

Dear Parent/Carer

I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on a number of developments within the Health and Wellbeing Faculty.

Staffing

Firstly, I would like to offer my congratulations to Mr K. Smith on his recent appointment as Depute Headteacher of Ochil House (Acting). Mr Smith has led a strong Faculty over the last few years and we wish him well in his new post. As a result of my appointment as Acting Faculty Head of Health & Wellbeing (Acting) congratulations also go to Mr B. Smith who has been appointed to the role of Acting Principal Teacher for Cluster PE. Both Mr Smith and I are very much looking forward to working with the Braes Community and providing the best possible experience for pupils within PE and Home Economics.

You may also be aware that we currently have some staff absences within the Home Economics Department. Please be assured that we are working hard to ensure all pupils continue to receive the best possible experience during this time and our hope is that we will return to a full staffing complement as soon as possible. Thank you for your ongoing and continued support during these unprecedented times.

Indoor Practical – PE

Updated guidance was published towards the end of last week indicating that schools can return to indoor PE. These guidelines outline how practical PE may look whilst working within the parameters of the Scottish Government's 5 tier structure. We are aiming to begin this the week beginning Monday 9th November. The PE Department will advise pupils of what this means for their classes as soon as possible, however, there will be instances where classes will need to remain outside for practical. I know I speak for the whole PE Department when I say that we would like to thank every single pupil for their positive attitudes and efforts over the last few challenging months.

Pupils will still be expected to wear face masks when moving around the PE Department and when their teacher is delivering instructions. However, they will not be expected to wear a face mask when taking part in practical activity.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Finally, there was a discrepancy in the guidance released by the Scottish Government and Education Scotland regarding extra-curricular sports clubs. To be clear, we will follow the Scottish Government guidance which states that outdoor extra-curricular clubs can run in tiers 1, 2 and 3. Information regarding these clubs will be advertised on our Twitter page and given out in school by staff members.

If you have any queries or concerns then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind Regards

Mr D. Yeates
Faculty Head of Health & Wellbeing (Acting)