# St Benedict's High School

Bridge of Weir Road, Johnstone, PA5 8EX

Tel: 0300 300 1441 Website: <a href="www.oraetlabora.co.uk">www.oraetlabora.co.uk</a> Email: <a href="mailto:stbenedictshighenquires@renfrewshire.gov.uk">stbenedictshighenquires@renfrewshire.gov.uk</a>

Twitter: @stbenedictsren

Head Teacher: Alan Taylor BSc (Hons)



Children's Services

Dear Parent / Carer

#### **UPDATE - SUMMER TERM**

As we commence our final term of session 2021-22, I am writing to provide a brief update across a number of key areas.

# **COVID** arrangements

In line with Scottish Government guidance the following arrangements will be in place from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April.

# **Face Coverings**

It is no longer mandatory for pupils and staff to wear face coverings when in communal areas or when moving around the school through corridors. However, arrangements will be in place to support any pupil/staff member who wishes to continue to do so.

#### Physical distancing

Pupils, staff and visitors will follow the wider societal guidance on physical distancing. It remains important to be cautious and exercise personal responsibility, recognising that, where possible, it is safer to keep a distance from other people. Pupils will be reminded of this through year group assemblies.

#### Asymptomatic testing programme

The twice-weekly asymptomatic LFD testing programme is no longer in operation and schools will no longer provide testing kits.

#### Warn and Inform

There is no longer a requirement for schools to issue parents/carers with a "warn and inform" text/letter when there is a case in your child's class. However, I will still provide general updates moving forwards.

### Children and young people must stay at home and self-isolate if they:

- have symptoms of COVID-19, whether they feel unwell or not
- have tested positive, even if asymptomatic
- are required to self-isolate for any other reason in line with the requirements set out on NHS Inform

Please continue to contact the school office on 0300 300 1441 to inform us of your child's absence from school and please let us know if it is covid related.

Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn

# **Safety Arrangements**

A reminder of some of our key mitigations remaining in place across the school campus :

- Pupils will be encouraged to sanitise on entry to and exit from classrooms/school building.
- Increased classroom cleaning arrangements.
- Increased ventilation within classrooms and social areas. Doors and windows will be regularly opened to provide ventilation.
- Pupils will follow a one-way system when moving around the school
- Face coverings will be made available for any pupils.

# **High Expectations – uniform**

A reminder of our expectations for full uniform to be worn. Hoodies and converse style trainers are not allowed. Thank you for your support.

# **SQA** examination programme

The SQA formal diet of examinations will commence Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April with pupils returning on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May.

The following link provides detailed information including supports, issuing of results and the appeals process SQA: A message for parents and carers.

During this time the school will continue to offer a range of supports including a formal supported study programme during the school day. A full schedule will be issued to all pupils by email. A copy for parents will be made available through the school website.

### S3 Exams

Over the next month, S3 pupils will sit a series of subject practice exams in the hall. This is an opportunity for pupils to experience an "SQA style" exam. This has proved very beneficial in the past.

### **Key dates**

- Leavers' Graduation mass (6pm in the school). This will be celebrated by Bishop John – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April.
- May day holiday Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May.
- Inservice day for staff Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May
- Parent Council meeting (6pm in the school) Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May.
- S1 reports issued Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May.
- Holiday Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May.
- The Queen's Platinum Jubilee (schools closed): Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022.
- S3 reports issued Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June.
- Parent Council meeting (6pm in the school) Monday 20th June.
- Term finishes Tuesday 28th June at 1pm.

Finally, before the end of term I will issue our summer newsletter. I am keen to capture any pupil achievements happening outwith the school setting. Please contact the office <a href="mailto:stbenedictshighenquires@renfrewshire.gov.uk">stbenedictshighenquires@renfrewshire.gov.uk</a> with any details.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Taylor

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**Head Teacher** 

