Johnstone High School 

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14th April 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

**SUMMER TERM UPDATE LETTER FOR PARENTS**

1. **Staffing update**

Mr Munro, DHT, retired from Johnstone High at the end of last month after 15 years with us. He will be very much missed, but we wish him all the very best for his retirement and I know he has lots of plans to travel and spend time with his family. Mrs Davidson has been appointed as acting DHT and started her post in March.

Mr Menzies, DHT, has recently been appointed as the new head teacher of Castlehead Hgh School in Paisley. He takes up post on 3rd May. We are absolutely delighted for him and wish him the best of luck in his new exciting role. Ms Price has been appointed as an acting DHT to cover Mr Menzies role until the permanent DHT vacancy is filled.

This represents a significant change to our senior management team, and we are currently working through how this will impact on remit (responsibility) areas, and of course, our house group structures. I will write to you again before 3rd May to let you know of any changes to house teams, however, please note that the PTs of Pastoral Support will be staying with their existing house group and will therefore offer continuity of care and support to children and families.

1. **Covid Update**

On 13th April the Scottish Government confirmed that it is **no longer mandatory** for pupils and staff to wear face coverings in corridors and communal areas in school. However, it remains the case that individuals are **encouraged** to wear a covering in indoor communal areas in line with wider workplace guidance. Therefore, in Johnstone High School, any pupil or member of staff who wishes to wear a face covering will be supported to do so.

Another important change is around testing. Schools no longer hold stocks of LFD test kits and there is no longer guidance around twice weekly testing for pupils and staff. Therefore, the following now applies around covid related illness and absence:

**Children and young people must stay at home and self-isolate if they:**

 have symptoms of COVID-19, whether they feel unwell or not

 have tested positive, even if asymptomatic

 are required to self-isolate for any other reason in line with the requirements set out on NHS Inform

Please continue to contact the school office on 0300 300 1331 to inform us of your child’s absence from school and please let us know if it is covid related.

From 19 April there is no longer a requirement for schools to issue parents and carers with ‘warn and inform’ texts/letters when there is a case in your child’s class. However, in line with government guidance we will continue to update you regularly with regards to our approach to managing covid within Johnstone High School.

In light of the new, more relaxed, government guidance, here are our ongoing covid measures:

* We will continue with our one-way system as it supports good order and discipline within the school
* Pupils will continue to enter in the morning at 8.45am via their house group door and will be greeted by staff. We will no longer be actively hand sanitising or issuing face masks, however these will be available for those who wish to use them
* There will be plentiful hand gels in classrooms and communal areas
* Covid cleaners are staying with us in the summer term and cleaning caddies will still be available in classes
* We will continue to open windows and doors to ventilate. **In the summer term pupils will be expected to remove outdoor jackets and non-school jumpers / hoodies/tops.** Thank you in advance for your support in this regard.
* Pupils and staff should follow the wider societal guidance on physical distancing. As in wider society it will remain important to exercise personal responsibility, recognising that, where possible, it is safer to keep a distance from other people.

We are very pleased that restrictions have been removed from extra-curricular clubs, we can now invite parents and visitors into the building, and we are now allowed to plan trips and events. As a result, I very much hope that the summer term will be our ‘most normal’ in some years.

1. **Expectations around behaviour and conduct**

I met with all pupils S1-3 the week prior to the spring break to reinforce our expectations around behaviour, manners, uniform and general conduct.

**The following table represents what it means to be a pupil in Johnstone High School, and I will be prioritising this over the summer term.** Thank you in advance for supporting us with these vitally important areas of school life:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area of school life** | **What we expect** | **What we will challenge as unacceptable** | **How we will respond to unacceptable behaviour (in order)** |
| Uniform | Pupils should come to school wearing uniform-TieShirtSchool trousers/skirtSchool jumper (black)Plain black tightsAppropriate coat and shoes for winter. | No tieNon-school jumpers Inappropriate items such as patterned tights / jeans / football colours.**Wearing PE kit when not in PE** | Pupils will remove non-school tops in classroomsWe will ask pupils to get changed.We will issue items of uniform to pupils.We will contact parents. |
| Late coming | Pupils should be in school at 8.45am for an 8.50am start. | Pupils repeatedly arriving late for school. | Parents will be contacted. |
| Mobile Phones | Phones are only out in class when the teacher gives permission e.g. to access QR codes.Phones used in social spaces at break times.*(Expensive phones and devices should not be brought to school.)* | Phones out in class without permission.Phones being used in corridors/stairwells, in between lessons.Pupils refusing to put phones away when asked.  | Pupils will be asked to put their phone in their bag.We will then ask the pupil to put their phone on the teacher’s desk.We may then take and store the pupil’s phone for the rest of the day.We will put in place in-school sanctions when pupils do not do as asked.We will contact parents.  |
| Respect for others | In-person or online, we speak to other pupils, staff and members of the community in a respectful way. | We do not use language or display behaviour that is hurtful to others. We do not accept:RacismHomophobiaTransphobiaSexism / misogyny  | Pupils will be given the appropriate advice and guidance.In-school sanctions will be put in place.We will contact parents. We will report racist incidents to Renfrewshire Council.We may contact the Police. |
| Behaviour in class | In line with our Relationships Policy, pupils should be * SAFE in their behaviour
* READY to learn
* RESPECTFUL to everyone
 | Pupils not doing as they are asked.Pupils not putting effort into their learning.Pupils not displaying appropriate manners to staff or other pupils. | We will use the Relationships policy. <http://www.johnstonehigh.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Relationships-policy-parent-overview-2021.docx>In most situations, pupils will be given a warning, then a sanction will be put in place.For more serious matters and persistent misbehaviour, parents will be contacted. |
| Pupils out of class e.g. to go to the toilet | Pupils should go to the toilet during breaks (we do allow pupils to go to the toilet in class time if required).Pupils should bring a water bottle to school. | Pupils should not be repeatedly out of class. Typical reasons include:Toilet visitsWaterGetting a mask | Pupils will be challenged and taken back to class.Parents will be contacted if a pupil is persistently asking out of classes without a valid reason. |

1. **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Tue 19 April                   S1-3 Easter Assemblies

Thurs 21 April                  Lapwing Lodge (S6) all day

Fri 22 April                        S6 graduation afternoon only; S6 last day

Mon 25 April                    SQA exams start

Tue 26 April                     S4/5 last day

Mon 2 May                       HOLIDAY

Thur 5 May                       IN-SERVICE

Mon 9 May                      Parent Council AGM

10-12 May                        Modern Languages S3 primary visits

Friday 27 May                  HOLIDAY

Mon 30 May                    New timetable starts

Thur 2 June                      HOLIDAY

Fri 3rd June                        HOLIDAY

Tue 7 June                        S6 Prom

Thur 9 June                      S1-3 awards ceremony (evening) DETAILS TBC

15-17 June                        P7 three-day visit

Mon 27 June                    Activities day DETAILS TBC

Tues 28 June                    School closes at 1.30pm

If you would like to discuss any of the above, please feel free to contact either your child’s Pastoral Teacher, Depute Head Teacher or myself on 0300 300 1331.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the school,

Yours sincerely,



Lynne Hollywood

Head Teacher