

Directors of Education  
via Email

12 January 2021

Dear Colleague,

Firstly, I would like to thank you and your teams for the considerable amount of work I know is underway to ensure that our children and young people can continue to access education during this challenging period; it is deeply appreciated.

I would like to highlight some additional guidance and information that will hopefully prove helpful and that you will have been aware of from other sources.

On Friday we published the [Remote Learning Guidance](#) and shared this with teachers across Scotland as part of a communication from the General Teaching Council for Scotland. The guidance was developed by Education Scotland in partnership with the COVID-19 Education Recovery Group to support practitioners in leading remote learning in the coming weeks. It sets out our shared understanding and expectations in relation to remote learning. I would draw your attention to the entitlement aspects of the guidance, where clear expectations and approaches are detailed, and ask that you promote their application with your schools and learners.

In addition to this guidance Education Scotland has curated into a single list all the support that is available for practitioners on remote learning from Education Scotland and other national organisations. Together we are working continuously to further improve the national remote learning offer and support available to the profession and as resources become available the list will be updated.

As you will be aware we have worked with ADES and other CERG partners to scope out how we gain a national overview of remote learning, draw from existing plans and guidance and discuss implementation of remote learning with a small selection of schools. An approach has now been finalised and agreed with all partners, including ADES, and the attached paper confirms the agreed approach and timeline for this work. HM Inspectors of Education will review local authority planning and guidance for the delivery of remote learning this week. Senior Regional Advisors will link with you today to gather these plans and guidance for the delivery of remote learning. We thank you for your help in progressing this in such a demanding timeline.

We are working across the country with all your teams and colleagues in schools and other settings to provide support during these challenging times. Please do not hesitate to contact Education Scotland if we can provide further support.

Thank you once again for all that you are doing.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gayle Gorman -". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Gayle Gorman**  
**HM Chief Inspector of Education**

Encl.