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<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/staffupdates>

2 April

Join your colleagues and volunteer for an essential role today.

VOLUNTEER

Help to keep **our city** running
during this challenging time

SIGN UP TO **VOLUNTEER NOW**



Over 400 of you have now signed up to join our volunteering programme – thank you to each and every one of you. By all working together we will make a difference and help keep our city running at this unusual time.

If you are sitting at home just now reading this and you have not been identified as an essential worker by your manager – then you might decide now is the time to sign up and tell us your skills and how they could be put to best use.

By joining our volunteer register you are not committing to anything at this stage. What it does is allow us to increase our pool of staff volunteers so that when the peak of infections happens we have dedicated people in place to help deliver essential services across the city.

When you **register here** – you can express your interest in the type of essential role that best matches your skills. You will be paid at your current grade and if you require any additional training to carry out the volunteer role you will receive this. It can be a great opportunity to add new skills to your CV and to experience working life from a different angle on a temporary basis.

We have lots of essential roles to choose from across Public Health and Neighbourhoods and Sustainability and Home Care and Education. Did you know these include roles such as Driving, Janitors, Catering, Business Support and Front Line Management? Check out the full list on our **MyJobScotland** pages.

Please register today to support your essential colleagues. This is your chance to make a difference and help keep Glasgow running and our most vulnerable citizens supported.

More information available [here](#)

Our volunteer heroes in action – staff support Crematorium roles



Rachel
(left) and
Theresa
(right)

Theresa Martin, Parks and Development Team, Neighbourhoods and Sustainability

“I was asked if I wanted to volunteer with Bereavement Services, I immediately said yes, I felt that I definitely wanted to help out my colleagues. I knew that the role would be to perhaps help with cremations, support staff with front of house duties and be there for each other through this particularly surreal time. I felt a little nervous but really up for the challenge of learning as much I could. Over the past week, we have been supported through learning how to assist the cremation tech team and a little about the admin side of things. It has been, only what I can call, a profound and rewarding experience.”

Rachel Morrison, Administration, Neighbourhoods and Sustainability

“If there was ever a time to be reflective, for me it is now. I’ve went from basic admin services to learning the whole process of cremations from start to finish in the space of one week. There has been tears, laughter and a tiny amount of curses but this has been a hugely rewarding experience for me to know I am helping where others cannot.

“I think Bereavement Services tend to be last on the thank you card list but the amount of work, effort and sensitivity this whole department puts in to their tirelessly demanding posts is exceptional and I have been immensely proud to be part of the team.”

#Thank you Rachel and Theresa for rising to the challenge

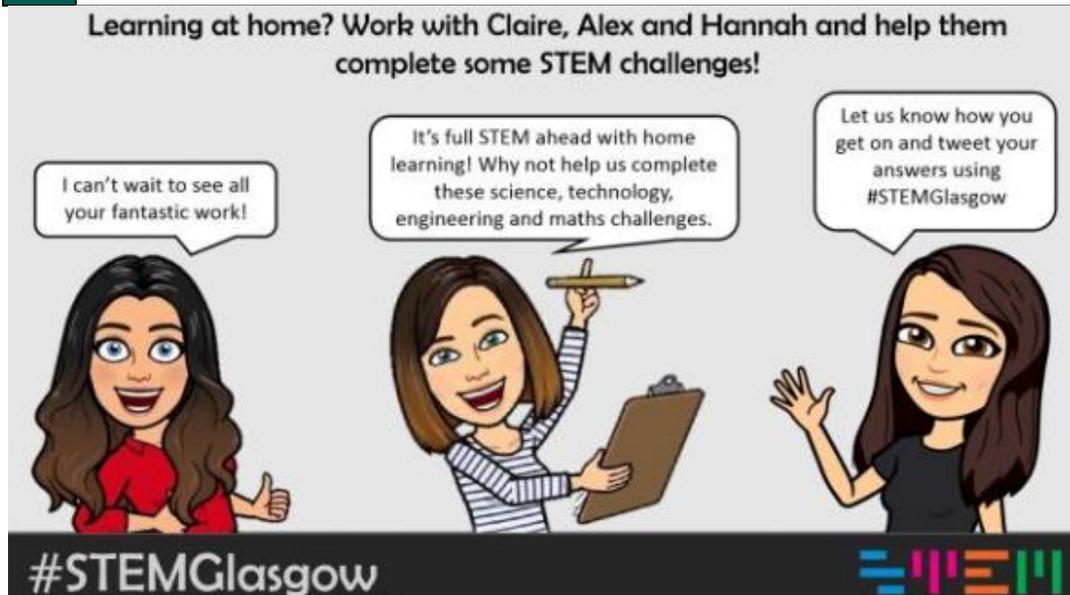
Spring break childcare arrangements

Education Services has been putting contingency plans in place to support key/essential workers access childcare arrangements across the city during the schools’ Spring Break – from Monday 6 April for two weeks.

