



1 February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Standards and Expectations – Baldragon Academy

We are now one full month into a new year. Observing our return to school for 2023, I am delighted that the vast majority of our young people continue to help 'raise the bar' at Baldragon Academy by continually turning up for school on time, dressed in full school uniform, prepared for learning, and follow their timetable. Our school values of achievement, responsibility, honesty and fairness, underpinned by respect, are evident across so many of our young people who are, indeed, a credit to our school community.

However, I am concerned that some key standards and expectations are not being met. We have a small number of pupils that are developing disruptive habits. My biggest concern is that these habits are undermining our learners' sense of safety and impacting negatively on our learning environment. Adhering to our approaches to [relationships for learning](#), I want to take this opportunity to ensure that our actions to address these behaviours are transparent and explicit.

#### In-school truancy/refusal to follow timetable

If your child refuses to attend their timetabled class, truants or spends excessive or unnecessary time out of class, they will be given a warning, their name recorded and the opportunity to correct their behaviours. Should there be no immediate and positive adjustment, we will seek your support and assurances of a positive change. Should there be no further improvement, your child may be at risk of further action being taken and, ultimately potential exclusion from school.

#### Bringing a 'vape' to school

[You must be 18 or over to use or purchase e-cigarettes or e-liquid in Scotland](#). Therefore, these items are legally not allowed in school. If your child is found to be in position of such items in school, they will be confiscated and returned only to a known main contact – as per our management information system.

#### 'Vaping' in school

If your child is caught vaping in school (using e-cigarettes, e-liquids, or any other Nicotine Vapour Products (NVPs), Parents/carers will be contacted, and they may be immediately excluded from school. Further use will result in more serious action being taken.

#### Mobile phones

Pupils are permitted to use their mobile phones during break time and lunch time only. At all other times, pupils must keep phones away and turned off. Only with the direct permission from their teacher, can a pupil use their phone in class for learning purposes. If a pupil needs to leave class, they must leave their phone in their school bag or with their teacher. If your child refuses to follow these simple rules, they will be given a warning, their name recorded and the opportunity to correct their behaviour. Should there be no immediate and positive adjustment, we will seek your support and assurances of a positive change. Should there be no further improvement, your child may be at risk of further action being taken and, ultimately potential exclusion from school.

#### School Uniform

Pupils not following our [school uniform policy](#) will be given a warning, their name recorded and the opportunity to correct their behaviour. Should there be no immediate and positive adjustment, we will seek your support and assurances of a positive change.

In all circumstances, we will always seek to work in partnership with you, to address and resolve matters as swiftly as possible and to support your child's return to learning and their classroom. These approaches will help to ensure that every pupil at Baldragon Academy can experience their entitlement to a safe and positive learning environment where they can develop their skills and talents to their fullest potential. I appreciate your support and encourage you to discuss this letter with your child and we will share our approaches via PSE and year group assemblies. Thank you.

**Mr H McAninch**  
Headteacher