



BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY

Be Caring Be Honest Be Respectful Be Your Best

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Head Teacher: Daphne McWilliam



16 November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Head Teacher's Update – Monday 16 November 2020

I write this week to update you on the following issues.

- Consultation: Restructure of ASN and Outreach Services
- Physical Education – Plans to Introduce Restricted Indoor Activities
- CFINE (Community Food Initiative North East)
- Pupil Behaviour at Lunchtime
- Book Week Scotland 2020
- In-service Day

Consultation: Restructure of ASN and Outreach Services

I have been asked to pass on the following information to all parents:

Aberdeen City Council is currently seeking your views on the new proposed restructured ASN and Outreach Service.

Our ASN services require to be more responsive to learners needs across the city, to achieve this, our services need a clear structure which advocates consistency and a shared vision. Recent recommendations Scottish ASN review have been considered in the restructuring. The business case attached outlines our proposal for the structure and management of ASN and Outreach Services.

Please use the link to provide us with feedback. [Feedback Form](#). Please note the consultation period ends on 23 December 2020.

The review of Scotland's ASN can be found [here](#).

Note: A link to the business case mentioned above is available on the school website within this HT Update post.

Physical Education – Plans to Introduce Restricted Indoor Activities

I mentioned in last week's update the plans to introduce a limited range of indoor activities for PE.

We have drawn up risk assessments for badminton, basketball and gymnastics which will be discussed at length with pupils in PE this week. Unfortunately, we are still unable to allow pupils to get changed in school for PE but the changing rooms will be used to store school bags while pupils participate in the lesson. Pupils will still be required to come to school wearing their PE kit on the days they have PE. (Please bear in mind that we do not permit football shirts to be worn in school or as part of PE kit.) The changing rooms will be supervised by staff throughout the time the bags are being dropped off. They will then be

locked and reopened by staff at the end of the lesson who will again remain present while the bags are being picked up. Although the changing rooms will be locked during the lesson, we would still encourage pupils, where possible, to store valuables in their lockers.

CFINE (Community Food Initiative North East)

I mentioned in a previous update our involvement with CFINE who offer support to people facing hardship. The response from our school community has been overwhelming, with six crates of food items waiting to be collected today. Thank you for your tremendous support.

Pupil Behaviour at Lunchtime

I am disappointed to report that we have received calls last week from one of the local shops and a resident to the north of the parkway regarding the behaviour of some pupils at lunchtime.

A small group of S4 boys let themselves down with their behaviour towards staff from RS McColl's during the lunchbreak last Tuesday which resulted in all those present being refused access.

Members of the public, including the elderly and vulnerable, frequently use the local shops, including the chemist, and can find it difficult to negotiate their way past groups of pupils who are reluctant to move, drop litter and use language most would consider inappropriate and offensive.

In addition, a member of the public has reported food being thrown into his garden by a pupil making his way back to school at lunchtime. We frequently remind our young people about littering and how their conduct in the community can let down their families and the school.

These incidents are rare, and we are regularly complimented by visitors and members of the public about the good behaviour of our pupils. It is disappointing when the actions of one or two pupils can let us down.

Book Week Scotland 2020

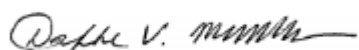
This week is Book Week Scotland, and our school library is leading a range of activities over the next four days, including the popular annual Big Book House Quiz. More details on our library's website at: <https://sites.google.com/ab-ed.org/bodalibrary/book-week-scotland-2020>

In-service Day

This Friday, 20 November, is an in-service day and the school will be closed to pupils. Staff will be involved in a programme of activities, relating predominantly to SQA National 5 courses and moderation following changes to courses by the SQA and the Deputy First Minister's recent announcement that there will be no exams for National 5 courses in 2021.

Until my next update, stay safe and I hope you have a good week.

Yours sincerely



Mrs D McWilliam
Head Teacher