



Turriff Academy  
Victoria Terrace  
Turriff AB53 4EE  
Telephone 01888 530900  
Fax 01888 568966  
[turriff.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:turriff.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
[www.turriff.aberdeenshire.sch.uk](http://www.turriff.aberdeenshire.sch.uk)  
Parent Council Email address -  
[turriffacademypc@hotmail.com](mailto:turriffacademypc@hotmail.com)

Ref: LM/fm

5 November 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

### **Building Update**

It has been good to welcome back your young people at the start of another busy term. We were all welcomed back to the completion of our refurbished English Corridor. This area has created additional areas for English staff to use with their classes as well as some much-needed additional quiet spaces for break and lunchtimes.

As this is very much a working area, pupils have been advised that they are welcome to use this area for quiet social times. There is space for about 30 young people. It is very pleasing to see small groups sitting chatting, using their chrome books, reading or playing games on their phones. We have asked that pupils consume their food and drink before using this area in order to help ensure that the area is kept clean and tidy for class use.

Where pupils are not able to regulate their behaviour in these areas, they will be asked to leave and use either the assembly hall or canteen. Also, as this is a small area where friendship groups are more than 4-6 pupils, it is not a suitable space and where this is the case, again we ask that larger areas in the assembly hall and canteen are used.

### **COVID updates**

You will be aware from the communication at the start of the week, we retain the same mitigations that were in place before the holidays and we continue to remind pupils to:

Wear masks

Sanitise hands

Twice weekly lateral flow tests

Recent positive case numbers in Aberdeenshire are still high and I would ask that if your young person is unwell, that they stay off until they are well again and if they have any of the classic COVID symptoms: New persistent cough, fever or loss of taste or smell that you book a PCR test.

### **Senior Pupils Information Evening**

Thanks to the parents who were able to join us this week for our virtual information session. The PowerPoint will be made available to all parents. Some key information to support revision was issued, please see information below:

In addition to using Microsoft Teams to access revision materials provided by teachers. Pupils may find the following websites useful for revision of materials:

SQA Past Papers (Nat 5- Higher-AH)

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.html>

E-Sgoil (Nat 4 – Nat 5 – Higher – AH)

<https://www.e-sgoil.com/study-support/>

BBC Bitesize (Nat 4 – Nat 5 – Higher)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Scholar (Nat 5- Higher-AH)

<https://scholar.hw.ac.uk/why.html#>

### **Parent Council Meeting Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November**

If any member of the parent community (parent forum) wishes to join the parent council on Monday, please e-mail the parent council on [turriffacademypc@hotmail.com](mailto:turriffacademypc@hotmail.com) . You will then be sent a link to a virtual teams meet which starts at 7pm.

The agenda includes:

Draft Learning and Teaching Policy

Additional Support Needs: Parent Support Group, access to swimming

### **School Photographer**

Tempest Photography will visit the school on 23/24 November for individual and family photos. Pupils will be advised of the time of their photo in the coming weeks. All pupils should wear dress code for getting their photo taken.

### **Some recent successes from our football teams:**

Mr Shearer (PT PE) wishes to give a brief summary of how our football teams got on this week and to finish the week with some good news!

Our S1 team were defeated by Lochside however their overall attitude and behaviour was exemplary both on and off the pitch.

Our S3 team defeated Banff 8-2 and the goals were scored by Nicol (3), Aaron (2), Mathew Finn and Mitchell.

The senior team defeated Lochside 3-2 (after being 2-0 down) and the goals were scored by Alfie, Dylan and Oliver. A special mention must go to Cameron in (S3) who stepped in at the last minute to play in goals and despite being thrown in the proverbial deep end he was outstanding and showed a confidence and maturity way beyond his years!

The bus driver also mentioned how impressed he was with the boys conduct and how well-mannered they were. When we did a quick check of the bus after dropping everyone off there was not one single piece of litter to pick up. Mr Shearer commented 'that it was the cleanest I've seen a bus during all of my years doing school football. I have told the boys that this makes me just as proud as their efforts on the pitch.'

Thank you all for your continued support, hopefully there will be more success stories to come throughout the year!

## **Aberdeenshire Football Trials and Successes**

S 3 pupils Nicol and Mathew have both made it through the second Regional Trials and have made the Aberdeenshire u15 Regional Squad. This squad is made up from 16 of the best players from every school across the shire and it is a phenomenal achievement for them individually and for us as a school.

Callan has also been successful in making the Senior Regional squad. He made it through the trials and is part of the 16-man squad, another outstanding achievement considering the quality of players that he would have been up against.

Furthermore, we have also had four successful young ladies make it through the first North of Scotland u15's Trials. They have made it through to the second stage of trials which will commence next week. There were 90 girls down on the Turriff Astro 3 weeks ago for the first trial and the girls have made it into the final 30. Well done Erin, Rebecca, Lucy and Orla. Good luck in the next round.

Regards



Ms L Menzies  
Head Teacher

## **Key Dates**

18 November	In Service Day	
19 November	In service Day	
23 November	School photos	
24 November	School photos	
1 December	S5/6 Virtual Parents' Evening	5-7 pm
9 December	S3 Virtual Parents Evening	5-7 pm
21 December	Last day of Term	