



CULLODEN
ACADEMY

Rector: Dr J Vance
Depute Rector: Mrs J Urquhart
Depute Rector: Mr C D O'Neill
Depute Rector: Mr I Weafer
Depute Rector: Miss V Forrester

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5th January 2022

Hello and best wishes to you all for 2022.

I am delighted and relieved to report that we will open for all pupils on Thursday 6th January. We will have to live with and respond to this highly transmissible variant and the disruption that it is likely to bring in terms of staff and pupil absence. To minimise this we are maintaining all the same mitigations as before. It would be much appreciated if you could reinforce to your young people the importance of:

- bringing a mask and always wearing it (not as a chin warmer) when indoors, unless seated and eating.
- using the available hand sanitiser regularly.
- adhering to the staggered end of break and lunch to reduce crowds in the corridors.
- participating in the cleaning of desks between use if asked to do so.
- testing regularly to reduce the risk of unknowingly passing on COVID to classmates.
- and perhaps most crucially of not coming to school if they have any of the key symptoms as defined by the NHS. I appreciate the weariness that we all have with this but one person staying off and going for a PCR could save 10 or more classmates 10 days of self-isolating also. Working together we can minimise the number of times pupils have to miss school and provide a safer environment for all children and adults using the building.

Beyond COVID, there is still the business of education to attend to and we look forward to getting back to that this week. Below are the key dates this month for you and your young people. Please check our website regularly and contact the office or your Child's Guidance teacher if you have a concern.

Monday 10th- **S4-S6 Prelims** start.

Wednesday 19th- **S3 Parents Information Evening** (*Please see the letter I published on 6th December for details of the difference between this and the Parents Evening 7 days later*). *Invitations will be emailed out at least a week in advance.*

Thursday 20th- **S3 Reports and Choice of Course forms** issued

Wednesday 26th - **S3 Parents Evening**. *Invitations will be emailed out at least a week in advance.*

Friday 28th- **End of Prelims and deadline for the return of S3 Choice of Course forms.**

Staffing Changes.

Recent weeks have seen significant upheaval to the staffing of the ASL department- some due to absence but more significantly due to three of the ASL teaching staff moving on to other opportunities. We are working hard to recruit to these positions and Miss Forrester (Depute Head Teacher) will be working closely with Ms Jarnes who is the Principal Teacher-manager- of that department to support young people and their families during this transition.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Vance'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a stylized 'V'.

Dr J Vance

Rector