



PEEBLES HIGH SCHOOL

LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

CAMPBELL WILSON

Dear Parent/ Carer

I need your help. There is no doubt that our school community has endured exceptionally challenging times or that our young people have shown genuine strength and adaptability to deal with the uncertainty, restrictions and changes they have faced as a result of the fire followed by two school sessions interrupted by Covid. I am very aware in my role as Vice President of School Leaders Scotland, that schools all over the country have been struggling to get their schools back to the same levels of attendance, standard of uniform, compliance with school rules and routines as they enjoyed before the pandemic. While it is not surprising that this is the case given the uncertainty and disruption we have all experienced, it is important that we pull together to make sure that our school insists on highest standards of attendance, uniform and behaviour.

I know that pressures on family budgets have never been greater and I want our school to help families wherever we can. If your child is struggling to attend in school uniform due to financial pressures, please reach out to us for support. We have good stocks of donated, laundered and 'ready to wear' uniform for all sizes. Please email: peebleshs@scotborders.gov.uk for advice and/or support.

I will be reinforcing the importance of high standards during face-to-face assemblies on Friday with all year groups. Please support us by sending your child to school in full school uniform every day henceforth.

From Friday, we will be marking demerits and contacting home for those young people not wearing full uniform. An accumulation of five demerits in a term leads to loss of school privileges such as attending trips, representing the school at events and attending school social events. Now that we are able to have dances again, we are planning our first dances since 2019 to take place after the Summer holidays. Please help us to ensure that your child is able to attend these events and help get our whole school community benefiting from the high standards that provide all of our young people with the parameters and support they require to thrive. I include below a reminder of our uniform policy:

School Uniform

At Peebles High School, we believe that the wearing of school uniform is important for many reasons:

- *It encourages a sense of identity*

- *Develops pride in the school*
- *Supports an environment and work attitude which is purposeful*
- *Improves school security*
- *Discourages competition in clothing*

We expect the school uniform to be worn in a way that looks smart overall and in keeping with the identity and pride that we are seeking to encourage. The majority of our young people wear appropriate uniform every day and I congratulate them on the image they present and the support that they show for our school. A small minority of young people have fallen into poor habits including wearing trainers and/or black jeans to school:

- *Black shoes*
- *White shirt or blouse and tie worn to the top button*
- *PHS Blazer*
- *PHS hooded top*
- *black sweatshirt with school crest*
- *black trousers (not jeans)*
- *black skirts*
- *white school polo shirts for S1-S4*
- *PE kit: black shorts and plain white t shirt with no logos or branded PHS PE kit from our supplier (Brown and Out)*
- *caps and hats to be removed inside the school building*
- *All coats and jackets removed in class*
- *Hooded tops that are not PHS specific are not permitted*

Please be assured that if you require any assistance in getting your child to conform or if you require financial assistance, we are here to assist you. Send an email to peebleshs@scotborders.gov.uk for my attention should you wish to reach out.

Best Regards



Campbell Wilson
Rector
Peebles High School