

# Parent Update

9 October 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

This week's main news item for us was the Depute First Minister's announcement on Wednesday afternoon regarding this session's SQA exams. The gist of this was that there will be no external exams for National 5 courses whilst Higher and Advanced Higher exams will start on 13 May, slightly later than normal.

The SQA have provided some general guidance for schools on the evidence to be gathered and how to generate estimates and they will provide more subject specific detail on this after the October break. As a school we are keen to ensure that we get this right for our students and had already revised our assessment programme from August in anticipation of there being disruption to learning this session. We will take time to work through the SQA documentation carefully and will continue to work with West Lothian Council and the SQA in ensuring we maintain their standards. All senior phase students, parents and carers will be given further details at that time.

In the meantime S4-S6 assessments, including the October assessments which begin after the break, will continue to be used to achieve two things:

- to inform students of what areas they are doing well in and enable them to identify areas that require further work
- to generate a range of evidence of the level they have achieved

## Reports

S4-S6 students received their second tracking reports yesterday and S1 students received their settling in reports today. In both cases, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us after the break should you have any concerns or queries.

I hope that your children are able to enjoy the October break and look forward to seeing them again when we return on Wednesday 21 October.

Pauline Allison  
Head Teacher

## Reminder of Covid 19 Protocols

As you are aware, with the return of our pupils and staff to school, we have put procedures in to place that support all members of the school community if anyone displays symptoms of Covid 19.

A reminder that the symptoms are:

- High temperature or fever
- A new continuous cough
- A loss of, or change in sense of smell or taste

If a pupil displays symptoms, we will contact you to collect your child (please ensure that we have your most up to date contact details). **Pupils over the age of 16 may return home themselves.** The pupil should, if possible, wear a face covering en route and avoid public transport.

You will be asked to follow Test and Protect and we will provide you with a copy of the Test and Protect Leaflet and Step by Step Guide when your child is collected.

Information on the groups of children within the school, **and on school transport**, and the adults that each group of children come in to contact with will be collected. This is to fulfil legal responsibilities for public health and will allow Test and Protect to contact appropriate people in the event of a positive test result.

***If anyone within your household tests positive for Covid 19, please do not send your child to school. Report their absence and the reason for this by calling PSA in the morning.***