Our 52 week nurseries will be open as normal and we’ve organised clusters of primary school local hubs to work together to provide a service for their families and reduce the pressure on catering and facilities management by not keeping all the schools open. A breakfast and lunch service will be available in the school hubs for the children.

Our schools have been liaising with their families to work out the children/staff ratio and will let them know the hub they are being offered and will be open for all of the 10 days – including Good Friday and Easter Monday – allowing support to the families most in need to carry out essential work to keep the city going.

Learning at home – hints and tips



A selection of education experts across subjects are working in partnership with the Glasgow Times to offer advice and help to our families with **home learning hints and tips**. These are being published in the paper twice a week while the schools are closed - this is to complement the learning packs that were sent home with pupils and the ongoing support our school staff are maintaining directly with their pupils.

Read the latest feature here: <https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/18348778.home-times-six-brilliant-stem-activities-kids-lockdown/>

Maureen McKenna, Executive Director of Education Services offers reassurance to our families about putting pressure on themselves to recreate the classroom. Read her interview here:

<https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/18338139.glasgows-top-schools-boss-says-parents-relax-coronavirus-home-learning/>

The features will run on a Wednesday and a Friday and will cover:

- literacy and numeracy
- STEM
- English as and additional language
- PE and active sports
- music and creative skills
- early learning and advice from educational psychologists.

Meet our heroes – Caring Karen goes above and beyond

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Neighbourhoods Coordinator, Karen Venables from Neighbourhoods and Sustainability, recently sent out an email cancelling one of her community meetings to a number of local residents in the Drumchapel area. At the end of the email Karen asked the residents to get in touch if they needed anything.

Shortly afterwards, one of the elderly residents contacted Karen and explained that she couldn't get out to get her prescription due to her underlying health condition. Karen immediately offered to pick up the prescription and left it on the residents doorstep and called her to let her know it was there and to see if she was ok.

Neighbourhood Liaison Manager, Francine O'Rourke said "A response like this is typical of Karen who frequently goes over and above in her job supporting community groups or residents."

#Well done Karen

Meet our heroes – Cook Freeze teams working hard

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Cook Freeze Unit Manager, Linda and Catering Manager Liz would like to thank all of the Cook Freeze team for their tremendous dedication over the past few weeks – they are so proud of their efforts.

The team of 19 staff are currently working on a rota basis to continue to produce meals for the Homes for the Elderly. The vital service they provide makes sure that this vulnerable group maintain a normal routine and receive daily nutritious meals. The team are even still supplying them with birthday cakes when needed!

In addition to this the Cook Freeze drivers Steve and Kenny have taken on additional duties alongside their usual roles to help support the unit during the current challenge. Driver Kenny is photographed.

Casual employees – pay arrangements and key information

The council family has been working hard to make sure that every employee, who has been working on a regular basis - including our casual employees, will be paid.

Many of our casual employees may already be in key roles helping us deliver vital services and as with all employees it is essential that you remain in contact with your employer. If you are not currently classed as an essential worker please understand that we may need to ask you to work in an essential role as things progress. We are also asking for volunteers from across our council family to support the work we are doing in these unprecedented times.

Pay arrangements

We have committed to paying our casual employees during the Coronavirus crisis. To enable us to do this, we have worked out your 4 weekly average pay based on the average of your last 12 weeks earnings.

- This means that your pay due on 7 April 2020 will generally reflect the hours you have worked in the normal pay period.
- Going forward, May and June's pay will reflect the new 4 weekly average pay.

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Of course, as time progresses you may be asked to work additional hours beyond the average hours we have paid you for and where that happens your local manager will advise you of the processes in place to pay you accordingly.

As with all of our employees, whether you have been identified as an employee in an essential role or have still to be assigned a role, you must remain available for work. This is because you may be required for business critical activities across the council over the coming weeks and it is therefore essential that you provide contact details to your manager.

During Covid-19 please make sure that you keep your manager updated if you are unwell and your manager will advise you what steps you need to take.

We want to hear from you – tell us your stories

We want to hear about the jobs you're doing at this challenging time to support the city, or tell us about a colleague you're particularly proud of. We'll then share these stories with your colleagues across the council.

We know you're all proud to play your part for the city - send us your stories and pictures to Insider@glasgow.gov.uk

Keep up the great work – what we're hearing on Twitter



jan lawrence @JanIndy2020 · 54m

Well done **Glasgow City Council**.



Scouseweegian @scouseweegian · 2h

I received this today from @GlasgowCC me being a student I'm on a low income. This arrived today. I had no clue about it. (I wasn't going to post) but I'd like to say thank you. I have one child but for those families with more this must be a tough time.

[Show this thread](#)



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Andymac @diablomac22 · 13h

Replying to @scouseweegian and @GlasgowCC

Well done **Glasgow City Council**. Leading the way again hopefully the other councils follow and do the same. 🙌🙌👍👍



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