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## **Grange Academy**

**Head Teacher: Mr Robert Johnston**

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I don't usually count the days until my holidays but I must confess that I have indeed been counting down for the past few weeks! It really has been the toughest year for many people but I believe we have made it through to this point on the strength of the innate goodness, kindness and resilience of people in our school community. Supported and nurtured by parents, carers, teachers and other partners, our children have been amazing and have demonstrated remarkable resilience. They really are a credit to their families and school community.

The pandemic has thrown up so many challenges for us all but on the positive side it has interrupted our thinking and made us reflect on the 'why?' and 'how?' of what we do each day in school. In the coming session our main focus will be on recovery and renewal. We must of course strive to recover from the ravages of the pandemic and the impact it has had on the wellbeing and education of our young people but this is also a golden opportunity for 'renewal' and to make Grange Academy an even better place for our children to learn and be supported in their development. When we return in August I will be asking you for your thoughts and ideas on how we can improve. Our Parent Council have already made some excellent suggestions of how we can move forward as a school and I would like to continue this discussion early in the new session.

To get us off to a good start in August it would be great to see all young people in school uniform. Contrary to what some pupils tell their parents, ("...but nobody else is wearing it!"), the majority of pupils do make a good effort with uniform and a good number of them even wear a school blazer when the weather permits. Not only does it help with campus security but uniform really sets the right tone in a school. I know it can be a battle of wills at times but a high standard of uniform is really worth the effort and I would certainly appreciate your support in making this happen.

### **Uniform Basics**

- School tie;
- White/black shirt;
- Black trousers/skirt (No jeans or leggings please and skirts should be appropriate for school);
- Black jumper/cardigan (No hoodies or baseball caps etc); and if possible. . .
- A blazer would be wonderful. This really does bring the standard of uniform to a different level.

Clothing grant and Free School Meal application [form online](#)

The new session will be a time of change in education nationally but it will also be a time of growth and healing for our own school community. Grange Academy really is a great place for young people to learn and grow. It's also a great privilege to work here. We are certainly not perfect but I assure you we have the capacity to listen and to improve. I look forward to working closely with you over the coming session in making Grange the school we are capable of being. Have a wonderful summer and a great rest.

Yours faithfully,  
Robert Johnston  
Head Teacher



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