

St Benedict's High School

Bridge of Weir Road, Johnstone, PA5 8EX

Tel: 0300 300 1441

E-mail: stbenedictshighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Twitter: @stbenedictsren

Head Teacher: Alan Taylor BSc. (Hons)

Date : 5/8/25



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are enjoying the summer holidays. As the new session approaches, I am writing to share some key information to help ensure a smooth start to the term.

I would ask that you regularly check our website www.oraetlabora.co.uk and twitter(X) feed @stbenedictsren ([LINK](#)) for updates.

Return to school – Monday 18th August 2025

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all our young people back for the start of a new term on Monday 18th August.

School transport arrangements will be issued directly by SPT (Strathclyde Partnership for Transport). Enquires can be made through the following link : [Transport Information](#)

A reminder of our normal school timings :

Monday	8.50am – 3.35pm
Tuesday	8.50am – 3.35pm
Wednesday	8.50am – 2.45pm
Thursday	8.50am – 3.35pm
Friday	8.50am – 2.45pm

First day arrangements - New S1

Pupils should make their way directly to the street area for a year group assembly. During this meeting they will be welcomed by myself and Miss McFadden (Year Head) and provided with their timetable. Senior pupils will be on hand throughout the week to help direct pupils as they move from class to class.

Parent Pay

You should have received details by post/email to allow you to activate your child's account. If you are having any issues, please contact the school office.

SQA Results

The school has recorded excellent examination successes this session across all year groups including our best ever Advanced Higher level results since the school opened in 2006.

This has only been possible due to the hard work of pupils and staff in partnership with parents. A huge well done to all our pupils who gave of their best and thank you for the support that you have provided.

Pastoral care staff will be available on **Friday 15th August** to meet with any pupils who wish to discuss their results, course choices, or next steps. Please contact the school office in advance to arrange an appointment.

Information about this year's qualifications appeals process can be accessed via the link [Appeals -What you need to know](#). If you wish to appeal a result, please contact your child's pastoral care teacher to discuss the next steps.

Staffing Update

We welcome the following new staff for session 2025-2026.

- Michael McGeough Depute Head Teacher
- Courtney Vernal Faculty Head of Technologies
- Chris Watson Teacher of Modern Studies
- Lara McGarry Teacher of Support for Learning
- Caitlin Bogle Teacher of Biology
- Robyn Wilson Teacher of English
- Kathryn Hatherell Teacher of Mathematics
- Lewis MacIntyre Teacher of Art and Design

School uniform – Dressing for Excellence

We adhere to a uniform policy.

Uniform is an important part of our school identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and allows students to feel a sense of pride in their school. It also helps prepare pupils for life after school where many will have to dress smartly for work.

This has been identified as a strength of St Benedict's and has received favourable comments from members of the community, school partners, visitors to the school and parents and pupils.

The school uniform consists of :

- A white school shirt/blouse, and school tie which is visible at all times. S4, S5 and S6 will wear the Senior tie.
- Tailored black trousers or black skirt - leggings, jeans, denim and tracksuits, are not acceptable under any circumstances.
- A school blazer with badge.
- Comfortable footwear (fully black in colour). **No 'Converse/Nike dunk/Adidas samba' style trainers unless fully black in colour.**
- Plain black jumper or cardigan (optional). Black school jumpers should be of an **unbranded style** that allows the school tie to be clearly seen. **Hoodies are not allowed.**





Free Meal Entitlement / Clothing Grants

Your child may be eligible for free school meals and/or a clothing grant. For more information, please click on the link below.

[Apply for free school meals and clothing grants \(Renfrewshire Council\)](#)

Attendance and Timekeeping

We have been working hard recently to ensure that young people in St Benedict's High School continue to achieve and attain to their highest level. Regular attendance and punctuality at school are essential for this. Your support here as a parent/carer is crucial.

Please ensure that your child is only absent from school if they are genuinely unwell or there is a valid reason. **Absences must be reported to the school office by 8.45am.** If young people are absent on a regular basis or if they are late to class, this is detrimental to their education and learning. Please be aware that if your child's attendance or timekeeping falls below the expected standards, we have a duty of care to inform you and to follow Renfrewshire Council procedures.

Calendar of events

A note of key dates for the year ahead e.g. issuing of reports, parents' meetings, school events etc. will shortly be uploaded onto our website early into the new term.

New Session 2025-26

Finally, I hope you enjoy the remainder of the summer break. As I move into my eighth year as Head Teacher, I am very excited about the future and what lies ahead for St Benedict's High School. I have no doubt that the school is at its most successful when we work together for the benefit of the pupils. I look forward to meeting and working with you this session.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Taylor

Alan Taylor

Head Teacher

