

**Chief Executive: Eddie Fraser**

Telephone: 01563 576019

Email: [Eddie.Fraser@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Eddie.Fraser@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)



## **Grange Academy**

**Head Teacher: Mr Robert Johnston**

Email: [robert.johnston@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:robert.johnston@eastayrshire.org.uk)

Dear Parent/Carer,

As some restrictions continue to ease within schools, we are delighted to inform you that, as of Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May, Grange Academy pupils are able to return to full school uniform. This aligns closely with our return to the use of PE changing rooms and PE kit.

I am sure you will share our optimism in this and I would like to take the opportunity to highlight just some of the benefits that we feel the return to school uniform will provide:

- A stronger sense of school identity, culture and ethos
- A safe environment, where pupils can quickly be identified
- Reduced peer pressure to conform with fashion trends
- 'Dress for Success' (research shows identifying with a streamlined school uniform can increase pupil focus, attendance and raise learning expectations)
- A sense of professionalism, which prepares young people for future Positive Destinations
- An opportunity to demonstrate our school values of respect, responsibility and resilience

Alongside this, pupils will return to the use of changing rooms before and after PE lessons. We are now able to offer a much broader PE curriculum, including indoor activities. The following list provides a sample of the many benefits a return to PE kit will bring to our young people in their daily school life:

- The opportunity for increased activity in lessons, as a consequence of wearing sports clothing, best suited to the activity;
- Increased hygiene - pupils are able to change from PE clothing, back into fresh uniform after strenuous exercise;
- Avoidance of school clothes becoming wet or dishevelled, during outdoor PE lessons ; and
- An opportunity to participate in the vast array of extracurricular clubs on offer at interval, lunchtime and afterschool.
- 

Please note the school policy on PE kit:

- It should be a full change of kit from pupils' normal schoolwear;
- As a consequence, pupils should bring a change of footwear, top and tracksuit bottoms or shorts;
- Sports leggings are acceptable;
- Football strips are permitted, on the basis that they do not advertise any alcohol, tobacco or gambling products; and
- Pupils will experience the opportunity to improve their personal organisation skills, allowing them to arrive with an appropriate PE kit. In cases where problems persist, Mr Allan (Principal Teacher of PE) will be in contact via text message/phone call/meetings to discuss solutions.



Beech Avenue Kilmarnock KA1 2EW

01563 549988

[eagrance.ac@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:eagrance.ac@eastayrshire.org.uk)

With the return to changing rooms, some new safety procedures must be followed:

- Pupils must wear a mask in corridors when entering PE (unless exempt);
- Pupils must sit in alphabetical order, in the same allocated space each time (for track and trace purposes);
- Pupils must wear a mask in the changing rooms whilst changing into kit;
- Masks may be removed as pupils leave the changing rooms and are NOT required in the PE lesson;
- Masks must be worn again when pupils return to the changing rooms at the end of the lesson;
- At the start and end of lessons, pupils should spend a minimum amount of time in the changing room; and
- The changing rooms will be locked during the lesson and reopened for the class on their return.

Staff will support our young people through these revisions and we would greatly appreciate your additional support.

Please share the information in this letter with your child, prior to Monday.

The restrictions over the past year have challenged the PE department in new ways. We hope that the adjustments, mentioned above, alongside a return to a more comprehensive PE curriculum and an ever-expanding extracurricular PE programme, will ensure that our young people have the opportunity to increase skill and fitness levels, enhance social and emotional skills, and thrive through sport.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R Allan  
Principal Teacher of PE, HE and HWB