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Head Teacher Jonathan Graham

23 April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

PUPIL RETURN: WEEK 1

I am please to report that the first week back has been incredibly positive. It has been wonderful to see our young people return to school again. My thanks to staff, pupils, and parents for making the week go so well. Some items on which to update you:

Face Masks

I have been delighted with the level of cooperation with face masks this week. This is highly commendable and it is a credit to our young people that they are willing to take this responsibility seriously and wear face masks as required.

Some pupils have been forgetting their own face masks and have had to be provided with one by the school. This is costing the school money. It'd be most grateful if all young people could remember to bring their own face masks every day.

Physical Education

Pupils who have PE on a particular day should attend school in PE kit. I must stress that this should be the standard PE kit which is entirely black, as shown below, and **not sports or leisure wear of their choice**.



Acceptable

Unacceptable

- Coloured leggings
- Coloured t-shirts
- Coloured shorts
- Coloured track-suits
- Coloured hoodies
- Anything not in the adjacent image!

Pupils who do not have PE on a particular day must wear normal school uniform. I do worry that this particular mitigation has resulted in the school day becoming a fashion show for some pupils, which runs contrary to our commitment to equity. I must pass on my thanks and give credit to the many young people who are wearing the correct PE kit, and are wearing normal uniform to school when they don't have PE. Continued parental support with this will be most helpful.

Senior Phase Tracking Reports

These were issued today to all pupils in S4, 5, and 6. Please ensure that your son/daughter provides you with their copy.

Asymptomatic Covid-19 Testing Programme

A reminder that if you wish to find out more about the Asymptomatic Testing Programme, which allows staff and pupils who are attending school to be tested regularly for Covid-19, then please complete the attached form <u>here</u>. All staff and pupils are encouraged to participate in this voluntary scheme.



SQA Assessments

A reminder that these will begin from Monday 26 April for pupils in S4, 5 and 6. A short video explaining our approach and timeline can be found <u>here</u>. While we are not hosting a normal diet of exams in the games hall as we have done most years, I must stress that these assessments are very important. Therefore, pupils must help themselves to do their best by:

- Ensuring full attendance throughout the month, especially on days when assessments take place;
- Arriving on time for assessments;
- Attending supported study sessions;
- Revising at home.

Exam conditions will be in place during assessments, which means:

- Assessments will be completed in silence;
- No books, notes or learning materials will be permitted unless explicitly stated otherwise;
- Mobile phones and smart watches should be switched off and left in school bags or at home.

Pupils will be issued with further details on Monday. We wish all our senior phase pupils the very best of luck in these assessments, and we will do everything we can to support them as they progress.

I trust everyone remains safe and well and I wish you a very pleasant weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Jonathan Graham Head Teacher

