



**Girvan Academy**  
**Parent Council Meeting 13 September 2021**  
**Head Teacher Update**



## 1. Roll/Staffing

The projected roll for 2021/22 was 538 pupils. On census day (6/9/21), the actual school role was 546 pupils. This means our staffing entitlement increased by 0.4fte to 41.7fte.

A number of new staff joined us in August:

- Simon Lyttle - RMPS
- Zoe White – Geography – (Temporary for J Kean)
- Karen McGregor – Art NQT
- Alyssa Anderson – Biology NQT
- Amy Beattie – English NQT
- Kirsten Cox – HE NQT
- Karen McNee – Support & Well Being (0.4fte Cluster Teacher)
- Gordon Roberts – Closing the Gap Teacher
- Iona Templeton - Closing the Gap Teacher (0.4fte)
- Grace Newmarch – School Assistant (PEF)
- Kerry Davidson – PE – free up time for Marie Hettrick to undertake additional duties
- Ben Robinson – DHT – will join us on Tuesday

In addition:

- John Hill (ICT Technician) – moved to Kyle Academy
- Joanne Frew – appointed on Friday DHT at Prestwick Academy

## 2. SQA Attainment

**Girvan Academy: % of pupils achieving SQA National Awards at grades A-C by end of S4, S5, S6**

Performance Measure	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% point change on last year	2021 including SCQF Qualifications
5+ awards @ Level 3	93	88	85	91	95	4	95
5+ awards @ Level 4	86	82	79	87	85	-2	88
5+ awards @ Level 5	35	29	30	49	34	-15	39
1+ awards @ Level 6	69	60	52	48	68	20	73
3+ awards @ Level 6	32	25	22	27	35	8	52
5+ awards @ Level 6	12	6	11	19	17	-2	20
1+ awards @ Level 7	17	9	8	12	19	7	19

**Girvan Academy & SAC: % of pupils achieving SQA National Awards at grades A-C by end of S4, S5, S6**

Performance Measure	Girvan 2021	2021 including SCQF Qualifications	SAC 2021
5+ awards @ Level 3	95	95	91
5+ awards @ Level 4	85	88	85
5+ awards @ Level 5	34	39	50
1+ awards @ Level 6	68	73	66
3+ awards @ Level 6	35	52	45
5+ awards @ Level 6	17	20	21
1+ awards @ Level 7	19	19	25

### 3. Standard & Quality Report/School Improvement Plan

The 2020/21 Standards & Quality Report and draft 2021/22 School Improvement Plan are included with this update. If you have any comments could you please let me know by 20<sup>th</sup> September. Both documents will be available on the school website after this date.

### 4. GL Assessments

As part of the South Ayrshire Council's package of support for Covid recovery, and to identify gaps in our pupils' learning, GL Assessments will be undertaken with all S1-3 pupils in English, Maths and Science. These assessments will be completed online in class time and will take just over a period to complete. The feedback received will be used to identify gaps in individual pupils' skills and knowledge, which can then be addressed over the coming year.

### 5. School Refurbishment

- **Support & Wellbeing** – the handover from the contractors was this afternoon and furniture and fittings will be added during the course of the week. The official moving in by the department will be after the September weekend holiday
- **Window replacements** – the second phase was completed over the summer and additional funding has been secured from Education Support Services for new blinds to accompany the new windows
- **Sport facilities** - £200,000 has been allocated for the upgrade to the outdoor PE facilities. A new polymeric surface and fencing will be installed on the existing courts to provide a multisport area.
- **Next phase of refurbishment** – a meeting is planned at the end of this month to examine the next phase of refurbishment. An upgrade of the old library to incorporate all of Business & Computing will be investigated. Another possible area is the Music department.

## 6. Parents' Evening prior to Christmas

Due to ongoing concerns with the spread of Covid-19, it was agreed as an authority that there will be no face-to-face Parents' Evenings prior to Christmas. As a result, this affects the following Parents' Evenings:

- S4 Parents' Evening - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November
- S5/6 Parents' Evening - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November
- S1 Parents' Evening – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December

The decision to prohibit face-to-face Parents' Evenings before Christmas affects all eight secondary schools in SAC. During initial discussions at the Head Teachers' meeting last week, three main options were considered:

- Postponing Parents' Evenings currently planned before Christmas and altering the school calendar to re-arrange the evenings between January and June 2022
- Keeping the Parents' Evening dates as they currently are and changing face-to-face meetings to Teams meetings or phone calls for those parents who request a meeting time
- Remove Parents' Evenings altogether for the affected cohorts and introduce an additional written report to provide parents/carers with further information on progress

A further consideration to the three options is a hybrid of the different options for different cohorts. For instance, in the Senior Phase, the Parents' Evening could become Teams/phone calls on the original dates but the S1 Parents' Evening could be rearranged for late May/ early June, when face-to-face Parents' Evening may be permissible again.

For each of the options there are pros and cons to consider. It should also be noted that although these options are for consideration for S1 and Senior Phase Parents' Evenings, there may be the need for the other Parents' Evenings after Christmas to change from face-to-face meetings to one of the alternative options. Therefore, any changes that are implemented must also take into consideration the implications of further Covid restrictions into the second half of the session in 2022.

Mark Anderson  
Head Teacher  
13<sup>th</sup> September 2021