



Eastbank Academy
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Head Teacher
Jonathan Graham

14 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

We are now two weeks into 2022 and the new school term. It has been a very busy fortnight at Eastbank – we have contended with snow and COVID, as well as the usual buzz of a Glasgow school! I write with some updates to keep you informed about the term ahead.

SQA exams

These are still scheduled to take place in the summer for pupil in the senior phase studying National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher. It is my expectation that they **will** go ahead. We are making plans for holding these exams, and will keep you informed as the term progresses.

Tracking reports

All year groups will receive tracking reports during this term, with another to follow the following term between Easter and the summer holiday (due to the exams, S4, S5 and S6 will receive both of their remaining reports this term). The S4 reports will be issued next Friday, with S5/6 to follow early the following week. These tracking reports will contain the results of prelim exams which pupils undertook in January.

Parents' nights

The S2 parents' night took place in December, and all other year groups will have parents' nights this term as follows:

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|--------|----------------------|---------------|
| • S4 | Wednesday 26 January | 4:15pm-6:15pm |
| • S5/6 | Wednesday 2 February | 4:15pm-6:15pm |
| • S3 | Wednesday 2 March | 4:15pm-6:15pm |
| • S1 | Wednesday 30 March | 4:15pm-6:15pm |

All conversations with teachers will be by telephone, and details for booking appointments electronically will be sent out in advance of each event. Letters for the S4 event have been sent via the school app, and a copy can be found [here](#). Letters for S5/6 will follow next week.

Uniform

Myself and Year Heads have undertaken uniform checks during lessons this week. I am delighted to report that more than 90% of our pupils have a good standard of uniform. Thank you for your help with that. We have sent a few letters home to a small number of pupils for wearing track-suit trousers or leggings to school – these are not part of school uniform. If pupils have PE they should come to school in school uniform, then change into kit for PE lessons, and then change back into uniform at the end of the period. I'd be grateful if you could impress this upon your children. Our uniform requirements can be found [here](#).

Attendance and punctuality

While we face big challenges globally it is important that we don't give up. Attendance at school is crucial for young people's future in terms of employment, health, and wellbeing. Please continue to do everything



you can to ensure that your children's attendance is as close to 100% as possible, and that they are in school on time every day in the morning and after lunch. Arriving late or being absent results in missed learning. I will be writing separately next week to the parents of those pupils whose late-coming in terms 1 and 2 have been particularly concerning.

COVID

Thank you for keeping us informed about positive cases. We have had some across the year groups and the standard [letter](#) will provide relevant and helpful information. I encourage everyone to do regular lateral flow tests at home (they can't be done in school!). Kits can be collected free of charge from the school office. In addition, no Head Teacher letter would be complete without a face mask appeal! Please ensure pupils have a strong, reusable face mask and a spare when they come to school.

COVID – Changes to Isolation rules

On 6 January 2022, in line with Public Health advice, the Scottish Government made changes regarding self-isolation rules for anyone who tests positive for Covid19. These changes mean that:

- Anyone who tests positive will need to isolate for 10 days, but can end self-isolation earlier if they do not have a fever and test negative on a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) on Day 6 and again at least 24 hours later.
- School aged children who are close contacts (both household and non-household) of those who test positive do not need to isolate as long as they return a negative LFD test result each day for seven consecutive days, and remain fever free.

For more information on these changes visit <https://www.gov.scot/news/self-isolation-and-testing-changes/>

I commend everyone in the Eastbank community for making such a positive start to 2022. This will be a busy term, but I have no doubt that our solid partnership working will ensure a great experience and positive outcomes for everyone.

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Graham
Head Teacher

