



Eastbank Academy
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Head Teacher
Jonathan Graham

1 October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

I trust all parents and pupils are safe and well. I write with some important updates.

Supported study

Our supported study programme has started for senior phase pupils, and I'm pleased to see good attendance so far. The timetable is available on our website [here](#), and has also been sent via our app and twitter.

Target setting

All pupils in S3 to S6 undertook a target setting exercise with their Pastoral Care and subject teachers. These have now been collated, and will play an important part in supporting an improvement in results. This is also in keeping with our values of *Ambition* and *Responsibility*. We will refer to these targets when undertaking our tracking and reporting. S4-6 will receive their first report next week, and S3 will receive theirs after the October holiday.

Awards ceremony

To recognise the wonderful achievements of our senior pupils in gaining qualifications, we plan to hold a scaled-down awards ceremony after the pupil day on Wednesday 6 October. Unfortunately, we will not be able to invite parents to this, but we do intend to 'stream' the event live on YouTube.

iPads

Please ensure all pupils bring their iPads to school every day. If the iPads are not working, pupils should bring them to school and we can fix them.

Attendance

Good attendance at school is of vital importance. Pupils need to be in school if they are going to progress and achieve. We find it very difficult to teach, and help young people learn, if they are not in school. Please ensure your children attend school on time every day.

Uniform

After a very warm summer the temperature is starting to fall. We will continue to ensure that rooms are well-ventilated. However, I would not expect to see pupils wearing outdoor coats/jackets in class. Pupils are advised to wear an appropriate jumper as part of their uniform, that can be worn or removed easily as the temperature changes. Our uniform policy can be found [here](#).

School newsletter

There will be another edition of Academy News issued next week, which will provide a comprehensive update on all exciting goings-on at Eastbank over this term.



COVID General

As I always do, I appeal for your support in ensuring pupils come to school equipped with a mask. While the school no longer undertakes contact tracing, I will be putting out a letter if a pupil in your child's year group receives a positive test. These letters indicate that there is a low risk and are no cause for alarm.

COVID testing

All staff and pupils are encouraged to undertake twice weekly Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing at home, and can collect kits from the school office, once permission form has been completed.

Pupils who receive a positive LFD test should not attend school. Please inform us of the result and book a PCR test. If the PCR test is positive pupils should remain at home and complete their isolation period. If the PCR test is negative, and the pupil is symptom-free, they can end their isolation period and attend school. Please advise us by phone if this is the case.

Pupils who are identified as close contacts by Test and Protect should remain at home and book a PCR test. If the PCR is negative, and they are not experiencing symptoms, pupils can return to school, but parents should inform us to ensure we update our records.

Holidays

Please note that Friday 8 October is an in-service day and pupils should not attend. The October holiday is the following week, 11 – 15 October. Pupils will return to school on Monday 18 October.

I wish everyone a pleasant weekend, and look forward to a relaxing October holiday when it comes.

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Graham
Head Teacher

