protection and cleanliness in schools and childcare settings**

### **Q: Do schools, colleges and childcare settings need personal protective equipment (PPE)?**

The scientific advice indicates that educational staff do not require personal protective equipment. This is needed by medical and care professionals providing specific close contact care, or procedures that create airborne risk, such as suctioning and physiotherapy, for anyone who has coronavirus (COVID-19), and is displaying symptoms.

If you are not providing this care to someone with the virus, and displaying symptoms, PPE is not needed. Asymptomatic people (people with the virus but not displaying symptoms) have a reduced viral load and so risk of transmission is considerably reduced.

The virus that causes COVID-19 is mainly transmitted through droplets generated when an infected person coughs, sneezes or speaks. These droplets are too heavy to hang in the air. They quickly fall on floors or surfaces. The advice for schools, colleges and childcare settings is to follow steps on social distancing, handwashing and other hygiene measures, and cleaning of surfaces.

Some children, and young people with special educational needs, may be unable to follow social distancing guidelines, or require personal care support. In these circumstances, staff need to minimise close contact (where appropriate), clean frequently touched surfaces, and carrying out more frequent handwashing.

Childcare practitioners do not need PPE. They should care for children as normal, although increasing the frequency of handwashing (and always doing so before and after, for example, feeding children or changing nappies) and cleaning of surfaces and toys. Soft toys should not be shared between children. If a child displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should not come to the setting, or should be sent home with their parents/carers if symptoms arise during the day. Staff should clean as normal after this.

### **Q: Will educational settings have enough cleaning equipment?**

Schools have sufficient supplies of cleaning products. FIG has been working with suppliers to ensure continued supplies are prioritised.

### **Q: What should educational settings do in terms of daily cleaning regimes?**

It is recommended that all educational and childcare settings follow the Public Health England (PHE) guidance on cleaning for non-healthcare settings.

Settings should clean and disinfect equipment, toys and surfaces more regularly. This includes keyboards, mouse, tables, chairs, door handles, light switches and bannisters.

### **Q: Why is handwashing advised over hand sanitiser?**

Soap and water, and regular handwashing for at least 20 seconds, is the best way of staying safe. Handwashing with soap employs mechanical action that loosens bacteria and viruses

from the skin, rinsing them into the drain. Drying hands afterwards makes the skin less hospitable to the virus. Hand sanitiser can be effective if soap is not available, or the situation makes using soap less feasible (for example, when outside), but using hand sanitiser provides none of the virus-destroying friction that rubbing your hands together and rinsing with water provides.

**Q: How often should staff, children and young people be washing their hands during the day?**

Staff, children, young people and families should be reminded to wash their hands for 20 seconds more frequently than normal, including on arrival at the setting, before and after eating, and after sneezing or coughing.

Staff should supervise young children to ensure they wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap and water (or hand sanitiser if soap is not available or feasible in the particular situation) and catch coughs and sneezes in tissues. Bins for tissues should be emptied throughout the day.

Consider how to encourage young children to learn and practise these habits through games, songs and repetition.

Some children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities may require additional support in following public health advice, or may find frequent handwashing distressing. Staff will know where this is likely to be the case, and how they can best support individual children and young people.

**Q: Parents have concerns about the efficiency with which young children wash their hands following use of the toilet. When additional measures are there in place to address this?**

In both schools there will be significant teaching about hygiene. This will include how to wash hands effectively. Teaching will be age appropriate and include supervised handwashing, where necessary. Children in school are able to wash hands after going to the toilet and leave the toilet areas without having to open a door. Toilets will be thoroughly cleaned daily.

**Q: Is it safe to wear jewellery?**

Yes. It is fine to wear jewellery as normal, provided handwashing guidance is being followed.

**Q: Does my educational setting need deep cleaning on an ongoing basis?**

No. Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces more often than usual, using your standard cleaning products.

**Q: Should educational settings ask parents/carers to report pupils' temperatures at the start of each day?**

Educational settings should reiterate to parents/carers the need to follow the advice on coronavirus (COVID-19) from KEMH. They should report all illnesses to KEMH.

Parents/carers and schools do not need to take children's temperatures every morning, but should be vigilant about signs of a temperature.

**Q: Are there extra precautions staff need to take after work, for example washing clothes?**

There is no need for stringent cleaning of people or clothes following a day in an educational or childcare setting. This is only required by medical and care professionals providing intimate care to people with coronavirus (COVID-19). The advice for settings is to follow steps on social distancing (as well as possible), handwashing and other hygiene measures including cleaning of surfaces.

## **Q&A about returning to school**

**Q. Do parents have the right keep their children away from school and home school them as a result of concerns that they cannot be kept safe from contagion at the school. If yes, what help would be given in terms of home schooling?**

Parents have a legal duty to ensure that their child receives an efficient education. They can do this by sending them to school or ensuring they apply themselves to a course of education provided by the Camp Education service.

We recognise that this situation is concerning, and will affect people in different degrees, therefore we would urge parents to contact the schools or the school nurse to talk through their concerns with us to support children returning to school.

If a parent decides that they will teach their child themselves at home on more of a permanent basis, this is permissible under the Education Ordinance. In this instance the Education Department is no longer the provider of education, but must approve and monitor the effectiveness of the provision that the parent puts in place, to ensure it is in line with the requirements of the Education Ordinance. We call this 'home schooling'; it is different from the schools sending home learning packs during a school closure. The schools do not have the capacity to support any more home learning, where it is reasonable and safe that children return to school.

