



Dear Parent/Carer,

We have finally said goodbye to 2021 and we look forward to 2022 in hope that it is happier, healthier and just better for us all. We continue to work together through the most challenging time I think we have ever known in schools. I know it has been very difficult for you at home as well and I am very grateful for the work everyone – school and home - has done to help and support our pupils. Whilst we are all really keen for the restrictions to be over, we aren't there yet, so we have to keep going. For now, we plan to continue to operate as we are currently, with a few reminders for you as pupils return to school (see below):

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All pupils will return to school in their full uniform. A note of this is below and all pupils must adhere to this. Due to current guidance we are required to keep rooms ventilated which means windows and doors will be open. In order for pupils to be comfortable they will require something warm that they will be allowed to wear in classes.

### **Lockerbie Academy Dress Code**

- 📌 White shirt – which must be tucked in
- 📌 Plain black trousers/dress shorts or skirt/kilt
- 📌 A school tie bearing the school crest
- 📌 Plain black v-neck jumper, plain round-neck sweater or cardigan
- 📌 Black shoes/trainers (no coloured logos)

We value your support in making sure we adhere to these guidelines. If your child is in receipt of clothing grant or free school meals, or you would like to know how to apply for these, please contact your child's Pupil Support Teacher.

Where there are concerns that the dress code has not been met, the following procedures will be followed:

- 📌 Be given a warning from their Tutor Teacher and given chance to amend
- 📌 If there is no change in uniform the pupil's Principal Teacher Pupil Support (PTPS) will contact you.
- 📌 If the issue continues the Depute in charge of the pupils House Group will contact you to organise a meeting.

### **Prelims**

The timetable continues as normal for everyone. During class time, most senior pupils will have a range of Prelims over the next few weeks, but these will be when their double periods are for those subjects and the rest of their timetable operates as usual – pupils will be in uniform and in classes. The majority of Prelims will be in the Assembly Hall to give the best preparation for what formal exams will be like – none of our senior pupils have had this before, so it is an important rehearsal for the final exam. It is also important to say that the past two years have seen exams being cancelled in May, so we need to make the very best use of these Prelims and I encourage pupils to do their very best, with your support. We are aware that some of our pupils are worried about these exams, so we will be addressing those anxieties as a school to help support pupils to cope with the Prelims and to do their best.

During Prelims, S2 will use one half of the Games Hall for their indoor Social Area, as the Assembly Hall is fully set up with exam desks and chairs and must be accessible for staff and pupils throughout the day (some exams will start early and finish late, due to pupils entitled to additional arrangements). S2 should report there tomorrow morning please and at interval/lunch (if they wish to be indoors) until the end of the Prelims.

### **Face Coverings**

These remain a requirement of all of us, pupils and staff alike. Please ensure that your son/daughter comes to school with their face covering and a spare. (We have a small supply of replacements if essential). Those of our pupils who are exempt should have completed a form to let the authority know about their exemption and that is then passed to us in school. If you need it for your son/daughter and haven't completed it yet, this form can be found here: <https://supportdg.dumgal.gov.uk/face-covering-exemptions>

### **Lateral Flow Tests**

These are more important than ever, to try and identify the spread of the Omicron Variant and to stop it spreading. These should be done twice every week and we have kits available to collect at the school office. I encourage everyone to test before returning to school please and to get into a regular routine of doing these.

### **Parents' Evenings**

We are unable currently to do face-to-face parents' evenings as we had hoped, so we are working swiftly to look at alternatives and will be back in touch as soon as we can with further details about upcoming dates in the diary.

Again, thank you for your patience and support. We will get through this together.

Yours faithfully,



Brian Asher  
Headteacher