

Your Ref:

Our Ref: S:\Education\Business Support\General Correspondence\Letters

Date: 16 May 2017

Children, Young People and Lifelong Learning

Woodbank

30 Edinburgh Road

DUMFRIES DG1 1NW

To Parent / Carer

Any enquiries please contact

Gillian Brydson

Direct Dial (01387) 260403

E-mail : HeadofService@dumgal.gov.uk

Dear Parent / Carer

DUMFRIES LEARNING TOWN – COMMON SCHOOL DAY

Progress towards our ambition for Dumfries Learning Town continues and we approach key milestones: senior phase pupils begin common timetables in June 2017; the recruitment of headteachers at North West Campus and Dumfries High School; the beginning of construction at The Bridge and the development of St Joseph's College and the new North West Campus moving into the final phases.

- All four secondary schools, and all S4, S5 and S6 learners in Dumfries, will embrace the same curricular structure next month. As well as seeking to widen opportunities for pupils we are also aiming to raise levels of attainment, achievement and participation for all of our young people. Moving to a common structure for the curriculum and the school day means that each senior student will be able to choose the most appropriate learning pathway from the wide range of subjects on offer across all four schools and in partnership with Dumfries and Galloway College and other providers. The schools have aligned timetables and will provide courses which will support the ambitions of Curriculum and Excellence and focus on skills and qualities which prepare young people for the next phase of their education. These courses may be termed academic, vocational or a mix of both. The construction of The Bridge, scheduled for completion in October 2018 – will extend further the range of options for senior students as they prepare to move into a positive and sustained destination such as further or higher education or the world of work. The Bridge will be equipped with additional specialist facilities that will be accessible to each of the four schools to enhance the learning opportunities for students. It will also be available for Community and Primary School use.

The four secondary schools will have a common timetable structure and school day from 5th June 2017. The school day will start at **08:50am** and finish at **3.25pm** as shown in the table below.

START	END	MAINSTREAM SCHOOL
08:50	09:00	START OF SCHOOL DAY
09:00	09:45	PERIOD 1
09:45	10:30	PERIOD 2
10:30	10:50	BREAK
10:50	11:35	PERIOD 3
11:35	12:20	PERIOD 4
12:20	13:05	PERIOD 5
13:05	13:55	LUNCH
13:55	14:40	PERIOD 6
14:40	15:25	PERIOD 7

Yours sincerely



Gillian Brydson
Head of Education