



Barony Campus Newsletter

February 2020

Welcome!

A very warm welcome to this, the very first of our Barony Campus Newsletters. It is hard to believe that in less than 7 months time we will all be on our brand new Campus, learning together in what I am convinced will be a sector-leading educational establishment at the very heart of our community.

In this first issue I would like to introduce our new leadership team and provide answers to the most frequent questions people are asking about the Campus.

But first I would like to thank the large number of pupils, parents, staff and partners who have contributed to our consultations by completing questionnaires, taking part in surveys, attending meetings and offering written suggestions, paintings and drawings which have informed our planning of many aspects of our Campus provision.

One of the most important results of such consultation has been the identification of our three new Campus Values. These are:

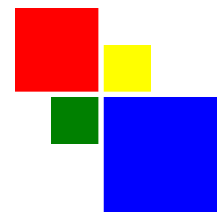
Achievement : Respect : Equity

I am sure that, through our consultation processes as a learning community, we have arrived at exactly the correct values on which to base all that we do.

These three words will now inform all our actions on the Campus—every decision we make, every conversation we have and every learning activity we experience. I very much look forward to working with you in our value-driven future !



Peter Gilchrist
Head of Campus



Our Senior Leadership Team

The past few weeks have been very busy due to the recruitment of what, I feel, is a leadership team of the very highest quality. Some members will already be familiar to you from our existing schools whilst others have moved in from elsewhere. All are totally committed to meeting the learning and wellbeing needs of the young people in their care.

We will have a vertical 'House' system in order to ensure the best possible levels of care, support and challenge for each and every one of our young people. As you will see, each House has been named in association with Robert Burns.

Your Questions Answered

Below are the most common questions which have been frequently asked over the past weeks along with the answers and most up to date information available. I hope you find them helpful. We will be delighted to answer any further questions via email to any of our school offices or at one of the series of information evenings planned for the next few months.

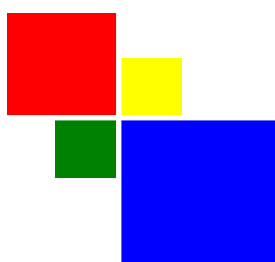
The next of these is our joint P7 Parents Information Evening which will be held from 6.30pm-7.30pm on Thursday 27 February in Auchinleck Academy.

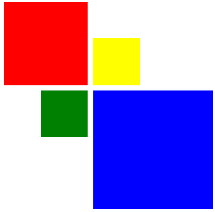
I would also encourage you to access our school Apps for further information

Best Wishes

Peter Gilchrist

Head of Barony Campus





Senior Leadership Team



Cindy O'Driscoll

Head Teacher—Lochnorris Primary School



Deborah Skeoch

Head Teacher of Hillside School



Angela Hastings

Head of Supported Learning Centre



Vicky Grove

Depute Head Teacher Alloway House



Jennifer Macara

Depute Head Teacher Dumfries House



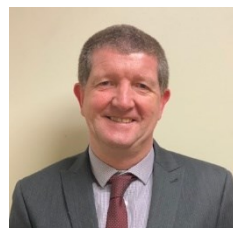
Paul McGurn

Depute Head Teacher Caledonia House



Amanda McPheator

Depute Head Teacher Ellisland House



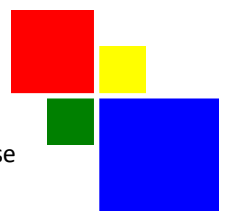
Martin Robertson

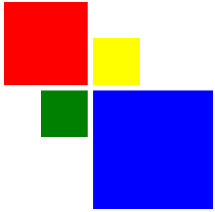
Depute Head Teacher Maxwell House



Ruth Sheppard

Depute Head Teacher Hamilton House





Senior Leadership Team



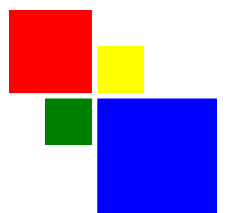
Michelle Anderson
Depute Head Teacher—Inclusion Hub



