

Park Mains High School

Barrhill Road, Erskine PA8 6EY

Tel: 0300 300 1411 Fax: 0141 814 3387

e-mail: parkmainshighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

website: www.parkmains.com

Head Teacher: **Michael R Dewar** BSc (Hons)



**Renfrewshire
Council**

Children's Services

Our Ref: **MD/HMcQ** Your Ref:

Date: **November 2020**

Dear Parent/ Carer,

As you are aware Renfrewshire Council has been placed in Tier 4 and as a result some additional health and safety measures have been or are in the process of being implemented in Park Mains High School. I thought it would be useful to provide you with an update of these measures whilst also providing you with information regarding other important issues.

Issues Relating to Tier 4

PE

Tier 4 restrictions mean we are no longer able to offer indoor PE. PE lessons will take place outside until at least the 11th of December. All activities will be non-contact. Pupils should come to PE prepared for all weathers. The PE Staff will make alternative arrangements for classes in the event of particularly inclement weather. Pupils who have PE period 1 can come to school in their PE kit and those who have PE period 7 can remain in their kit at the end of the day. **Pupils should be in school uniform at all other times.**

Supported Study

Supported study will be able to continue in Tier 4. A timetable of the Supported Study on offer will be posted on the website and S4-6 Teams pages early next week. Sessions will take place within school or virtually via Teams. Please encourage your child to take advantage of these opportunities to support their learning. We are delighted that so many of our staff are supporting our young people in this way.

Other Issues

Digital Learning and Homework Notifications

The school has taken the decision to move to a single online platform – Microsoft Teams - to provide a consistent approach to digital learning for pupils, staff and parents. All classes have a TEAM to supplement in-school learning and to support learning from home for pupils required to self-isolate.

We will no longer be using Show My Homework and Departments will instead post S1-6 Homework on class TEAMS site. Notifications to inform parents/carers of their child's Homework will now be sent via Text message.



Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn

We will use the following criteria to alert you to Homework.

- In the Broad General Education (S1-3), a text will be sent in advance to make parents/carers aware of a forthcoming assessment or a significant piece of homework project work. A follow up text will be sent if your child has failed to submit this Homework by the deadline set.
- For Senior Phase (S4-6) we expect pupils to take increasing responsibility for the completion of Homework. Parental alerts will be issued in advance to parents/carers to notify you of a significant piece of Homework and prior to important assessments, with a follow up text if your child has failed to submit this Homework by the relevant deadline.

In addition to text alerts, we would encourage parents/carers to work together with their child to consider the resources available on each of their subject TEAMS site. These will include notes, presentations, questions, web links, video clips used in class, as well as Homework exercises. I would suggest that this takes place on a regular basis for pupils in all year groups.

Access to TEAMS is via your child's GLOW log on and every member of staff can reset GLOW passwords. Your child must speak to their teacher if they cannot access a class TEAM. The school is currently devising a programme of lessons and guidance to further upskill pupils, staff and parents in the use of TEAMS. In the meantime, should you have any questions regarding Homework notifications, or the use of TEAMS please contact your child's Pastoral Care Teacher in the first instance.

Wooded Area

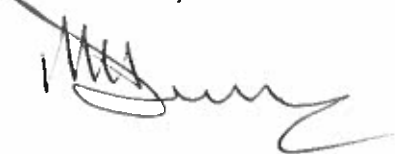
It has come to our attention that a number of our S1 pupils are spending their interval and lunch breaks in a wooded area adjacent to the school. As a result many S1 pupils are returning to school late, wet and covered in muck and as a result learning and teaching time is being lost as staff address these issues. More worryingly the woods themselves are dangerous. There is a steep incline and a significant drop which would cause serious harm to anyone who tripped or fell. We have contacted the Community Police, Community Wardens and Renfrewshire Council to make them aware of this health and safety risk to the wider community and have informed all pupils that this area is out of bounds for Park Mains pupils. If appropriate, please discuss this issue with your child.

Uniform

We are extremely proud of how our pupils have responded to the changes to their school experience and how resilient and mature they have been in following all health and safety measures. We have however, noticed a dip in the standard of school dress. Whilst we are happy for pupils to wear warm clothing we would ask you to support us in maintaining a high standard of uniform: black trousers or skirt; white shirt with tie; no leggings/sportswear.

Thank you again for your continued understanding and support as we try to navigate our way through this challenging session in a way which minimises disruption to the education and well being of our young people. If you have any concerns about your child or wish to discuss any aspect of the issues highlighted above please do not hesitate to contact us here at the school.

Yours sincerely



M Dewar
Head Teacher