



11 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

At our recent Parent Council (9 September 2020), I agreed to take forward and share the following developments ...

Water availability

Tayside Contracts will now sell bottled water at morning interval. Please note, young people are no longer able to use cash to top up their accounts, as all Dundee City Council schools now operate a cashless catering service. Your child's account can be topped up through ParentPay <https://www.parentpay.com/parents/> or PayPoint <https://consumer.paypoint.com/>. If you would like support in using ParentPay, please contact the school office by telephone or email.

The arrangements for accessing the servery for bottled water, at morning interval, will be by queuing from directly outside the dining hall doors, and staff will safely manage those who wish to purchase a bottle of water.

Face coverings

I have been thoroughly impressed by the vast number of young people who have respected and adhered to Public Health Scotland advice, and the expectations as set by the Scottish Government, regarding face coverings in school. It is encouraging to see our school values of respect and responsibility being lived out daily and even better to positively recognise our young people as they arrive in the morning and throughout the day.

However, I am concerned with the rising number of pupils who are either forgetting a face covering or simply failing to comply with national guidance. We have distributed over 1000 reusable and disposable face coverings since 31 August. I am sure you will agree that a face covering is now part of our 'new normal' routines. I am also sure that you would expect every young person to take responsibility for their own safety, the safety of others and the safety of their own family, by ensuring they do everything possible in keeping safe – this would include regular hand sanitising and wearing a face covering when 2m physical distancing cannot be adhered to in school. Therefore, from Wednesday 16 September 2020, we will contact you directly, for your own intervention and action, if your child is not actively keeping safe or not complying with national guidance and expectation. Please continue to support us by discussing the absolute importance of these rules with your child and continue to labour your, and our, expectations on the matter.

Bespoke and reusable Baldragon Academy face coverings are currently available for pre-order, via ParentPay, for £3 each and these will be with us shortly.

Baldragon Academy

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Remote Learning Portal:

<https://sites.google.com/dd.glow.scot/baldragonacademyrlp>

Outdoor clothing

As we continue to operate outdoor break/lunch times, it is vital that your child is prepared for the varying and fast changing Scottish weather. With the October holidays rapidly approaching, you may be thinking about purchasing your child a new winter jacket. If so, please ensure that your child's school jacket is black and in line with our school uniform policy: <http://baldragon.ea.dundee.gov.uk/our-school/documents/school-uniform/view>.

Furthermore, please follow this link: <https://www.dundee.gov.uk/service-area/children-and-families-service/school-clothing-grants> to find out if you are entitled to receive a grant towards the cost of buying essential clothing, such as a school jacket.

On a similar note, I am working closely with Dundee City Council and procurement partners to finance and install outdoor picnic tables and shelters to better support outdoor break/lunches. I do hope that this will progress swiftly.

Please stay safe and thank you for your ongoing support.

H McAninch
Headteacher