

Dear Parent/Carer,

As noted last week, revised Scottish Government guidance for schools has been published in relation to COVID-19. A key change relates to face coverings and applies from **Monday 28th February**. From **28th February**, pupils and staff in secondary schools are **no longer required** to wear face coverings in classrooms. **However, any young person or staff member who wishes to still wear a face covering in the classroom will be fully supported in doing so.** Face coverings should continue to be worn by secondary school pupils and all adults in indoor communal areas and on school transport. Some people in our school are exempt from wearing face coverings. We will of course be communicating these arrangements directly to pupils. The support of parents/carers in ensuring pupils continue to bring a face covering to school is appreciated.

Please see below an update on a number of matters:

Friends at Braes

The next meeting of Friends at Braes, our parent-led fundraising group, takes place online via Teams on Monday 28th February at 6.30pm. All parents/carers are welcome to join this meeting, and further details can be gained by emailing friendsatbraeshigh@gmail.com. Despite the circumstances over the last 2 years, the group has continued to raise valuable funds to support our young people, with pupils making successful bids at the last meeting to support our Braes Formula 1 Club, Braes Digital Leaders, Braes Jewellery Club, while of Cost of the Pupil Day group also received support for the 'Take What You Need' trolleys.

Parent Council

The next meeting of the Parent Council takes place on Monday 7th March, online via Teams, at 7pm. Our supportive Parent Council has also continued to hold positive and constructive discussions between parents/carers, pupils and school staff, covering a variety of topics within the life of our school. At the forthcoming meeting, there will be presentations from pupil groups, focusing on Learning for Sustainability and STEM, as well as discussion of the forthcoming School Improvement Planning process. For further details please email braeshigh.parentcouncil@gmail.com.

Skills Development Scotland webinar for parents/carers

Please see the message below from Skills Development Scotland:

Skills Development Scotland (SDS) is delivering a nationwide webinar to parents and carers which offers an **Overview of Scottish Apprenticeships**. The webinar is on **Thursday 10 March at 6.30pm until 7.15pm**. Parents and carers can join our SDS Careers Advisers to find out more about Foundation, Modern and Graduate Apprenticeships and how work-based learning can open the door to a wide range of careers. The link to sign up for the event is:

<https://overviewofscottishapprenticeships.eventbrite.co.uk>

We would also like to take this opportunity to highlight to you that the Parents and Carers section of My World of Work has been refreshed and offers lots of support and information, including access to the recordings of our Parents and Carers Webinar series.

View our [playlist](#) to access recordings of the following webinars:

- How to have meaningful career conversations
- School leaver options
- Option choices
- Introduction to Skills Development Scotland for S1 parents and carers

Finally, the support of parents/carers in helping our young people to adjust to what has been an ever evolving COVID-19 situation is, as always, greatly appreciated. Our pupils have adjusted well to the revised school day timings, although we do have a relatively small number of incidences of late coming in the mornings. As a parent myself, I know that mornings in households can be busy. The ongoing support of parents/carers in ensuring all pupils arrive at school in time for the first lesson at 8.55am is valued.

Yours faithfully,

Iain Livingstone