



Dear P7 pupils, parents and carers

First of all, I want to send my best wishes to you and your families and hope that everyone is keeping safe and well as we plan for our young people starting at Braes High School in August. It was an absolute pleasure to finally get the chance to meet our young people last in school and our young people made a very positive first impression on the staff who worked without you during your visits.

Head Teacher Welcome

Our Head Teacher, Mr Livingstone, was keen to provide his own welcome to our P7 pupils [Braes High School - P7 welcome](#). This has also been shared with our cluster primary schools.

Return to School

I am aware that you will be keen to know what our plans are for the return to school in August and, with an awareness that there may be many changes over the Summer break depending on Government and Authority guidance, I have attached our [Braes High School - August 2021 return - Parents Guide](#) that was also issued direct from the Head Teacher and we will update towards the end of the holidays if required.

During their visit, our P7 pupils were all shown the outdoor social space that they should make their way to on their first day in August, Wednesday 18th, at the back of the school, where staff and S4 buddies will be ready to support our young people.

The wellbeing of our young people is always at the forefront in our planning we are keen to provide extra support for our S1 pupils to make their transition and start at Braes High School as happy and settled as possible.

I have received some queries about when our young people will receive timetables and other times such as lunch cards. This will take place when our young people join us in school in August so that they are not lost over the Summer break. We encourage all of our young people to bring a school bag with pens, pencils and everything else you might need for your lessons in school that day.

Asymptomatic Testing

Secondary school pupils are participating in the Schools Asymptomatic Testing Programme, which is in place as part of the package of COVID-19 risk reduction mitigations in schools across Scotland. We previously sent information about how the programme operates in our school. As your young person becomes an S1 pupil, they will be eligible for testing too.

We can only distribute testing kits to those young people who have completed the consent form. If your child wishes to participate in testing, and you are content for them to do so, please ensure that the consent form (using the Microsoft Form on the link below) is completed and returned at the earliest opportunity.

[Braes High School P7 asymptomatic testing consent form](#)

School Day

In normal times, our school day starts at 8.50am and ends at 2.55pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday with a 3.45pm finish on Tuesday and Thursday. There may be slight (5 minute) changes to finish times due to COVID restrictions and arrangements.

School Map

Some of our young people felt a map would be helpful over the Summer so that they can familiarise themselves with the layout of our classrooms. I have attached a [School Map](#) although I am unsure if it is particularly helpful!! The map shows where our subjects are located in our teaching block (3 floor block visible from the road) and the additional important areas our young people need to know on the ground floor.



School Uniform

Our young people wear a black skirt or trousers (leggings are allowed); a white shirt; a plain black jumper or cardigan (no slogans); plain black shoes, boots or trainers; our blazer (no braid) and for juniors, a red tie (available from our school office which will be open between the hours of 9am and 3pm during the last 2 weeks of the Summer break)

Our blazers and a number of other items can be purchased from Trutex in Falkirk and can be viewed and ordered online through the following link

<https://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/schools/braes-high-school.html>

We also run a successful uniform exchange in school. If your young person requires any item of school uniform, there is a room full of freshly laundered clothing available. This is a confidential service and you can email to request items by clicking [Here](#)

School Transport

The best way to find out about our bus timetables, who is eligible for free bus passes and to apply for a bus pass is by visiting the Falkirk Council website [School life - School transport | Falkirk Council](#).

Braes High School Support

At Braes High we thrive on supporting each and every pupil to realise their potential for excellence and achieve the very best outcomes for all. The [Braes High School - Family Support/Learning](#) webpage is designed to help you access the variety of supports available at Braes.

P7 Transition Information

Please continue to use the [Braes High School](#) website and particularly the [P7 Transition 2021 | Braes High School](#) page to answer any questions you have and familiarise yourself with our school.

Please pass on my best wishes to all of our primary 7 young people, I am looking forward to working with you in school on our return next session. As always, if you have any particular questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me julie.wilkinson@falkirk.gov.uk

Kind regards
Julie Wilkinson

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