

EE43. Schools Re-Opening Update

The Emergency Executive received a verbal update from the Director of Children's Services on schools re-opening. All pupils had access to at least one day in school during the initial three days of opening in the week commencing 10 August with the exception of some pupils whose schools were affected by flooding or a fire event. The full return to education had commenced on Monday 17 August. The figures showed an attendance rate of 97% across the entire estate. The Service was engaging with a small number of families who had concerns around sending their children into the school environment.

School transport had operated successfully with the bus service operating as normal. Some of the ASN taxi provision required to make double runs but the availability of taxis was improving. Additional daytime cleaning had been put in place in the schools and pupils had been well briefed on the rules, one way system and hand washing requirements. The provision of school meals was working well and would be reviewed on 30 August. There was also a robust supply chain in place to provide PPE.

The Service had engaged with the Trade Unions who were satisfied with the robustness of the risk assessments in place and with the level of engagement between Head Teachers and the wider staff cohort. The Service would meet with Trade Unions again at the end of the week.

A daily call was in place with NHS Forth Valley to discuss any suspect cases of Covid. There had been no positive tests across Forth Valley in the cohort of school age children.

Decision

The Emergency Executive noted the verbal update provided by the Director of Children's Services.