

Robert Burns Academy

Barony Campus, Auchinleck Road, Cumnock KA18 1FQ

Head of Campus: Mr Peter Gilchrist

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Dear Parent / Carer

I hope this letter finds both you and your family safe and well.

I am writing to you to provide you information on our school's P7 transition arrangements for 2022. This is a very exciting time for many of the young people in P7 as they enter their last few months of primary school, but it can also be unsettling for many, including parents and carers.

The impact of coronavirus has continued to pose many challenges to us all as we follow the necessary changes to our everyday lives, and it is well documented on how this has impacted schools. The welfare of our young people and staff is of paramount importance to us, which requires us to make short term plans in line with the national and local guidance. The current guidance restricts our staff from visiting our future S1s at their primary school, it also raises questions about how visits to The Robert Burns Academy as part of our normal transition programme will take place.

I would like to share with you some key dates and information that we are confident will not be effected by these restriction.

- Pupils with additional support needs will have a review meeting to discuss their transition to secondary school. Many of these meetings have already taken place, those remaining will be carried out in Jan / Feb 2022. Your child's current school will organise a time for this.
- Last term, our Guidance Teachers visited each P7 class 'virtually' to answer questions and begin to talk about what to expect at The Robert Burns Academy. A follow up session will take place in February.
- Our S6 pupils are in the process of creating a Transition video that will be shown to each P7 class. The video will include interviews with key teachers as well as our current S1 pupils.
- In March, each P7 class bubble will be offered the chance to visit The Robert Burns Academy to meet myself and a member of the Guidance Team for a tour of the school. This will allow them to familiarise themselves with the building before their transition days.

- In May we will offer all P7 pupils two transition days. This will allow them to join their new S1 classmates and experience two days of their new S1 timetable before the end of term. The transition days will take place on:

Tuesday 21st June and Wednesday 22nd June

This will be preceded by an information for pupils, parents and carers on **Wednesday 25th May**, I will send you more information on the format of this evening closer to the time.

- In addition to these arrangements we will continue to work in partnership with our Homelink Workers to support our pupils who are part of our Enhanced Transition Programme.

I am in regular contact with your child's primary school and we will continue to liaise with each other to enhance this experience wherever possible. I will write to you again in April to provide further details of the information evening and transitions days. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to direct any questions regarding the content to this letter to me directly or through your primary school.

Best wishes

P. McGurn
Depute Head Teacher
The Robert Burns Academy