**Q: If students do not immediately return to school (other than those on West Falkland, or those who have medical conditions that put them in a high-risk category) will the Department of Education aggressively enforce the attendance requirements of the Education Ordinance?**

No – the Department of Education will not aggressively pursue non-attendance at this time. Both schools have a policy of ensuring that we and the parents know the whereabouts of students who we are expecting to be at school. Many will have received such calls from the schools. This policy is to ensure the safety of children. If a child is going to be absent from school, please can parents let the schools know then we don't have to phone. If parents or children are concerned about returning to school, we urge you to contact the schools or the school nurse service to talk about your concerns, so that we can support students to return to school.

**Q: Will any children at MPA be travelling down the road to Stanley for their education?**

Only children currently on the school roll will be returning to school. There is a school at MPA for the children who live there. There are no MPA based students boarding at Stanley House. School has made contact with families of enrolled students who are in this situation. They must act within the travel restrictions.

**Q: If a parent of a child is on the 'high / medium risk' register could the child have their education supported at home?**

Parents and children on the high risk categories will have received advice from the Health Service. If there are protocols for the schools to consider to support a return to school, then families should contact the schools to discuss it. If the child cannot return to school on medical advice, the schools will support their home learning.

**Q: When schools re-open what happens to any teaching / school staff on the high or moderate risk register?**

School staff on the high or medium risk categories will have received advice from the Health Service. Each person's situation is being dealt with individually. An option is redeployment to tasks that can be carried out remotely or in an office instead of a classroom, for example we will have more telephone lessons to carry out than usual. Medical advice will be adhered to.

## **Q&A about Camp Education & Stanley House**

**Q. Why can't Camp Education Travelling Teachers travel to West Falkland? When will they be able to travel? How and when will learning resources be distributed etc.**

The schools have to adhere to the travel restrictions in place, as soon as we are advised that these change we will plan accordingly. School has already rearranged teaching rotations (beat sheet) in order to try to take this into account. We will distribute learning resources in the same way as usual, using normal freight routes, via FIGAS or overland through the postal system. Camp parents can continue to pick up resource packs from schools when they are able to do so, or send friends/family to pick up on their behalf.

**Q. When is Stanley House opening and who will it be open for? Will those attending and staff have to isolate there permanently?**

Stanley House is open to all students currently enrolled (other than Year 11 who do not need to return to school). Stanley House will operate as a normal household. Numbers in Stanley House are small, every child has a room on their own. A strict cleaning regime is in place. Boarders and staff in Stanley House will observe the FIG health guidelines about social distancing, where possible.

Staff and boarders will not be isolated at Stanley House.

**Q: If there is an outbreak and another school / boarding closure, what will happen to the children at Stanley House and what guarantees do parents have to get our children home quickly and safely?**

The Department of Education will follow all health service recommendations. We have demonstrated that we can rapidly implement a closure as and when required. Therefore, should the situation require it, schools and Stanley House can be closed quickly, and arrangements put in place for children to return home in Camp and emergency childcare put in place to respond to need.

**Q: Recent travel restrictions were put in place not only because of Covid-19 but also because emergency help was not so readily available in the event of an accident. Why is it now safe for parents to drive in and out of Stanley twice a week to take children from East Falkland into school and Stanley House?**

The Education Department will work within the guidelines put in place. KEMH have confirmed that there is no evidence of Covid-19 in the civilian community at this time. Emergency services remain in place to react to any emergency that may occur. When travel restrictions ease, Camp Education will resume travel to the West in line with our plans.

**Q: What happens if a boarder in Stanley House becomes unwell?**

If a boarder became unwell then they would have to isolate in their room until Covid-19 was ruled out and the student was fully well again. Access to bathrooms would be controlled with strict cleaning in place. Everyone in Stanley House would not have to isolate. Social distancing will be applied, meaning cross infection will be lessened. Remember that children are

## **Q&A about Year 11**

### **Q. What are the arrangements for the Year 11 cohort?**

Year 11 are authorised as absent from school from now onwards. This is the period of time when they would ordinarily have been on study leave for their GCSEs – therefore all teaching for Year 11 is complete.

Falkland College and FICS are planning the transition programme for Year 11 students. We aim to provide this programme much earlier than usual to support this cohort. The provisional dates are 19-21 May. The programme is being planned to run in smaller groups and will cover all the usual topics such as support for gaining employment, banking at home and overseas, FI association, College life, drugs and alcohol awareness, sexual health, Further Education policies and expectations, and opportunities at Falkland College. During the transition programme children from Camp in Year 11 will be welcome to stay in Stanley House, as would be usual. More details will be shared with Year 11 students soon.

Year 11 students are regarding as of compulsory school age until the earlier of two events: they are being the end of Term 3 or the completion of a transition programme. After the transition programme is complete the students will effectively be 'released' from their obligation to attend education and this will enable them to pursue employment opportunities.

The following restrictions regarding the employment of under 18s from The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance 1967 still applies, as follows:

- a. No child shall be employed in any industrial undertaking.
- b. No child shall be employed in any work -
  - (i) which exposes the child to physical, psychological or sexual abuse;
  - (ii) underground, under water, at dangerous heights or in confined spaces;
  - (iii) with dangerous machinery, equipment or tools, without adequate training and, where necessary, adequate supervision.