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Head Teacher
Ms Alison Mitchell BA, MEd

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Dear Parent / Carer

Next week, we look forward to highlighting the excellent news of our 2020 – 2021 leavers' destinations and our progress with our Intercultural Youth Scotland partnership to challenge racism and discrimination. Meantime, this newsletter contains reminders about two important areas that we need the support of all parents and carers to address, to keep every child safe and learning without interruption.

- 1) Covid-19 safety mitigations
- 2) Mobile Phones

Please remind your child of the procedures and contact the school with any concerns.

**** Covid-19 safety mitigations ****

Lateral Flow Testing

We would like to remind all families about Scottish Government advice to test twice weekly and reporting the result at <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. Lateral flow test kits are available at the school office and can be collected at the start / end of the school day, at intervals and at lunchtimes. If your child is not yet testing on a regular basis we would encourage them to do so. Children under 16 are required to have their [consent form](#) signed by a parent or carer.

If a lateral flow test is positive, your child should book a PCR immediately and should self-isolate until the test result comes through. Please keep us informed regarding any absences related to Covid or self-isolation so that we can record your child's attendance accurately.

Face Coverings

We are still issuing a large number of face masks every day. We would be grateful if you can ensure that your child has a mask to wear and also a spare in their bag every day. This continues to be Scottish Government guidance and we will inform you of any changes.



Hand Sanitising

We are continuing to encourage all young people to sanitise hands on entry to the school each day and on entry to each classroom throughout the day. Please reinforce the importance of hand hygiene at all times.

**** Mobile Phones****

Please a reminder of our mobile phone policy, below.

- Pupils can use their mobile phones during interval and lunch breaks in the social space or the playground. They can access the internet, listen to music through headphones and play games.
- Pupils should not use their phones in any other area of the school or any other time of the school day. This includes in school corridors, to and from classes, in classes, or at any other activity in school.
- Pupils must never take photos or video from their mobile phone in any classroom, corridor or any other area of the school.
- **Phones must be switched off and put away during lessons, as they are not allowed to be used in the classroom.** If online research is required, iPads should be used for this purpose.
- Pupils cannot use a mobile phone in an exam – even as a calculator (as per SQA regulations). If a teacher or invigilator sees a pupil with a mobile phone during an exam or in an exam space they have the right to confiscate the phone and to recommend that the pupil is disqualified from the exam.
- If a pupil is ill, the school office will contact the parent / carer. Pupils should not phone home from their mobile to make a direct arrangement with a family member to go home. Further, parents should not contact pupils directly to arrange to pick them up.
- Parents / carers should not contact their children during school time by texting or phoning unless it is before / after school, at interval or at lunchtime. In an emergency, please telephone the school office on 0141 5820200.

If a pupil misuses their phone, the member of staff will warn the pupil and request that they follow the agreed school policy. Continued misuse will lead to confiscation of the phone where it may be given to the SLT to be picked up by the pupil at the end of the school day. In certain circumstances the phone will be confiscated until the parent / carer arrives to discuss the matter with the House Head.

Disclaimer

Pupils are not required to have a mobile phone in school and we support parents who make the decision that this is not necessary by ensuring that pupils are able to use the school landline to contact parents in an emergency. Parents can, of course, contact school via the landline on 0141 5820200. This policy does, however, recognise that the majority of our pupils do own a mobile phone. Any pupil who brings a mobile phone into school does so at their own risk and the school cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage.

Thank you once again for your support. Please contact me at the school office or by email on Headteacher@rosshallacademy.glasgow.sch.uk with any concerns about your child's wellbeing or learning. I wish you and your families a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



Alison Mitchell
Head Teacher