



## Parent/Carer Update 21 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

A final two S1 classes visited the Oasis Centre and D&G Police this week to find out how to keep themselves and others safe. They also kept themselves safe by participating in the HPV vaccination programme at the start of the week. A group of S5/6 pupils performed really well in the Powering Futures event at DAGCOL, as did those who took part in our school music heats for the regional music competition. Our netball teams played very competitively against Langholm Academy. Our Nurture Hub pupils held a bake sale to raise funds for D&G Canine Rescue. You can read about all of these achievements on our Facebook page.

SQA practical exams took place in Practical Cookery and all pupils did their best and performed well. We wish them all the best in the other papers which take place next term. On that note, the SQA has recently published updates around the removal of some of the written assessment elements for N5 practical exams from session **2025-2026**. The link can be found here:

[SQA rebalancing assessment for practical qualifications - SQA](#)

As SQA examinations are looming, we would like to wish all pupils good luck in the last few weeks of course-work. Please encourage your child to strike an appropriate balance of study and leisure and to persevere with assignments, investigations and folio work. They have worked hard and should now ensure that they complete all course components that count towards their final award. The final tracking report for S4-6 pupils will be issued next week and **estimate grades will be shared in the Working Grade column**.

### Dates for the Diary

**Monday 24 March – Malory Nursery visit (ACM Group),**

**Thursday 27 March – S6 Leavers Ceremony, Main Hall, 1.45 PM; S4-6 tracking Reports issued (final estimates)**

**Friday 28 March – S6 Trip to Alton Towers, all day; Easter Service, St George's Church, Period 5**

**Monday 31 March – Friday 11 April, Easter Holidays**

Please note that pupils are expected to wear school uniform as usual on Friday 28 March. Our S6 Charities Committee is looking to hold an event soon after the Easter holidays.

### Save the date

**Tuesday 8 April – Thursday 10 April, Easter School (study/revision classes)**

**Monday 14 April – School resumes 8.51 AM**

**Friday 18 April – Monday 21 April – Holiday for pupils and staff (Easter weekend)**

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### S6 Leavers Ceremony

Invitations have been issued to parents/carers to attend their child's leaving ceremony on Thursday 27 March. Please arrive at 1.45 PM. The ceremony is in the Main Hall. It is a lovely event to celebrate your child's time at Dumfries Academy. If you have not already indicated your attendance via the QR code on your invitation, could you please do so via the link below to help us plan for numbers.

<https://forms.office.com/e/YqLfCRSY3G>

### S6 Dress Exchange

If you have any prom dresses, suits, shirts, ties, shoes that belonged to older siblings that are no longer of use, we are looking for donations and will be holding an event on Wednesday 26 March at 3.15 PM in Minerva where pupils may try on pre-loved items and take them away. A small, suggested donation is all that we will ask for. Or you can bring in a suitable item and exchange it for another, free of charge.

### Easter School

Revision sessions will run for 3 days from Tuesday 8 -Thursday 10 April between 9.15 AM and 1.00 PM. Pupils should have signed up for sessions via Microsoft Forms. A copy of the final schedule will be posted on the Senior Phase Teams page next week.

## Vision, Values and Aims

*Learning together for a better future*





## Parent/Carer Update 21 March 2025

Each week we highlight examples of how school community ensures that our values are embedded in our culture.

**Compassion** – Our Nurture Group did a fantastic job of raising £332.05 through a bake sale in aid of D&G Canine Rescue/Nurture

**Fairness** – Pupils relinquished indoor social spaces this week demonstrating fairness to others so that they could complete final assessments for SQA courses under controlled conditions. Thankfully the weather was fair, too.

**Respect** – Our final group of S1 pupils visited the Oasis Centre and D&G Police to learn more about making good choices to keep themselves safe. They were very respectful to the partners who delivered these sessions

**Ambition** – 32 pupils completed National 5 practical Cookery Exams this week. Miss Hay commented on their ambition to succeed and responsibility for the planning, cooking and execution of their menus.

**Responsibility:** Our S5/6 group who attended the Powering Futures Event on Monday showed responsibility in relation to developing skills for the future as well as looking at sustainability.

### **School Café**

A reminder that pupils can now pay for school lunches using Google/Apple/contactless payments. Pupils entitled to free school lunches will be able to link up to this via the wallet on their phone.

Should you feel you require any financial assistance with school meals or clothing, you can contact us at the school for advice or use the link below to see if you are eligible for assistance:

[Free school meals | Dumfries and Galloway Council](#)

All previous updates will be archived on our new website. You will be able to find reminders about school uniform, Parent Portal, social areas, health and safety and other key school information

Joanne Dillon

Headteacher