

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: Alan Dick



Renfrewshire
Council

Children's Services

7th January 2022

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Date:

Upcoming S4 Prelim Diet

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you with information regarding the S4 Prelim Diet which starts on the 17th January. As per Scottish Government guidelines, prelims will be going ahead this year with these exams being held in the Assembly Hall and in various locations around the school. Pupils have been issued an exam timetable which can also be found on their Teams page and on the website. Any pupil that requires additional arrangements will be issued with a separate timetable.

We are acutely aware of the pressures that Covid isolation brings, particularly to our Senior Phase pupils. We will be as flexible as possible to ensure that no pupil will be disadvantaged because of Covid isolation during the exam diet and pupils who have been absent will have the opportunity to sit their assessment once they are settled back in school. As per the new guidelines, if a pupil is a close contact, they should take a Lateral Flow test every day for 7 days and, providing they are negative, they can come into school. If, however, your child has a positive PCR/LFD and has to isolate during the prelim diet, alternative arrangements will be made to allow them to sit these assessments under exam conditions.

An assembly will be held with S4 on Monday 10th January to talk through the protocol for exams; our prelims will, as is the norm, be held under SQA conditions to ensure the validity of the process. This means that no electronic devices (mobile phones/smart watches) can be in the candidate's possession during the exam. Phones and smart watches **must not** be in the possession of the candidate. That includes in their pocket whilst they are in the exam hall. If a candidate is found to be in possession of a phone or smart watch the SQA rules dictate that the exam is not valid and potentially all exams that the candidate has sat would be considered invalid. We will be discussing this with S4 and I would appreciate it if you would also speak to your child about this to reinforce how important this rule is.

Following the prelim diet, staff will work with your child to ascertain any gaps in their learning or any areas on which they need to focus. A reminder that Supported Study is on at lunchtime and after school Monday – Thursday and last term pupils found this hugely beneficial.

Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn



There is also a Study Café in the library after school Monday – Thursday should pupils require a space to complete homework or organise notes from classes.

I hope that this letter goes some way to address any concerns you may have regarding our upcoming Prelim Diet with regards isolation and provides some clarity on the exam process.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at the school in the normal manner.

Yours faithfully

Nicola Maynes

Depute Head

Park Mains High School

0300 300 1411

Items allowed in exam hall

- Black or blue pens
- Pencils
- Rubber
- Bottle of water
- Calculator (if required)

Items not allowed in exam hall

- Phone
- Smart Watch
- Any device that connects to the internet
- Notes, textbooks or jotters