



Eastbank Academy
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Head Teacher
Jonathan Graham

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Dear Parent/Carer,

WEEK 1 UPDATE

We have reached the end of the first week of the new session. The week has gone very quickly and smoothly with everyone, including our new S1 pupils, settling in well. I am grateful to all members of the school community for making this so. While I do not promise to write to parents every week, I think an update highlighting successes and points for improvement would be useful.

The new school day

Everyone has adapted very well to this and early indications suggest this will be a very positive change. I will review more formally in early course. A small number of pupils are arriving late for school in the morning and/or after lunch, which affects learning and teaching. It is my expectation that pupils in these categories will effect a swift improvement.

Lockers

In the summer holiday all lockers were emptied to allow us to 'reboot' our allocations, and all locks on existing lockers have been changed. All pupils will have access to a locker this session, and it is our intention to issue these from next week. Lockers will be free of charge to pupils, and once issued pupils will keep the same locker until they leave school.

Uniform

I have been delighted to see such a high standard of uniform this week and commend pupils and parents for their efforts with this. It is great to see everyone looking so smart and demonstrating their commitment to belonging to the school community by proudly wearing our uniform. We will all work together to ensure that we maintain these standards throughout the year. Again, our school uniform consists of white shirt, school tie, black trousers or skirt, plain black V-neck jumper or cardigan, and black shoes. I remind everyone that the following items should not be worn to school:

- Tracksuit trousers
- Jeans
- Tracksuit tops
- Leggings
- Jumpers containing prominent logos
- Clothing not in school colours
- Hoodies
- Non V-neck jumpers
- Jumpers containing large writing on front or back

Our policy, which provides more detail, can be found [here](#).

Face masks

Well done to the overwhelming majority of young people who come equipped with masks. We've had to issue a lot this week to pupils who came to school without masks. I appeal to everyone to help keep us all safe by coming to school equipped with a suitable mask.



SQA exams this session

The Scottish Government have announced their intention to hold exams from 26 April 2022, as they did in 'normal times' before 2020. These exams will be for pupils in S4-S6, and at National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher level. We will be working to ensure our young people are fully prepared and supported as we approach these, and intend to hold prelim exams in December. We will also be ready with contingencies in the event that the government change their decision. The SQA have published a [guide for learners](#) which you may find useful.

Social media

Eastbank Academy communicates with parents via our school app and our Twitter feed. This is for communication from school to families. Communication from families to school is via email, letter, or phone, and not through Twitter DMs or comments. Please note that the only social media platform used by the school is Twitter. Eastbank Academy does not have accounts on Facebook, Instagram or any other such platform.

Once again, well done to all Eastbank pupils, parents and staff in making this an excellent first week. I hope everyone has a relaxing weekend and look forward to another good week from Monday.

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Graham
Head Teacher

