



4 June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As per recent communications from your child's primary school, the transition days, originally agreed to take place on 17 and 18 June, will no longer be able to go ahead as planned. This decision has been made by Dundee City Council in line with the latest Scottish Government guidance for schools and in consultation across Tayside.

Staff at Baldragon Academy have been working hard since this announcement. I fully understand the anxiety that you, and your child, may be feeling as they transition to secondary school without these traditional days. Please be assured that P7 to S1 transition is not a two-day event. For some time now, my staff have been working closely with primary school colleagues to ensure that we know your child as a learner and as an individual. We remain committed to ensuring that alternative and appropriate experiences are in place as we continue to support your child's transition to Baldragon Academy and their next steps in learning.

Therefore, I thought it would be helpful, and reassuring, to share some of the specific arrangements that we have in place to continue to support a meaningful, and safe, transition:

#### Targeted transitions

- Experiences will continue for targeted children as planned through Team Around the Child processes and on an individualised basis.
- Targeted transitions may involve the attendance of parents, but this will be decided on a case-by-case basis with each family and primary school. This will be supported by our current risk assessment and safe working procedures.
- Where necessary, primary staff may support individual children on a visit to Baldragon Academy if it has been assessed as necessary to support the child's wellbeing. This will be supported by our current risk assessment and safe working procedures.
- Pupil/Parent/Carer sessions are also being provided to continue to help alleviate specific worries/anxieties about transitioning to secondary school.

#### Universal transition

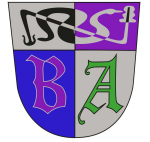
- All children will be offered an opportunity to visit Baldragon Academy with their current primary 7 class. The arrangements for these are:
  - **Tuesday 8 June:** Sidlaw View PS, Strathmartine PS, Dens Road PS, Camperdown PS, Rowantree PS, Rosebank PS
  - **Thursday 10 June:** Downfield PS
  - **Monday 14 June:** Ardler PS, Mill of Mains PS, Tayview PS, Ancrum Rd PS, Clepington Rd PS, St Andrews RC PS, Ballumbie PS, Eastern PS
  - **Thursday 17 June:** Craigowl PS

**All school visits will take place at the end of the secondary school day – 4pm to 5pm.**

Unfortunately, parents cannot accompany the universal transition visits with their child. Unless primary schools make alternative arrangements, parents should pass their child to a member of Baldragon Academy staff who will be present at the front of the school. Parents, unless medically exempt, must follow current COVID guidance by wearing a mask when at the school entrance and carpark.

## Baldragon Academy

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twitter – @BaldragonAcad & @Baldragon\_HT

### Remote Learning Portal:

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

- In line with current risk assessments and safe working procedures, secondary and primary school staff will continue to visit each other's schools for the necessary sharing of pupil pastoral and learning information – helping to build a clear picture of your child as a learner, their individual strengths, skills and attributes.
- Virtual / digital information for pupils, parents, and carers is available and easily accessible by following these links
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BUESixNgEGg>
  - <http://baldragon.ea.dundee.gov.uk/transition>

These opportunities are just some of the many experiences your child is taking part in as they move to Baldragon Academy. Some of this has taken place already in their own Primary school – CANiCoaching inputs, sports and activities, Support for Pupil's Team visits to P7 classes. We will have many more opportunities in August and beyond to help all our new S1 pupils settle and make a smooth start to secondary school.

If for any reason your child cannot make this transition event, then it would be helpful to look at the @BaldragonAcad and @BALpupilsupport Twitter feeds. Here you will find virtual tours and staff introduction videos which we have created as part of our wider transition support.

I appreciate that you will have many questions about August 2021, and what learning may look like for your child. In Partnership with the Baldragon Academy Parent Council, we will be holding an online Q&A for new S1 families.

- This will take place at 6pm on 17 June 2021.
- The meeting will be held on Microsoft Teams: [Click here to join the meeting.](#)
- If you have any specific questions that you would like answered, then please email them to our Parent Council Chair – Mary O'Connor - [pcbaldragonacademy@npfs.org.uk](mailto:pcbaldragonacademy@npfs.org.uk).

During this session, we will share news and information about learning at Baldragon Academy and provide the opportunity to virtually meet some of the key staff involved in your child's transition and learning in S1. We do hope you can join us.

Finally, Parent Club - [www.parentclub.scot](http://www.parentclub.scot) - and The National Parent Forum of Scotland - [www.npfs.org.uk](http://www.npfs.org.uk) - have excellent information and FAQs pages which may help you and your child further prepare for secondary school.

I wish each one of you, and your families, the best of health and I do look forward to welcoming your child to Baldragon Academy.

Please stay safe.

**H McAninch**  
Headteacher