

# BOROUGHMUIR HIGH SCHOOL EDINBURGH

Boroughmuir High School  
Viewforth  
Edinburgh  
EH10 4LR  
Telephone: 0131 229 9703  
Fax: 0131 228 9185



Email/website  
[admin@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk)  
[www.boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk](http://www.boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk)

David C Dempster BSc SQH  
Head Teacher

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31 October 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

## **New Boroughmuir High School**

If you have passed our new building recently you will have seen that the new school is nearing completion.

Over the past few weeks I have been discussing our transition arrangements with colleagues in the Council as well as our own Parent Council to ensure that the move goes as smoothly as possible.

While the project team are confident the new building will be ready for occupation in January 2018 we have agreed that the five week period between the start of the new term in January and the February break will be used as an extended transition and familiarisation period for the school.

As Head Teacher, I am certain that this is the right decision for the school. It will allow us to manage our move over an extended period and allow the life of the school and in particular learning and teaching to continue with minimal impact. December and January is a busy and important time for our senior pupils in the run up to their prelim examinations in January. It will also allow us to accommodate the January prelim diet for S5 and S6 pupils in the familiar surroundings of St Oswald's Hall and the Viewforth building, something I know our pupils, and you, will very much appreciate.

There will also be significant benefits in this extended transition period for pupils and staff to become familiar with the new building and its facilities through visits and perhaps some timetabled classes in the new building. It will also allow our support staff and facilities management team more opportunities to become familiar with the new IT systems and technologies which are an integral part of the new building.

As the new building nears completion I do hope you agree that what we are proposing is the best option for our pupils and staff. I will be applying to the Scottish Government forthwith for some 'exceptional closure' days on either side of the February break to allow teachers and support staff to pack up in the old building and unpack and set up teaching spaces in the new building. I will of course let you know these dates as soon as I have received confirmation of them from the Government.

We will also keep you regularly updated on how our migration to the new building is progressing.

The opening of the new High School is an exciting time for all in the Boroughmuir community. I'm convinced that with the extended transition period, the process of migration from 'old to new' will be a well managed and enjoyable experience for us all.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David C Dempster', written in a cursive style.

David C Dempster  
**Head Teacher**