

Eastbank Academy
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Head Teacher Jonathan Graham

22 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

REMOTE LEARNING UPDATE

I hope that you and your family remain safe and well and that your child has been able to engage in home learning.

The First Minister has indicated that home learning will continue until at least mid-February, with the situation being reviewed on 2 February. I understand that this will disappoint pupils and cause increased difficulties for parents.

We will continue with our current model of a combination of live lessons, recorded lessons and tasks to be completed. As far as reasonably possible, pupils should continue to follow their timetable in line with the guidance I issued on 8 January. Parents have a key role in ensuring that young people are putting in the required effort to complete the work, as well as ensuring young people do not spend too long each day in front of an electronic device, which can be a difficult balance to achieve. I realise that this can be challenging for many and I want to thank all pupils and parents/carers for all your efforts and support so far.

Pupils not engaging

As mentioned last week we will contact you by text or 'phone if we are concerned about your child's engagement with on-line learning. Please do not be offended if we do contact you. You may feel that our text or call is unfair. Please be assured we are not trying to 'get at' anyone. Rather, we are doing this out of concern, and simply want to ensure that no one is disadvantaged academically due to the school closure. However, if pupils are not logging onto the on-line lessons, or submitting work, or interacting with teachers, we have no way of knowing that they are working.

SQA

I know that pupils in S4/5/6 remain anxious about SQA qualifications and I want to reassure them that we are absolutely determined that they will not be disadvantaged when we submit our grades to SQA. I will keep everyone informed should the SQA make announcements about modifications to the existing arrangements.

WiFi

If families do not have access to WiFi at home, and this is proving a barrier to home learning, we may be in a position to help. If you are in this position please contact us.

S4 Tracking Reports

These will have arrived by post earlier this week and will provide useful feedback on recent progress. If you have any questions about the report, please contact the appropriate Year Head or PTPC. Contact details for relevant colleagues can be found at the end of this letter.

S5/6 Tracking Reports

Pupils in S5/6 who are following Higher courses sat prelim exams in December. A tracking report for all S5/6 pupils will be issued next week, and will include prelim marks where appropriate.

Family Learning

Please continue to consult the resources in the Family Learning section of our website (under *Resources*), or here.

Thank you to those who completed the family learning reflection survey last week. The information provided is very useful and helps us respond to issues raised. We have modified the survey slightly this week, and would appreciate you taking a few moments to complete this. Ideally, parents/carers will complete this with their children to learn about the pupil's experiences over the last week. The survey can be found here.

Health and Wellbeing

It may be that, during these difficult times, our young people need help and support in certain areas, that would normally be readily available in school. If so, pupils can complete the attached form, which can be found here, and we will do our very best to help. Please note that sanitary products are always available in the school foyer.

Recent Letters

For your convenience, all letters issued in the recent past can be found on our school website, in the *Resources* section under the heading *Parental Letters* (or <u>here</u>).

As always, my thanks for your continued support. Please contact myself or any of the colleagues detailed below if we can help in any way. I wish you all a very pleasant weekend.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Graham

Head Teacher

PRINCIPAL TEACHERS OF PASTORAL CARE

Burns House	Ms McAulay	Gw10mcaulaykaren@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Livingstone House	Mrs Miller	Gw10millermaria1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Somerville House	Mr Pert	Gw10pertmaurice@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Telford House	Ms Morrison	Gw10morrisonlisa@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Dalziel House	Ms Looker	gw16lookerlois@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

YEAR HEADS

First Year	Mrs Gray	Gw18grayelizabeth@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Second Year	Mrs Brooks	Gw10brooksanne@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Third and Fourth Year	Mr Dunsmore	Gw07dunsmoregavin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Fifth and Sixth Year	Mr Millar	Gw10millargreig@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk