



Parent/Carer Update 19 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

This week we issued early tracking reports for S2/3 pupils. The vast majority of our parents have downloaded the [parentsportal.scot](#) app and receive pupil reports digitally on the app. However, a problem with the national SEEMIS system meant that reports were delayed. If you have not subscribed to the app, you will still receive a paper copy. If you are having difficulty setting up the [parentsportal.scot](#) app, please contact the school office for support. [Parentsportal.scot](#) and the [Eduspot](#) app are our main methods of digital communication. Please see links to both apps below:

[Get the Eduspot App | Eduspot](#)

[parentsportal.scot | The digital doorway to your child's school.](#)

Acts of Vandalism

Unfortunately, our school and one of our minibuses was targeted by vandals late last night. Thankfully these acts did not disrupt schooling or affect the safety of staff and pupils. Our pupils were horrified to see the damage, as they are very proud of our building and our resources. The matter is being investigated by Police Scotland.

School Improvement

Over the next few weeks, we are focusing heavily on the quality of learning and teaching and raising attainment. We will be seeking parents' and pupils' views as part of this process. We are carrying out learning walks and will be observing learners' experiences, as well as asking for their views. We are carrying out a review of our Language, Literacy and Drama Faculty as part of our review cycle and will then be holding meetings with all faculties to review progress with raising attainment. We are committed to ensuring that your child has the best possible experience in the classroom.

Uniform Consultation

Thank you to all who contributed. We had over 80 parental responses and 40 staff responses, as well as responses from over 400 pupils. Based on some of the comments and queries, we are issuing a video that explains the rationale and any phasing of changes in more detail. We will then also do a further consultation on any queries raised around the colour/phasing of the items offered.

Please note that any new policy will not come into effect until session 2026-2027 and that, although items may be available from October this year, there is absolutely no compulsion to buy them. Equally, we will allow time to phase out any items that may not be part of the new guidelines. We hope to share the outcome of all feedback prior to the October Break.



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Parent Council

Our Parent Council AGM took place on Wednesday 17 September. Our Office Bearers have been re-appointed and are happy to be contacted about any aspect of the Parent Council's role. If you would like to get in touch with the Parent Council, please contact them at dumfriesacademypc@gmail.com. Our Chair is Ms Liza Vinnie. The next meeting will be held on 12 November at 6.00 PM. You can also find more information about our Parent Council on our school website.

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 23- Thursday 25 September - S1 Cognitive Ability Tests, in groups, ICT Rooms
Tuesday 23 September – DYW Trip to Crawick Multiverse, all day
Wednesday 24 September – GRIT Programme, all day, Dumfries House; Family Football Fundraising Event, 6.00 PM, Games Hall
Thursday 25 September – Advanced Higher English/History Trip to Mitchell Library, Glasgow
Friday 26 September – European Day of Languages; Regional Schools Disability Swimming Competition, 10.00 AM- 2.15 PM

Save the date

30 September Senior Awards Ceremony
2 October U 16 Football match
3 October Higher Geography Trip

Parents Evenings/Pupil Reports

Please see provisional dates for this session (see slight amendment to previous versions):

Year Group	Parents Evening	Reports
S1	29 October – Sharing the Learning 23 April - Tutors	13 November (Tracking), 9 March (Tracking), 21 April (Full)
S2	26 February – Subject teachers	18 September (Tracking), 13 November (Tracking), 23 February (Full)
S3	10 December – Subject Teachers	18 September (Tracking), 3 December (Full)
S4	14 January – Subject Teachers	2 October (Tracking), 8 January (Tracking), 25 March (Tracking)
S5	10 February – Subject Teachers	2 October (Tracking), 6 February (Tracking), 25 March (Tracking)
S6	10 February – Subject Teachers	2 October (Tracking), 6 February (Tracking), 25 March (Tracking)

Joanne Dillon

Headteacher