

St Benedict's High School

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Head Teacher: Alan Taylor BSc. (Hons)

Date : 010926



Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring a smooth start to the new session. It has been a pleasure to welcome approximately 900 pupils back to St Benedict's and to continue supporting them in their development and success.

This week, all pupils took part in year group assemblies, where they were given a clear message: **grasp every opportunity available, give 100%, show resilience and grit, and, through all of this, live our school values in both words and actions.** I also emphasised the importance of good timekeeping and attendance as key factors in achieving success.

I was delighted to see this message reflected in action across a range of classes during my visits and through conversations with teachers. It has been particularly encouraging to see pupils demonstrating a positive attitude towards their learning and making the most of the opportunities available to them.

I would also like to thank you for your continued support with our school uniform. Our high standards of uniform help to create a strong sense of pride and belonging within our community. They reinforce our shared identity and allow pupils to feel proud of their school. In addition, maintaining a smart dress code helps prepare our young people for life beyond school, where many workplaces expect professional standards of dress and presentation.

These high standards have also been **recognised beyond the school.** Members of our wider community, including local businesses such as the **Malcolm Group**, where one of our pupils was recently appointed and started last month, and **DWF Lawyers**, have commented positively on the smart appearance of our pupils. This is an important reflection of how our young people represent themselves, their families and our school, and helps us to continue building strong links with local organisations.

There is no doubt that our ongoing work to develop meaningful links with local employers is making a significant difference to our young people. These partnerships provide valuable opportunities, experiences and pathways into the world of work and are an important part of our commitment to ensuring that every young person has the skills, confidence and support they need to succeed beyond school.

Director of Children's Services: Janie O'Neill

Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley PA1 1TZ

Website: www.renfrewshire.gov.uk



The impact of this work is reflected in our most recent **100% positive leaver destinations** – an outstanding achievement that placed St Benedict's among only **10 schools across Scotland** to achieve this.

If you feel you could support this work by helping us to establish or develop links with an employer or organisation, please contact the school office. We would be delighted to hear from you.

I am also firmly of the view that the high standards we set across the school, including our expectations around uniform, conduct, attendance, timekeeping and learning, contribute to creating a culture where pupils are encouraged to take pride in themselves and strive for success. It is particularly encouraging to see this culture developing alongside our increasingly positive trajectory in attainment.

Thank you once again for your continued support. Working together, we can ensure that every young person at St Benedict's is encouraged to aim high, make the most of every opportunity and achieve their full potential.

Blazer Swap

To further support families and maintain these high standards, we will continue to operate a **blazer swap system**, allowing pupils who need a larger size (throughout the year) to simply exchange their current blazer at **no cost**. Pupils should report to the office.



PE Kit

One area I would like to highlight is **PE kit**. Please support us by ensuring your child wears the designated kit or, as an alternative, a plain, non-branded blue T-shirt, which can be purchased easily and affordably online. This again helps remove any pressure to buy expensive branded sportswear.

Official T shirt (Link) - [School wear made easy](#)

Alternative (unbranded) examples (Links)

[Option 1](#)

[Option 2](#)

[Option 3](#)



Donations

We would greatly appreciate any good quality school uniform items your child no longer uses—such as trousers, jumpers, or PE kit—that could benefit other pupils. Donations can be handed in at the school office.

Breakfast Club

Finally, this year we will again be offering our St Benedict's Breakfast Club on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

We hope that the breakfast club will help ease some of the pressures on families during this challenging cost-of-living period, while providing pupils with a nutritious start to the day, an extra energy boost and a positive environment in which to begin their school day.

At this important time of year, we hope it will also support pupils as they settle into their routines and ensure they are ready to learn and make the most of the opportunities available to them.

Thank you once again for your continued support as we work together to maintain high standards for all of our young people.

Yours faithfully

Alan Taylor

Alan Taylor
Head Teacher

