



JGHS Contingency Planning 2021-22

Background:

1. The JGHS school roll continues to grow
2. Current school capacity is 1450
3. The August 2021 roll is projected to be approx. 1550
4. The Council has invested £10 million in the redevelopment of Darroch as an annexe for JGHS
5. A new separate Gaelic Medium (GME) secondary school is being developed
6. Due to the impact of COVID-19, completion of Darroch is delayed until Spring 2022.
7. Additional classroom accommodation will **not** be possible prior to August 2021

Implications for JGHS:

1. We have insufficient classrooms for August 2021
2. We have to find creative solution(s) that:
 - a) Maintain curriculum choice
 - b) Maintains and improves current standards for Learning and Teaching and attainment outcomes
 - c) Ensure we continue to improve and develop as a school
 - d) Ensure we deliver SG and CEC targets

Factors we considered:

1. Maintaining vs reducing our current breadth of courses
2. Consideration of further adapting spaces on the main site for learning and teaching
3. Neighbourhood school arrangements
4. Multi-use classrooms
5. Digital drive and hub development
6. The number of periods which are currently used for delivering senior courses and what modes of delivery could be used (e.g. Flexible Digital Learning FDL)
7. Development of independent learning for S6 pupils

What exactly is FDL and where did it come from?

1. What is the normal period allocation for senior school courses?
5 periods per subject per week
2. What happens when course uptake is low?
Subjects run on reduced period allocation
3. What delivery styles are used during these periods currently in different departments?
A balance between direct teaching and student led activities e.g. exam skills, research time, project work etc
4. Why are the advantages of FDL and what would FDL mean for JGHS?
Many of the student led activities do not require a classroom and often require ICT. Students could be targeted during this time for individualised support.
5. Why haven't we done this before if it sounds so promising?
We have not had the ability to provide the digital devices and development time to move this forward previously.

Opportunities

1. We have a chance to secure funding and digital device support to embed digital skills in our senior school thus better preparing them for post-school education
2. Important that senior students are better prepared for independent learning through use of IT where appropriate.
3. In addition, FDL opens up opportunities to offer targeted times for small group work and tutoring for those who may benefit from individualised support.

Pupils could still arrange to meet with their teacher during these times for help or be asked to by the teacher if identified as in need of some additional tutoring.

How will we ensure we maintain / improve our current high standards

1. We have been working closely with teaching staff, in considering how we will continue to deliver our curriculum.
2. Current best practices will be utilised in developing / delivering FDL courses
3. We will reflect and learn from what worked well and didn't work during 'lockdown'.
4. Development time will be provided to staff as appropriate
5. We are seeking input from students and involving them in the planning stages

Council support and engagement

1. With Council officers we have been reflecting on the pro and cons of different approaches which we have identified
2. Strong council backing and engagement in developing a digital approach which works well with our favoured option
3. There is much to digest so feel free to ask questions once you have had a chance to think this through.

THE END