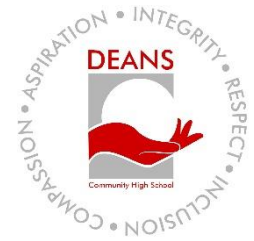


Parent Update

21 January 2022



Dear Parents and Carers

Course Choice

Students in S2, S3, S4 and S5 will shortly begin the process of choosing the subjects they will study next session. This is a lengthy process and one which we are aware can be a bit unnerving for students and parents. We are keen to offer both you and your child as much support and information as possible throughout this and have adapted the ways in which we do so, given that we cannot invite parents into the school whilst the current COVID restrictions are in place. The details below should give you an indication of how we will do this and the timeframe involved.

- Course choice information will be shared with students in the coming week via the year group TEAMS pages. This will include access to a digital information pack giving details of each subject offered.
- Information will also be sent out to parents. This too will be in a digital format and will include details of the jobs market in West Lothian, links to college and university details and information around the different routes available to students into their chosen career.
- Mrs Bleach and Mrs Fleming will be holding an on-line information and Q & A session for parents on the 3rd Feb. A link to this will be sent out parents in advance via group call.
- Students will be asked to complete a digital course choice form stating the subjects and levels they would like to choose.
- S2 and S3 students will be asked to complete their course choice form by 11th February whilst S4 and S5 will be asked to complete theirs by the 25th February
- S2 students will have an 1 to 1 meeting with either a DHT or Head of House to talk through their choices on either 7th or 10th February
- S4 and S5 student will have a similar meeting during the week beginning 21st Feb

As always, if you have any concerns or questions at any point throughout the course choice process, please in touch with us.

Health and Wellbeing Support

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the school offer a wealth of support to students and families throughout the session. We have a dedicated team of support staff and a counselling service within the school as well as the majority of teachers being trained in mental health awareness and support. Should you wish to raise any concerns around your child's wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact us to enable us to work with you and your child in supporting you.

I hope you and your families remain safe and well.

Pauline Allison
Headteacher

Reminder of Covid 19 Protocols

As you are aware, with the return of our pupils and staff to school, we have put procedures in to place that support all members of the school community if anyone displays symptoms of Covid 19.

A reminder that the symptoms are:

- High temperature or fever
- A new continuous cough
- A loss of, or change in sense of smell or taste

If a pupil displays symptoms, we will contact you to collect your child (please ensure that we have your most up to date contact details). **Pupils over the age of 16 may return home themselves.** The pupil should, if possible, wear a face covering en route and avoid public transport.

You will be asked to follow Test and Protect protocols, including booking a PCR test for your child and contacting the school when the result comes through to you.

If anyone within your household tests positive for Covid 19, please follow the most up to date Scottish Government guidance with regards to self-isolation and testing. If your child is then unable to come to school, report their absence and the reason for this by calling PSA in the morning.