**COMMUNITIES & EDUCATION DIRECTORATE**

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*{Date}*Auchenharvie Academy,

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Date:23rd November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well due to what appears a pivotal time during the global pandemic. I wanted to thank you all again for your ongoing support to our school and to ensure you that we are always here to help should you require our assistance with any aspect of your child’s education.

If parents/carers or pupils have any questions and/or issues then please use the following e-mail addresses to contact pupil's designated House team:

Ashgrove

gw16lynchamanda@glow.sch.uk

gw10congiuletizia2@glow.sch.uk

Warner

gw09scottclaire4@glow.sch.uk

gw09davislinda@glow.sch.uk

gw15shawemma@glow.sch.uk

Parkend

gw09shawhelen@glow.sch.uk

gw09herdjohn@glow.sch.uk

School Uniform.

We have noticed that a significant number of pupils have reverted back to last sessions agreements for school uniform and are coming to school in PE kit on timetabled days. Can I please ask for all of your support in ensuring that all pupils come to school in full uniform every day, including PE days. Our uniform is white shirt, school tie and black trousers / skirt *(jeans, leggings and tracksuit bottoms are not school uniform).* Please remember that we have a uniform service in school and if this can be of help to you please contact Mrs Hopton directly at school.

Latecoming and Attendance.

We have also noticed that our whole school attendance since our return in August has decreased by around 1.4% in comparison to the same time last session. Can I please ask that every effort is made to get pupils to school every day and that if a pupil is unable to attend school that you contact us to let us know of the reason and the expected date of return. Furthermore, we are currently experiencing higher than usual numbers of latecomers to school. Normally these patterns can be attributed to roadworks/reduced bus services but this is not currently the case. Can I please also ask therefore, that you chat to your child about their timekeeping and if required you make appropriate arrangements to ensure they arrive in school on time each day. The impact of poor attendance / timekeeping cannot be underestimated and this aligned to the impact of school days lost to COVID are not helpful to ensuring the best educational outcomes for pupils.

Parents Evenings.

Due to the current COVID restrictions it is not possible to hold face to face parents evenings in school. It is unlikely that this will change in what remains of this calendar year. To help provide a parents evening service we have purchased a software package that will allow us to schedule parental meetings online. We will be writing to you all shortly with further details and this will start with the planned S3 parents evening on 14th December 2021. All users will require an email address to access this service and an additional service will be provided to parents/carers with no email address who would like a phone call instead. It is not possible for us to just use phone calls to all parents/carers due to the current telecommunication infrastructure in school which is about to be upgraded.

SQA prelim timetable.

We are in the final stages of confirming our SQA prelim timetable which commences in January 2022 and hope to issue this to pupils over the coming days. We appreciate that a return to the school examination system will be an anxious time for pupils as well as parents / carers and we are happy to continue supporting everybody involved. The importance of a good prelim examination cannot be underestimated and its use in supporting teachers predicted grades and in supporting in exceptional circumstances is invaluable. I thank you all in advance for encouraging pupils to be studying at home in what remains of this term and over the festive break as appropriate.

Senior Phase Supported Study.

Can I please ask that you continue to encourage all pupils to make the most of the supported study timetable we have in place. This timetable is comprehensive and a copy is available on our school website. If you have any questions about supported study please contact Mrs Riddell directly at school who will assist with your enquiry.

I hope you find this information useful and as ever please feel free to contact me if you have any questions in relation to any matter of our work.

Yours sincerely,



Calum Johnston

Head Teacher

