



1. General Update

Park School

Staff from both schools report a very positive start to the term for Park School pupils now attending St. Joseph's Campus. Staff have quickly developed strong working relationships and there have been no issues or concerns. Park staff have consistently commented on the welcome extended to all from Park School by our staff and pupils.

Active Schools are in the process of completing training courses with some St. Joseph's pupils to help facilitate lunch time club activities for pupils of Park School.

Mrs Burns, HT Park School, will join us this evening to provide a brief update from Park School's perspective.

SQA Exam Results

There are sensitivities around what can and cannot be shared prior to the formal release of results data. Results data is formally released to school two times per year (late September and early March).

In broad terms, and at this stage based on SQA courses only, our attainment across the 2022/23 diet can be captured as follows.

NB – All data for S5 and S6 uses the cohorts roll size when that cohort started S4. In brackets, you can see the percentage of pupils starting the year at each stage (S5 and S6).

% of pupils in S4 attaining 3+ SCQF5 (SQA National 5 courses only)

EAC Average	55.93%
St. Joseph's Academy	63.33%
Rank across EAC	2 nd

% of pupils in S4 attaining 5+ SCQF5 (SQA National 5 courses only)

EAC Average	37.69%
St. Joseph's Academy	50.83%
Rank across EAC	1 st

% of pupils in S5 attaining 1+ SCQF6 (SQA Higher courses only)

EAC Average	52.53%
St. Joseph's Academy	60.43% (74.11% of actual cohort)
Rank across EAC	2 nd

% of pupils in S5 attaining 3+ SCQF6 (SQA Higher courses only)

EAC Average	31.17%
St. Joseph's Academy	42.45% (52.68% of actual cohort)
Rank across EAC	2 nd

% of pupils in S5 attaining 5+ SCQF6 (SQA Higher courses only)

EAC Average	14.24%
St. Joseph's Academy	20.86% (25.89% of actual cohort)
Rank across EAC	2 nd

% of pupils in S6 attaining 1+ SCQF7 (SQA Higher courses only)

EAC Average	19.01%
St. Joseph's Academy	19.84% (35.21% of actual cohort)
Rank across EAC	3 rd

% of pupils in S6 attaining 2+ SCQF7 (SQA Higher courses only)

EAC Average	Data not released
St. Joseph's Academy	Data not released (16.9% of actual cohort)
Rank across EAC	Data not released

In particular, our S5 Higher performance at 5+ Highers is another school record return at A-C. However, the quality of passes was stronger in 22/23 even if the totality of passes as a percentage is better and a school record this year.

Further information will be shared with the Parent Council after INSIGHT is updated in late September.

SQA Matters

No Priority Appeals this session. A total of two-hundred and ten non-priority appeals were submitted last week. A large proportion are for pupils identified by teachers as on the cusp of the next available grade.

A considerable amount of time has gone into contacting leavers and former S6 to discuss appeals with them. Most pupils keen to appeal when only one or two marks from the next grade.

Outcomes will be released to schools in October. Miss Quigley will make contact with pupils to discuss the outcome of their appeal(s). If any change to grades, replacement certificates will be issued in November to home addresses. All options changes based on SQA results actioned by Friday 25th August

Our Prelim Diet to move to December this session for the following reasons:

- Most pupils would benefit from rigour of class work in days/ weeks before exams
- Allows pupils to relax with family over Christmas period rather than preparing for exams
- Allows for release of results to parents and carers in January which still leaves several months before SQA Exam diet
- December diet provides more time for learners to act on feedback and make improvements by final exams and for interventions and support at school level
- Given the reintroduction of 'full' courses, the old diet would leave very little time for recovery if pupils do not perform to the level they expect

SQA Exam timetable for 2024 was released last week and was shared with all Senior pupils.

P7 into S1 Transition

Our new S1 cohort has settled well, with only a handful of issues to date. Office staff continue to prioritise administration as it relates to ParentPay, Show My Homework and Lockers.

Individual interviews with Pastoral care staff started last week.

Satchel:One (Show My Homework) activation slips were distributed earlier today, with any remaining to be issued tomorrow).

School App – Calendar Integration

Within the school app, parents/carers should now be able to see the School Calendar. Dates are still subject to minor change, but advance notice of Parents' Evening, reports etc. can be found within the app.

Extra-Curricular Activity

We generally share our programme between the September weekend and the October break. Trials for the S1 and S2 football teams have taken place. The S1 team will enter the local schools league. Our S2 team will compete in both the league and Scottish Cup.

Work Experience

CVO requested a temporary postponement of placements set to start today. We anticipate that placements will begin later in the week or this time next week. We await clarity from WorkIT as to when other placement opportunities within East Ayrshire Council will go live.

The majority of our pupils will be placed via the CVO partnership.

UCAS

Our PT Pastoral Care staff hosted our UCAS Pathways Information Evening last week. The event was very well attended. At the time of writing, forty-seven S6 and two S5 pupils are considering applying for courses via UCAS.

Various deadlines have been shared with all pupils, including those applying to the Royal Conservatoire.

UCAT deadlines were also shared. SAAS the Glasgow School of Art and representatives of the Top Up programmer are all scheduled to visit school by the end of January.

2. Staffing

The following vacancies have closed to applicants, with interviews scheduled to take place across the next fortnight.

PT Pastoral Care	Six applicants	Current post holder: Mrs Duthie (Acting)
Teacher of Computing	Three applicants	Current post holder: Mrs Flanagan
Teacher of 0.5SfL	Sixteen applicants	Current post holder: NA – Vacated

The following vacancies will be advertised within the next few weeks.

Classroom Assistant	Advert not live	Current post holder: NA – Vacated
PT RE	Advert not live	Current post holder: Mr Mann

Mrs Flanagan has been appointed to the temporary post of PT Business Education and Computing at Loudon Academy.

Mr Mann has been appointed to the post of PT RE at St. Aidan's High School, Wishaw.