



Eastbank Academy
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Head Teacher
Jonathan Graham

19 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

BLENDED LEARNING: WEEK 1

The first week of blended learning has come to an end, and I think we can be satisfied with how smoothly it went. The restrictions in place posed certain challenges, but everyone should be proud of the part they played in making the first week a success. I'm grateful to all the staff at Eastbank for their work in preparation for this, and ensuring that pupils were taught and cared for effectively. I'd also like to thank pupils for their excellent response, and to parents, carers and families for your unwavering support once again. I'm sure week two will be just as successful.

Next week

The attendance pattern will be the same next week, i.e.:

- S1 Monday and Wednesday afternoons
- S2 Tuesday and Thursday afternoons
- S3 Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons
- S4/5/6 Every morning

A document with full details of all arrangements for blended learning is on our website [here](#).

Facemasks

Thanks to all those young people who brought their own masks to school, and to everyone who showed superb levels of responsibility by wearing a mask without demur. We have had to issue quite a few masks, and this is costing the school money. I'd be grateful for your continued support in ensuring young people arrive at school equipped with a mask. Can I also ask for your help in ensuring that facemasks do not appear to contain football colours or contain football badges, especially those associated with the 'Old Firm'. I have asked a few pupils to remove masks that are either green, white & yellow, or blue, white and red, which are not appropriate for school or work. I'd be grateful for your support and understanding on this.

iPads

Pupils should come to school with all required belongings including a fully charged iPad, with charger.

Uniform Bank

Our partners from FARE, who are based in the school, are operating a uniform bank. Please don't allow a lack of uniform be a barrier to school attendance. If you are experiencing difficulty please ask your son/daughter to approach FARE in G16, and I'm sure we'll be able to help. This may be especially needed for young people who have taken a stretch during lockdown.

School astroturf pitch

I'm appealing to all parents and families for help with our astroturf pitch.

I completely understand that young people need recreational activities as part of a healthy lifestyle, and I encourage everyone to take part in these, in line with safety requirements. I also realise that the pandemic has resulted in a lack of availability of these at the moment. Many young people used our pitch for



recreation during lockdown, both during the day and in the evening. This has continued during the blended learning phase as young people attend school only on a part-time basis. Some of the users of the pitch have been Eastbank pupils, whilst others are unknown to us.

I am perfectly happy with people using the pitch as long as it is safe, in line with COVID regulations, with respect to our community neighbours, and causes no damage to facilities. Most of those who use it do so in a positive and community spirited way. Unfortunately, there have been some incidents of vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the evening, and some people have been using our pitch while lessons are taking place, or while the pitch is being used by a club in the evening.

Can I ask you to speak with your children about this issue and try to ensure that they are not part of any of the above difficulties. Unfortunately, we have had to seek the support of the police, and would hate for those young people who are using the pitch responsibly and considerately to be affected by the unacceptable actions of others. Your support with this will be very helpful.

I wish everyone a very pleasant weekend. I look forward to seeing our young people back for another week of blended learning from Monday.

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Graham
Head Teacher