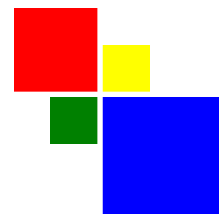
Dawn Mair
Depute Head Teacher of Hillside School



Janet McKechnie
Principal Teacher, Hillside School



Pupil Support Team



Dale Beattie

PT Guidance— Hamilton House



Heather Carrington

PT Guidance— Dumfries House



Andrew Dempster

PT Guidance—Alloway House



Robin Ferguson

PT Guidance—Maxwell House



Claire Jagodowski

PT Guidance—Ellisland & Maxwell Houses



Stephen Kyle

PT Guidance—Alloway & Dumfries Houses



Carly Naismith

PT Guidance—Ellisland House



Carrie Smith

PT Guidance—Caledonia & Hamilton Houses



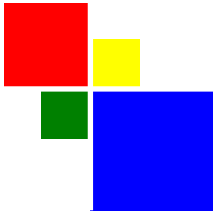
Steve Tickner

PT Guidance—Caledonia House



Ann McCrorie

PT Support for Learning



Questions & Answers

Will the campus be finished on time?

At present, the campus is on target for completion in the first week of July 2020.

When will the children move into the new building?

The Scottish Government has given permission for exceptional closure days to allow staff in the schools to pack up in the current buildings and set up in the new campus.

Exceptional closure dates for staff to pack up are Thursday 25 June and Friday 26 June. Exceptional closure dates for staff to set up are Tuesday 18 August and Wednesday 19 August.

This means that the children and young people will finish for the summer holidays on Wednesday 24 June 2020 and start the new term on Thursday 20 August 2020.

Arrangements for exceptional closure of ECCs will come directly from the Strategic Manager (Early Intervention).

What will the new uniform look like?

There will be a shared campus badge with the name of each school at the top to ensure the identity of each school is recognised. EAC graphic designers are currently finalising the design for the new uniform.

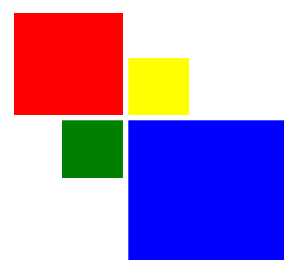
What is happening with the old sites?

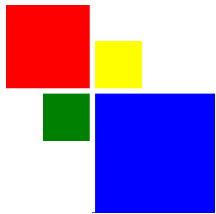
Cumnock Academy will be demolished to make way for two grass pitches and an extended bus and car drop-off area.

Greenmill Primary School will continue to operate as a decant school for Netherthird children until their new school is completed.

Barshare Primary School and Hillside school will be demolished in preparation for a Strategic Housing Investment Programme (SHIP) towards the end of 2020.

Auchinleck Academy... to be confirmed





Questions & Answers

Where can parents/carers drop-off children and young people?

Car drop off for The Robert Burns Academy and Lochnorris Primary is off Ayr Road at the current Cumnock Academy site. Children will walk across the bridge to the campus. Parents may walk across the bridge and accompany children to the school playground if they wish.

Drop off points for children and young people attending Cherry Trees, Hillside and the Supported Learning Centre will be at the front of the building

Temporary drop-off and pick-up measures will be in place until approximately the Spring of 2021 until Cumnock Academy is demolished and final works completed. In the light of concerns about the environment and personal health and wellbeing, children will be encouraged to walk, cycle or travel by scooter, whenever possible.

Can I drive to the front entrance and drop off there?

There will be no vehicular access to the building for primary and secondary drop-off from Underwood Road. Vehicular access to the front of the Campus will be restricted to children and young people from Cherry Trees, Hillside and the Supported Learning Centre.

What measures are in place to increase safety on walking routes to the campus?

A comprehensive travel plan will be developed in association with East Ayrshire Council's Travel Plan Co-ordinator. This will include information in relation to safe walking routes to the campus.

