



9 January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been lovely seeing everyone return this week; looking settled, smart and ready to learn. We started the week reflecting on achievements in 2025. Over the past year, many of our young people worked hard in the classroom and saw that effort pay off through exam results, improved attendance, and real progress in their learning from S1-S6. Beyond lessons, pupils represented the school with pride in sports fixtures, performances, clubs, activities and competitions. Those successes didn't happen by chance – they came from commitment, teamwork and resilience. Every single person in our school was successful in 2025, in their own way, and by being themselves.

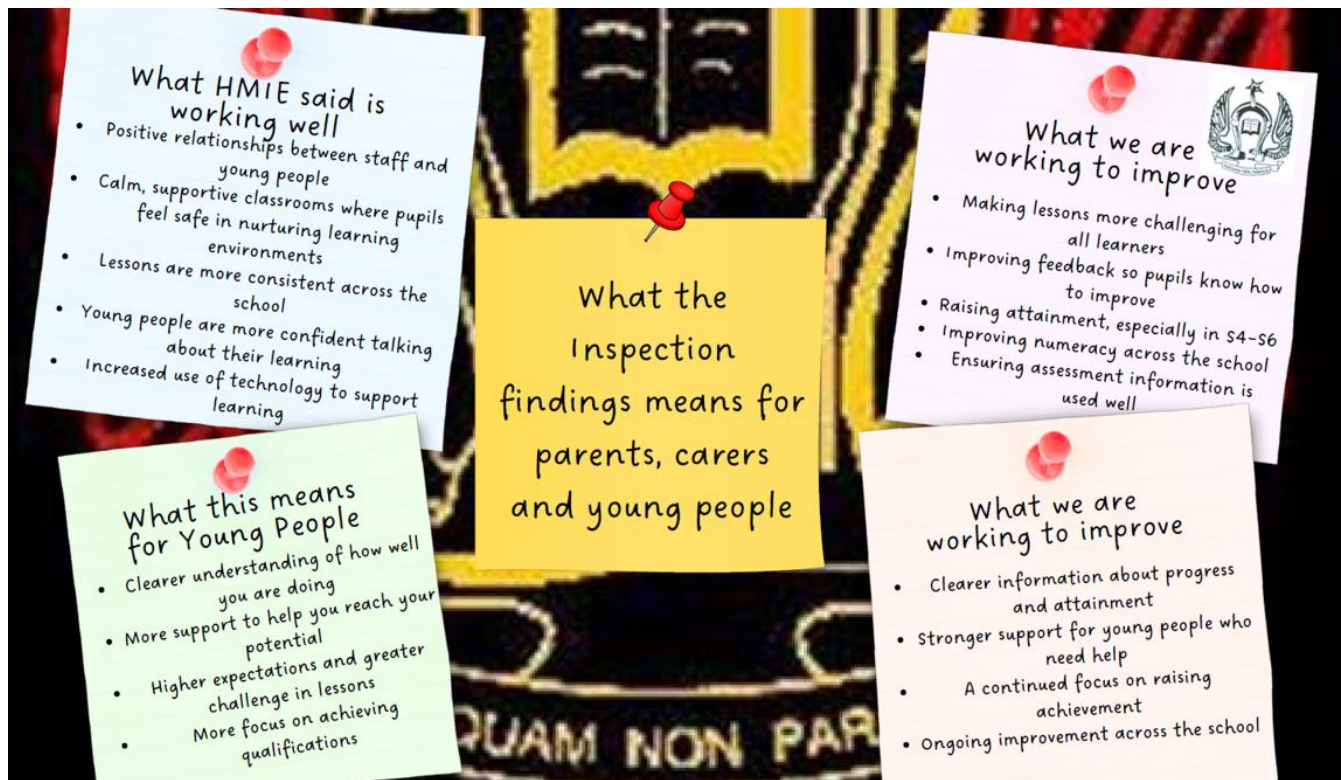
Our focus for 2026 is to build on last year's successes by aiming higher; setting ambitious goals for learning, pushing ourselves to try new subjects or activities, and continuing to show our school values COMPASSION, ACHIEVE, RESPECT & EQUITY every day. For some young people, that might mean preparing confidently for class assessments, prelims and exams; for others, it could be getting more involved in school life, improving attendance, organisation, or simply believing more in their own abilities.

At the end of the first week back, I want to say how positive the start of term has been. The atmosphere in classes has been calm and purposeful, with pupils engaging well in lessons. Seniors deserve particular credit for the focused way they have approached revision and prelims this week, showing maturity and determination. Attendance has been encouraging for the first week back, and punctuality to classes is improving as routines are being re-established.

There are, of course, routines we will continue to reinforce, particularly around social areas and transitions between lessons, but the overall message from this week is a positive one. The start of term has shown that our young people are capable of high standards and are ready to build on last year's achievements.

We continue to prepare for our revisit from HMIE next session (2026/2027). We do so by us all working together and focusing on raising attainment and achievement. HMIE identified a number of key strengths, but further areas for improvement. This feedback has already been shared with you, but an overview is shown below. I will keep you updated with progress throughout the rest of this session.





### **Staffing**

Congratulations to Miss Sophie Wotherspoon who has been successful in interview at Dumfries High School. Miss Wotherspoon will start as Teacher of Art at the beginning of February. We have started processes in school to ensure we have a member of staff who will support Dryfe pupils (S2-S4). Confirmation will be sent in due course.

Kenny Pullen (Schools Manager – People) has asked I share the following with our school community-

**Unfortunately, Mr Asher, Headteacher at Lockerbie Academy, continues to be absent from work due to ongoing health concerns. Ms Kerry Currie (Depute Headteacher) will continue to act as Headteacher. Central officers continue to support the Acting Headteacher in her role to ensure continued good progress for school improvement.**

I am committed to Lockerbie Academy and look forward to working with you on our improvement journey.

### **LAPCC**

Our Parent/Carer Council will meet again on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January (6pm-7pm). All welcome.

### **Comments, Compliments & Complaints**

Please continue to use our website to log any comments, compliments or complaints <https://bit.ly/4jwKLfi>

### **Upcoming School Events**

|                                                       |                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Jan-Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b> | Senior Prelims                                                                                |
| <b>Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>                        | S2 Option Forms issued                                                                        |
| <b>Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>                      | S3 Parent/Carer Evening (4pm-6pm)                                                             |
| <b>Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>                        | S3 Curriculum Information Evening (5pm-6pm)<br>S4/S5 Curriculum Information Evening (6pm-7pm) |
| <b>Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>                      | S4-S6 Parent/Carer Evening (4pm-6pm)                                                          |
| <b>Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>                       | S4-S6 Parent Carer Evening (4pm-6pm)                                                          |
| <b>Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>                      | Staff Inset Day                                                                               |
| <b>Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>                        | Mid-term holiday                                                                              |
| <b>Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>                        | Teen Booster (S3 & catch-ups)                                                                 |
| <b>Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>                      | HPV (S1 & catch-ups)                                                                          |
| <b>Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>                    | Sports Awards                                                                                 |
| <b>Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>                      | End of Term                                                                                   |

Information on Prelims, Study Sessions and Study Sessions can be accessed on our website  
[https://www.lockerbieacademy.dumgal.sch.uk/curriculum/study\\_hub/study\\_hub.html](https://www.lockerbieacademy.dumgal.sch.uk/curriculum/study_hub/study_hub.html)

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Kerry Galbraith Currie  
Head Teacher (Acting)