

Chief Executive: Eddie Fraser

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Comhairle Siorrhachd Àir an Ear

Grange Academy**Head Teacher: Mr Robert Johnston**Email: robert.johnston@eastayrshire.org.uk

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we come to the close of another very strange school term I wish to take this opportunity to praise and commend the young people of Grange Academy for their attitude and resilience over these past months and in particular, since our partial return to school earlier this month. It has been wonderful having our pupils back again in the school building and being taught in classrooms. Despite the restrictions in place around the school and in classes the vast majority of young people have seemed happy to be back and hopefully this will have served as a gentle introduction to getting back into a daily school routine after the Easter break.

Our expectation is that all pupils will return to school on Monday 19th April to follow their normal timetable. I fully appreciate however that this may be a return to school for some which involves a mixture of both anxiety, but also joy as young people see their friends and staff again. The safety of everyone on the campus is of course our top priority. One of the many lessons I hope our children, and indeed ourselves, have learned is that we have a responsibility not only for our own personal safety and wellbeing but also the safety and wellbeing of others in our families and community. To this end I would like to remind everyone of the importance of the following measures:

- Face coverings: All young people and staff will be expected to wear a face covering in class and around the school unless medically exempt from doing so;
- Asymptomatic Testing – Lateral Flow Testing: All young people and staff are encouraged to self-test twice a week when we return to school;
- Hand hygiene and social distancing: We should all wash our hands or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day and keep a safe distance from others around us;
- Use of outdoor space: If the weather is dry we will be asking young people to go outside when not in class;
- Lunchtime and intervals: Please use our meal pre-order system and also ensure your child has a break-time snack and breakfast;

Staff here at Grange Academy are very proud of the way many of our young people have engaged with learning at home but we are really missing them and can't wait to have all our pupils safely back in school. As I said earlier, it will be an anxious time for many, particularly our senior pupils who are studying for National Qualifications. Please be assured that we will be with your child every step of the way providing all the support, encouragement and care within our means – not just because that's the job, but because we care deeply about each individual young person in our school.

Thanks to all parents and carers for your forbearance over this past session and please accept our best wishes to you and your family for the Easter break.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'R A Johnston'.

Robert Johnston
Head Teacher