



# ABOYNE ACADEMY

RESPECT | PARTICIPATION  
TEAMWORK | DETERMINATION

**Aberdeenshire**  
COUNCIL



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31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Dear Primary 7 Parent/Carer

## **ABOYNE ACADEMY – VIRTUAL PRIMARY 7 TRANSITION (TERM 4)**

Thank you very much for your patience regarding Primary 7 Transition this year whilst we worked through the phased return of Aboyne Academy pupils following the most recent announcement from the Scottish Government. I hope your son/daughter has enjoyed getting back into their usual classroom and school with their friends in recent weeks, and I am sure they will be looking forward to a well-deserved Easter holiday.

At present, current guidelines and restrictions do not allow for pupils to mix across different schools and settings, therefore face to face visits are not permitted and our plans will be virtual. However, if this changes at all throughout Term 4 then plans will be adapted accordingly and communicated with all pupils, parents and carers as swiftly as possible.

Please find below a detailed outline of our Virtual Transition for next term for all P7 pupils. This was a real success last year and will be enhanced even further with the ability to now host 'live meets' using our digital platforms in school. Communication, tasks, and live sessions will take place in an Aboyne Academy Primary 7 Google Classroom, and P7 pupils will be added to this for the start of next term. This platform will be familiar to most pupils already and will be a good preparation for learning and teaching in the Academy. For any pupils who require extra support in using Google Classroom for the first time, help guides will be shared and an opportunity for virtual support for particular classes or groups will follow.

### **Aboyne Academy Virtual Transition Timeline**

*\*Please note some of these dates and activities may be subject to change.*

<b>Week Beginning</b>	<b>Outline of Task(s)</b>	<b>Live Session(s)</b>
19 <sup>th</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pupils to join/access Google Classroom and familiarise themselves with this platform.</li><li>• Pupils to complete the Aboyne Cluster P7 Transition Wellbeing Questionnaire (via Microsoft Forms) in class or at home – link will be shared, and feedback will help to plan any additions to the transition.</li><li>• P7 Parent/Carer Virtual Information Presentation will be uploaded to the Aboyne Academy website and made available for all Parents and Carers, to replace our usual face to face Information Evening usually in April.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome / Transition Overview and Q+A with all pupils and Mr Drennan (DHT) and Mrs Scott (Head Teacher) during the school day. Dates and times TBC with individual P7 class teachers.</li></ul>

28 <sup>th</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils to complete a 'Who Am I?' activity and post to the classroom; to begin communicating and building friendships with pupils from across other schools.</li> <li>• Pupils to begin working through sections of the 'Goodbye Primary, Hello Aboyne Academy' booklet in class, which will be a paper copy delivered to each school.</li> <li>• Question and Answer section of the Google Classroom to be opened up for asking questions at any time throughout the Transition process.</li> </ul>	
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aboyne Academy Virtual/Interactive Tour will be added to the Google Classroom for pupils to work through in their own time.</li> <li>• P7s will have the opportunity to participate in the annual Rotary Quiz, scheduled for Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May after school. More details to follow.</li> </ul>	
10 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further completion of sections of the paper booklet in schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome and Introduction from the Guidance Teachers into their Role in supporting all pupils, our House system, and a further Q+A session. Live Meet session(s) will be scheduled with class teachers in school time.</li> </ul>
17 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils will be encouraged to participate in the Aboyne Academy Virtual Library tour and reading information challenge.</li> <li>• Video messages will be collated and shared in the Google Classroom from members of Academy staff to help with introductions and connections. These can be accessed in school and from home.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further Live Session(s) / dates and times TBC with Mr Drennan to introduce our 'Global Goals Tasks' and Activities for the next few weeks and to answer any questions.</li> </ul>
24 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Goals Tasks – Week 1 uploaded to the Google Classroom for completion and return.</li> <li>• Form Class information will be shared with pupils via the Google Classroom.</li> </ul>	
31 <sup>st</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Goals Tasks – Week 2 uploaded to the Google Classroom for completion and return.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form Class/House live meets will take place to introduce pupils to their classmates and Guidance Teacher. This will aim to involve some of last year's S1s to share their experiences and hints and tips. Dates and times TBC during the school day.</li> </ul>
7 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Goals Tasks – Week 3 uploaded to the Google Classroom for completion and return.</li> <li>• Completion of the 'Goodbye Primary, Hello Aboyne Academy!' paper booklets in Primary</li> </ul>	

	School for delivery to the Academy to review.	
14 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Goals Tasks – Week 4 uploaded to the Google Classroom for completion and return.</li> </ul>	
21 <sup>st</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If Sports Day/Virtual Sports Day as planned in the Academy calendar does go ahead, P7s will be encouraged to participate and begin to earn their first House points. Details will follow.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Live session(s) with Mr Drennan and other members of staff to share details for the start of Term 1 in August.</li> </ul>

Other activities may be added or substituted, depending on feedback from the wellbeing questionnaire and also in relation to how guidelines and restrictions progress throughout the term from the Scottish Government and Aberdeenshire Council.

Pupils who require Extended Transition or additional support will receive some extra inputs from some of our Additional Support for Learning (ASL) Teachers and our Pupil Support Worker in smaller groups online. Details of these sessions will be communicated directly with the Primary 7 Class Teachers and will take place during the school day. Some pupils are transitioning into our Community Resource Hub for S1 and bespoke arrangements will be in place with our Additional Support for Learning Staff, pupils and parents/carers on an on-going basis.

This letter and all future communications re: P7 Transition will be added to our Aboyne Academy website here: <https://aboyneacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/parents/p7-transition/> We would encourage you to visit this regularly, and also familiarise yourself, over time, with all other Aboyne Academy information held centrally on our website e.g. school policies, handbook, uniform and more.

I hope that you will find this information useful and re-assuring. Please ensure you talk it through with your child to support them in understanding the few weeks ahead of them and the transition process.

As always, if you have any questions, queries, or concerns then please do not hesitate to get in contact with me on the telephone number above or the [aboyne.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:aboyne.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) e-mail address.

I look forward to working closely with our P7s after the Easter break and I am confident their transition will be a success. Enjoy the holidays when they come.

Yours sincerely

**Barry Drennan**  
Depute Head Teacher