



Eastbank Academy
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Head Teacher
Jonathan Graham

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Dear Parents/Carers,

END OF FIRST WEEK

We have reached the end of the first week of the new academic session. It has been a start like no other! However, I must congratulate and thank every member of the school community for playing their part in making the week so successful and smooth. Our young people have conducted themselves incredibly well and have adapted to the new regimes and procedures. It seems to me that they're happy to be back and appreciate what Eastbank Academy has to offer. I'm also delighted to see such an excellent standard of uniform – it's a source of enormous satisfaction that pupils take pride in our school and are happy to display that through their uniform. I'm grateful to them, and to you for your support with this.

All of our staff have gone to great lengths to welcome the young people back, and, to a person, are delighted that they can now teach them face to face. Their sterling efforts in making the week go smoothly and successfully have been invaluable.

Looking forward to a smooth week next week!

SQA Results

You will no doubt be aware of the intense media coverage surrounding the release of, and change to, the SQA results this session. What we mustn't lose sight of is how hard our pupils and staff worked to achieve these qualifications. Many of our young people achieved excellent results, with several pupils being awarded four and five A passes at Higher. A number of our S4 pupils also achieved straight A passes, or close to straight As, at National 5. These are tremendous achievements. While I highlight these particular results, everyone who worked hard should be proud of their achievements. I hope that all our younger pupils are inspired by these results and work hard in the years ahead to achieve similar. I'm looking forward to seeing continued excellent attainment from Eastbank's young people in the coming year, and the years ahead!

Monday's arrangements

The following arrangements will hold for pupils' entry to school next week

- S1 – Assemble on Astroturf pitch. Pupils will be sent to tutor classes after the warning bell at 0845;
- S2 – Assemble on Astroturf pitch. Pupils will be directed to tutor classes at 08:50;
- S3 - Assemble on red blaze pitch. Pupils will be directed to enter building via doors adjacent to music at 08:50;
- S4 – Assemble in back playground. Pupils will be directed to enter via concourse doors adjacent to the stage.
- S5 – Assemble on Astroturf pitch (far side). Pupils will be directed to tutor classes at 08:50;
- S5 – Assemble on Astroturf pitch (far side). Pupils will be directed to tutor classes at 08:50;

Road safety

There are many reasons why parents might want to drive their children to school and I sympathise with these. However, the number of cars attempting to make drop-offs on Academy Street or Shettleston Road is putting our young people's safety in jeopardy. I have witnessed cars parking on double yellow lines, double parking, and attempting to turn on the main road, causing other cars to stop. This is an area busy with pedestrians, including children like your own. There has been a police presence at the junction of

Academy St. and Shettleston Rd. this week, and this will continue for the foreseeable future. For the sake of Eastbank's pupils I plead with you to consider carefully where you make drop offs, or if a car journey to school is necessary at all.

School app

We now have a fully functioning school app which will become the main mechanism for communication from school to home. Details on how to download this have been texted to you and can be found on our school website [here](#). Please download this app if you have not yet done so.

In the community at lunchtime

Many of our young people choose to buy their lunch from local shops on Shettleston Road and beyond. I have been reminding young people about the importance of respecting physical distancing (with each other and with members of the public), and about the possible requirement to wear masks in certain shops. I will continue to do so and would be very grateful if you could reinforce this with your son/daughter.

General Health

Pupils who display any symptoms of COVID should be kept at home. These symptoms to watch for are:

- High temperature
- A new continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

Parents should follow NHS advice and must inform the school of any positive COVID tests.

Should a pupil begin to display symptoms consistent with COVID during the school day they will be kept in isolation and parent will be contacted to arrange for the pupil to go home. Please ensure contact details are up to date and that someone is available.

Uniform

For your convenience our uniform requirements can be found [here](#).

Catering

Separate information about this was issued on Monday ([here](#)). Those pupils who receive free meals will not be affected.

Public transport

A letter was sent on Monday regarding public transport (available [here](#)).

Pupils are encouraged to walk or cycle to school – we have a large secure cycle shed available for use!

Hygiene

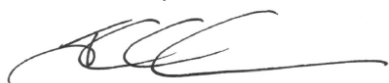
This was covered in Wednesday's letter, available [here](#).

Visiting the school

Details of the protocol involved were covered in Wednesday's letter, available [here](#).

I wish you all a good weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Graham
Head Teacher