



Portlethen Academy  
Bruntland Road  
Portlethen  
Aberdeen AB12 4QL  
Tel: 01224 087880  
Email: [portlethen.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:portlethen.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
[www.portlethenacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk](http://www.portlethenacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk)  
Twitter: @PortyAcad @aberdeenshire

5<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As we come to the end of another very busy school session, I would like to thank each and every pupil, colleague, and parent/carer for their continued support throughout the year.

It has been a hectic year; however, we have lots to be proud of across the school and community, and I wanted to take the time to share some of these successes and achievements with you below.

- **Summer Newsletter**

A round-up of Term 3 and 4 'Good News Stories' and achievements have been pulled together in our Microsoft Sway presentation and Summer Newsletter below. Please enjoy looking back over the second half of this year.

\***Link to Sway:** [Portlethen Academy Summer Newsletter](#)

As we look ahead to Session 2024-25, below are some key updates and reminders for all.

- **Education Scotland – Inspection Update and Next Steps**

Since we received our Inspection Report and feedback a number of months ago, myself, the Senior Leadership Team and all school staff have been working hard on identifying and agreeing our next steps across the school, to meet the requirements from Education Scotland colleagues.

This has involved lots of strategy meetings, discussions, and additional action planning sessions, with on-going support from our Quality Improvement Manager from the local authority. I have also been working closely with our Parent Council and have updated them on several different occasions. The most recent and more detailed update can be found in the slides below:

- [Portlethen Academy Inspection Update \(Parent Council 18.06.24\).pptx](#)

We have now pulled this together into the first draft of our School Improvement Plan for Session 2024-25. This can be accessed from the School Improvement section of our school website here:

- <https://portlethenacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/our-school/school-improvement/>

Entitled – Portlethen Academy SQUIP Session 2024-25.



Portlethen Academy  
Bruntland Road  
Portlethen  
Aberdeen AB12 4QL  
Tel: 01224 087880  
Email: [portlethen.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:portlethen.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
[www.portlethenacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk](http://www.portlethenacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk)  
Twitter: @PortyAcad @aberdeenshire

Going forwards, I plan to share monthly updates with all parents/carers about our progress to date. Our first bulletin will be with you in the new term, and we will continue to update Parent Council at forthcoming meetings as we go.

- **SQA Update / Course Changes**

Mrs Campbell-Robertson (Depute Head Teacher / SQA Co-ordinator) is writing to all Senior Phase parents and carers about the SQA process for this session with important information. This will also include information from our Guidance Team about requesting any changes to subjects or courses, with a Microsoft Form to complete prior to returning to school in August 2024.

Pupils will receive their much-anticipated SQA Results on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024, and we wish them all the very best. I am sure they will make us very #ProudOfPorty!

- **Uniform**

It has been fantastic to see an improvement in our School Uniform across the school since the change of timetable; a particular thanks to our new Senior Pupils who have made such a difference. Many pupils have taken the information on board and are wearing appropriate school uniform each day. Thank you and well done!

However, for some, there is still some room for improvement and, contrary to what your young person may tell you – it does matter! In particular, the bottom half of uniform still needs addressed for many pupils please, namely in not wearing leggings or joggers to school as these are not appropriate for the workplace. With the increase in warmer weather, several pupils are also wearing crop tops to school, which is also unacceptable, and needs addressed as a matter of urgency, as this is equally not suitable for school or the workplace.

Below is what is accepted in our school dress code, and I would ask you to please address this with your young person over the summer break to ensure they are equipped with appropriate school uniform for our return in August. White collars and ties should also be worn each day. Pupils should change every period for PE and wear uniform out with PE times.

We will be monitoring this closely and will be in touch with you as parents/carers in the new session if there continue to be concerns. Thank you for your support with this.



Portlethen Academy  
Bruntland Road  
Portlethen  
Aberdeen AB12 4QL  
Tel: 01224 087880  
Email: [portlethen.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:portlethen.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
[www.portlethenacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk](http://www.portlethenacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk)  
Twitter: @PortyAcad @aberdeenshire

### Portlethen Academy Uniform Outline:

Expectations of All	Not Accepted
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Tie</b> – Junior (S1-3) – School Colours Senior (S4-6) – Black *Available from School Office</li><li>• <b>White collar</b> – shirt/polo shirt</li></ul> Plain black jumper, v-neck, cardigan if extra layer needed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Black trousers, black smart shorts, skirt, jeans</b></li><li>• <b>Black/dark trainers or shoes</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Leggings / Joggers / Sports Wear / Crop Tops</b></li><li>• <b>Jackets and hats/hoods</b> (to be removed in school/workplace).</li><li>• <b>Bright / coloured trainers or shoes.</b></li></ul>

If there are any exceptions or exemptions required for medical/additional support need (ASN)/sensory issues, then please contact your young person's Guidance Teacher for a further discussion. Equally, if support is required, then there is funding available for those eligible here: [School clothing grants - Aberdeenshire Council](#)

- **Calendar / Important Dates**

Our School Calendar is now set for Session 2024-25 and a key list of important dates for your diary can be viewed from our school website here:

- [Portlethen Academy - Important Dates \(Session 2024-25\)](#).

This details some whole-school events, our holidays and occasional days, parent/carer evenings and open days, when you should expect tracking and full reports, along with key contacts within the school for your young person.



Portlethen Academy  
Bruntland Road  
Portlethen  
Aberdeen AB12 4QL  
Tel: 01224 087880  
Email: [portlethen.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:portlethen.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
[www.portlethenacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk](http://www.portlethenacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk)  
Twitter: @PortyAcad @aberdeenshire

- **School Reporting Reminder / Parents' Portal**

A reminder that we are now paperless in terms of our School Reports, and you can only access these from Parents' Portal. For any new parents/carers or P7 Parents/Carers with young people moving into S1, it is important that you sign-up for this.

If you have not yet signed-up to Parents' Portal or your myAberdeenshire account, please do so over the summer. Details and support can be found here: [Parentsportal - Aberdeenshire Council](#), including how to link to your child's account here: [Parentsportal: link your child's details to your account - Aberdeenshire Council](#)

Regular reminders will be sent ahead of each Reporting cycle and our School Office will also support where required. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require any further assistance with this.

- **Start of Session 2024-25**

On the first day back, we will be having Year Group assemblies in the Theatre, starting with the S1s. We look forward to seeing our pupils, including our New s1s, from Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2024 for a great year ahead.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families and excellent summer break.

Yours sincerely

**Mr Drennan**  
Head Teacher