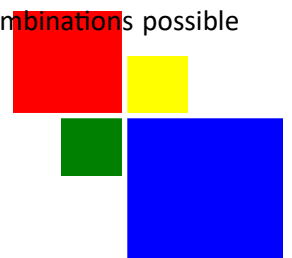
A comprehensive survey of safer routes to school has been carried out. Where necessary, footpaths are being widened, pedestrian crossing points are being improved and safety barriers are being installed.

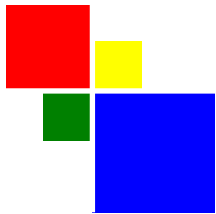
My child presently gets a taxi to school – how will this be affected?

It is expected that there will be minimal change to transport arrangements. If there is an entitlement to transport this will continue: children will be taken directly to the campus.

How will the new classes be made up in Lochnorris Primary?

The Head Teacher of Lochnorris and the Head Teacher of Barshare are currently working closely together to ensure that children are placed in classes that meet their needs. In each class there will be a balance of children from both primary schools, a balance of gender and a range of ability levels. It may be that children will not be in the same class as everyone else in their current peer group but the Head Teachers will ensure that every child has someone from their current friendship group. Classes will be compiled in full consultation with teachers from both schools so that the best combinations possible will be created.





Questions & Answers

How will the new classes be made up in the Robert Burns Academy?

Much work is currently being undertaken by our Senior Leadership and Guidance Teams to ensure that every pupil is placed in a class that meets his/her needs. In S1 –S3 there will be a balance of pupils from both Cumnock and Auchinleck academies, a balance of gender and a range of ability levels. It may be that pupils will not be in the same class as their current peer group but staff will ensure that every pupil has someone from their current friendship group.

A comprehensive P7-S1 transition programme has already begun as is usual practice. This will include visits to all of our primary schools by the Guidance Team and consultation with children and parents to ensure that every child is placed in the most appropriate class in the new school.

Pupils from P7 will undertake transition visits on 6th March and 9th & 10th June at Cumnock Academy. Whilst this will not be in the new building, it will afford opportunities to build relationships, learn about secondary school and meet new friends.

What measures have been put in place for children and young people who may struggle with the scale of change into the new campus?

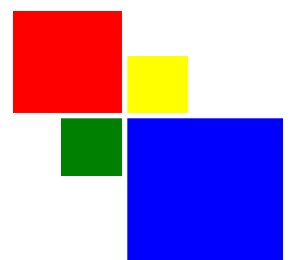
A programme of enhanced transitions is currently being developed in order to address the needs of each child and young person and ensure that the appropriate supports are in place. In the last term of this session, pupils will meet with their new teachers and classmates and begin building relationships which will support them during the move. Staff will be aware of pupils who may require extra support and provide this where necessary.

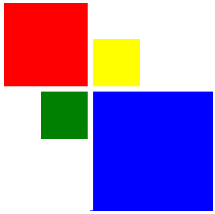
How will dining arrangements work?

There will be a wider range of foods available and pupils will be able to have a cooked lunch, healthy snacks or packed lunch as per present arrangements. Pupils from Lochnorris Primary and Robert Burns Academy will not generally eat together. Hillside pupils will have their own lunch arrangements. Discussions are currently underway with colleagues from catering to ensure that timings and systems will be effective and supportive for all pupils.

Will there be a breakfast club and/or after school clubs?

There will be a wide variety of after-school clubs on the Campus. We also aim to ensure that a breakfast club is in place.





Questions & Answers

Will I still be able to use Parent Pay?

Yes. Arrangements will be set up to ensure Parent Pay can be used as present.

How can parents be reassured that the whole campus will work for the large number of children and young people?

The campus has been designed and built to the highest standards by experts in the respective industries. Every element of the campus both internally and externally have been planned and developed taking cognisance not only of the number of pupils but their respective age groupings. This includes, for example, the size of the teaching spaces, circulation/movement around the building, access and egress to the building, traffic management plans and safe walking routes to school.

Head Teachers and other members of the Senior Leadership Team will work closely together to ensure facilities are shared fairly and effectively.

Will there be an opportunity for parents to visit the new campus?

Yes. An open afternoon will be arranged, early in the new term, once the children are established in their new environment.

