

People Directorate

Head Teacher: Mark Anderson

Girvan Academy
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Our Ref: MA/LJ

Your Ref:

Date: 17 August 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am delighted to write to you as the newly appointed Head Teacher of Girvan Academy. It is an honour and privilege to lead the school and I am greatly looking forward to welcoming back our young people for the start of the new term on Thursday 19 August. In addition, I look forward to developing partnerships with the parents/carers and community of Girvan, while continuing to build on the many achievements and successes in the school.

One of the key aims will be to lead the school out of Covid recovery, re-establishing the many activities and experiences in the wider curriculum that young people have missed in the last eighteen months. These opportunities not only allow pupils to develop skills for life and learning but also develop a sense of school community, and provide a significant amount of enjoyment and success for our young people.

I wish to update and remind you of several key points:

Start of Term

Staff return for In-service days on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th August followed by pupils returning on Thursday 19th August.

S1 pupils should report to the Theatre at 8.45am via the main entrance where staff will meet them and provide further instructions. S2-6 pupils should go directly to their GIRFEC class, which remain unchanged from June.

Covid Mitigations

As the Scottish Government indicated earlier this month, Covid mitigations are to remain in place in secondary schools for the first six weeks of the new term. After this time, the mitigations will be reviewed and further guidance issued to schools and communicated to parents.

As a result can I remind you of the mitigations in place:

- All pupils (unless previously exempt) should wear a face cover while in the building.
- Pupils will be asked to sanitise their hands and workspace on arrival at classes.
- Our pupils are not required to socially distance from each other, but they should maintain at least a 1-metre distance from adults in school.
- The one-way system for movement around the school will remain in place.
- All visitors to schools, including parents and carers, should continue to make appointments if it is necessary to visit the school

In addition to these mitigations, all secondary pupils should be encouraged to take twice-weekly Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests. The first of these should be taken before your son/daughter returns to school. Tests can be collected from the school office as previously highlighted in a text to you last week.

www.girvanacademy.sayr.sch.uk

Building Refurbishment

Over the summer a large number of external windows have been replaced, as well as a general refresh in some areas of the school. Unfortunately, due to issues with building supplies, the completion of the Support & Wellbeing Department refurbishment has been delayed by several weeks but is scheduled to be completed by the end of August.

Finally, on behalf of our school community, I would like to thank you for your continued support and understanding in these very challenging times. Please be assured that as Head Teacher, I will strive to provide the best education experience for your child/children during their time at Girvan Academy and I look forward to working with you throughout the course of the session.

Yours faithfully

Mark Anderson

Mr Mark Anderson
Head Teacher