



GRYFFE HIGH SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Mr Colin H Johnson BSc



Dear Parents/Carers

I wanted to provide a brief update to you in regard to key aspects of school life at the moment. The very first and foremost point is clear, our pupils, your children, have been outstanding since we started back. Yes, we have a few issues, and yes, there are things we wish would run a little smoother – but the overall behaviour, commitment and efforts of pupils, adhering to all our health and safety procedures, is a genuine pleasure to see.

- ✓ Pupils are well prepared entering the school, organised and with their face masks on..... *although we have seen a rise in the last few days of pupils forgetting their masks!*
- ✓ Pupils enter and leave classrooms with a mask on.
- ✓ In nearly all classes pupils face forward rather than face to face.
- ✓ Pupils wipe down their working area at the start and end of the period.
- ✓ There is an understanding of Dry weather procedures and Wet weather procedures when we adhere strictly to our one way system.
- ✓ Pupils remain in the same seat in a class whenever possible, with all teachers using a seating plan in order that we have clear trace and protect procedures in place.
- ✓ The canteen is running a very efficient queuing system, where pupils are in single file and the movement through the system is very quick.

I have asked staff to have a focus on keeping the 2 metres distance, from pupils and colleagues, as much as possible. The guidance states: ‘staff should keep a 2 metres distance wherever possible. There can be brief interactions between teachers and learners closer than 2 metres (15 minutes or less).’

..... the 15 minutes is regarded as cumulative, so advice is really for staff to spend at most a few minutes giving advice/feedback to pupils, and best with a face mask on.

Learning and Teaching

All subject staff are doing their utmost to support our pupils, under these difficult circumstances, as best they possibly can. There will, as you would expect, be a mixture of class led lessons, revision work and tasks set for pupils to work on. I have asked all staff to ensure homework/tasks are detailed via Show My Homework, and I would also ask parents/carers to encourage your children to do all work asked for, and to submit all work requested. **I will visit every S4, S5 and S6 class to remind them to submit everything asked of them.**

As much as we really want the SQA Examinations in May 2021, there is a possibility that there may not be exams and that we will again revert to estimates of pupils work, based on available evidence, being provided to the Exam board. **So the attention to detail on all work submitted by pupils is clearly very important.**

Communication

I hope you managed to create a little time to read our School Newsletter, uploaded to the school website on Wednesday 2 September, and enjoyed reading about the significant successes and achievements of our young people. We are very proud of our progress as a school to date, however we are also very open to any suggestion for improvement – please feel free to contact us with suggestions, your opinion or even a simple statement on what you see as actually working well.

Overleaf we have made a few requests of you! Working together we strive for excellence.

CARING LEARNING ACHIEVING



Website



www.gryffehigh.com



Gryffe High



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How Parents/Carers can become more involved in our school life:



- ✓ Learning and Teaching – We are struggling to have enough text books for our pupils. Many of our books have not been returned. **Could we please ask all parents/carers to encourage their children to return books**, or possibly, dare I say, look in their rooms, with them of course, and see what can be found! Art Department Plea - Could any S4, S5 or S6 pupil who borrowed Art Materials of any kind for home use last term, please return these items to the Art Department asap
- ✓ **Use Show My Homework** to keep in touch with what is happening within Gryffe.
- ✓ **Nominate your child for Achievement points** if they have achieved in an out of school event. Just fill in the simple online form via our school website or through:
<http://gryffachievements.weebly.com/nomination-form.html>
- ✓ Attend the next Parent Council Meeting, and possibly read about the presentations of the last Parent Council meetings on the school website, under the 'PARENT ZONE' tab, then 'Parent Council', to get a feel of what is involved without committing to it. The next ZOOM meeting is on Monday 21 September, 7:00 pm start. If interested in attending then please send an email to our gryffehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk and we will forward to Torquil Murray, Chair of Parent Council.
- ✓ **Encourage your child to be in full school uniform, be on time for school** – in school for the **FIRST** bell at 8:47am – and to complete all homework/assignment tasks given... as shown on SMHW. **Please also encourage your child to bring and wearing a face mask.**
We have spares to help, but it is the pupils responsibility to bring a mask.
- ✓ **Follow us on Twitter/Facebook and/or tell us how we can improve our wider communication.**

Upcoming priorities/events

Thurs 17	S4-S6 Reports to pupils
Mon 21	Start of Gryffestyles Health Week S1 Health Day Parent Council Meeting, 7:00 pm
Wed 23	Respected Wellbeing starter S1 & S2 Activ8 session 6 S1 & S2
Thurs 24	3K Challenge
Fri 25	HOLIDAY
Mon 28	HOLIDAY
Tue 29	Prompt 8:47 am start back to school

Yours sincerely

Full calendar detail is kept up to date on the school website

Colin Johnson
Head Teacher



Website



www.gryffehigh.com



Gryffe High



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