

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your ongoing support of your young person and the school. Our young people have continued to engage well with their learning in this new session, and it has been good to see pupils beginning to join the many clubs and activities offered by Braes staff. A list of the clubs available, sporting and non-sporting, can be seen on the school website at the link below :

[Clubs and Activities | Braes High School | Braes High School | Secondary School Falkirk | Falkirk Education](#)

I would encourage our pupils, particularly those in S1, to take advantage of these opportunities and 'be part of it' at Braes. Taking part in extra curricular activities is a great way to meet new people, develop and find new interests and build confidence.

Please see an update on a number of other matters below :

Uniform

It has been pleasing to see the high standard of uniform amongst almost all of our young people. As a reminder school uniform consists of school shirt, tie, blazer, school trousers/skirt or black leggings. Pupils can also choose to wear a school jumper or cardigan if they wish to do so. Hoodies, zip-up tops, track suit/jogging trousers and clothing with slogans or large logos are not part of the school uniform, and should not be worn to school.

For many years the number of pupils wearing their school blazers has been commented on favourably by parents/carers and the wider community. We are pleased to see the high number of pupils in S1 wearing their blazers and are encouraging the wearing of blazers among pupils in older year groups. Friends at Braes run a very efficient and well-appreciated uniform recycling service. Items of uniform are stored at school reception and further information can be gained from, or donated to FAB by emailing friendsatbraes@gmail.com.

Friends at Braes AGM

Friends at Braes, our parent-led fundraising group, holds its Annual General Meeting on Monday 26th August at 6.30pm. FAB plans and runs a range of fundraising activities across the year, helping to support additional experiences and resources for our young people. FAB are always keen for parents/carers to get in touch and find out more. You can do this by emailing Chairperson Susan MacKinnon at friendsatbraes@gmail.com. If you would like to come to the meeting please enter the school via the Pupil Entrance next to the swimming pool where you will be directed to the meeting.

Parent Council AGM

Our Parent Council holds its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 3rd September. As well as the business of the AGM, the Parent Council will be engaging with pupils about the school's ongoing work as a Gold Level UNICEF Rights Respecting School. This meeting begins at 7pm and more information can be gained from Chairperson Kenneth Mackinnon at braeshigh.parentcouncil@gmail.com. If you would like to come along, please enter the school via the Pupil Entrance next to the swimming pool where you will be directed to the Library.

Buses

As noted last week, please see below information outlining Falkirk Council's school bus policy.

Criteria for free school transport

Pupils who are under 8 years of age and live more than 1 mile from their catchment school or are 8 years of age or older and live more than 2 miles from their catchment school.

Under 22 travel passes

At present, the Young Persons' Free Bus Travel Scheme does not cover transport to and from school. Under 22 passes can only be used where there is sufficient excess capacity after all pupils who hold Falkirk Council distance entitled bus passes have been granted travel.

This means that those young people with Falkirk Council distance entitled bus passes will be prioritised for spaces on school buses. Thereafter, young people who have the Under 22 travel pass can use any spare capacity left on school buses. Younger pupils will be offered these spaces first. It is therefore possible that some young people who have an Under 22 travel pass may not be able to access a school bus if there is no spare capacity.

Further information can be gained from Falkirk Council's website, linked below :

[School life - School transport | Falkirk Council](#)

Yours faithfully,

Iain Livingstone