



An t-Eilean Sgitheanach

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Return to School in August 2020 School Transport – Advice and Survey to Parents

The Highland Council is currently preparing for the return of children to schools from 12 August 2020. As part of our preparation work, we are contacting those parents whose children qualify for free school transport, to explain the arrangements that will apply, and to ask whether you wish your child or children to continue to use school transport in August.

The Highland Council, and our school transport contractors, are determined to minimise the risks to children and families involved in travelling to and from school.

Although the ambition is for all children to return to school in August, without any social distancing in place, we are also making contingency plans based on various alternative factors. At the time of writing, the Scottish Government have not announced any change to the guidelines for physical distancing on school transport. The Council is therefore looking to assess the potential level of transport uptake.

At this stage all that is sought is an indication of parental views on this matter, we understand that at this time our schools have not as yet been able to confirm to you their opening plans, and those details may in turn impact on your views regarding transport.

Clearly where parents are able, or through choice wish to make their own travel arrangements, that assists with capacity on vehicles for other pupils, and helps with managing the return to schools overall. Where possible, the Council would encourage parents to consider alternative transport means.

To gain an indication of the likely demand for school transport in August, the Council would therefore be grateful if you would answer the questions below.

Please reply by 1 July 2020 to [**public.transport@highland.gov.uk**](mailto:public.transport@highland.gov.uk)

If you decline transport for now but wish for it to be reinstated as the situation changes, please email public.transport@highland.gov.uk with 2 weeks' notice to allow for arrangements to be put in place.

Q1. PLEASE ENTER THE NAME(S) OF YOUR CHILD(REN) WHO WILL BE ATTENDING PORTREE HIGH SCHOOL IN AUGUST 2020.

Q2. DO YOU WANT YOUR SECONDARY SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN TO TRAVEL TO SCHOOL USING SCHOOL TRANSPORT IN AUGUST 2020? – Please choose one option.

Yes or No

Miss C A MacDonald
Head Teacher/Ceannard