

S2 Course Information Update – August 2022



Dear S2 Parent or Carer,

It has been lovely to have the S2 pupils back last week. Thank you for supporting your child in getting ready to return to school after what I hope was a good summer holiday. They have been following their new timetable and many have now met some of our new teaching and support staff.

I was lucky to be able to join some of the S2s on their Book Festival visit. All were inspired by the young adult authors, Jason Reynolds and Patrice Lawrence, who were hugely inspirational.

If you didn't have chance to review the end of term presentation which gives an great overview of some of the wide range of activities taking place across the school please have a look at the [sway presentation \(June 2022\)](#).

Epic Days

As you will be aware a day of activities at Bonaly Scout Camp has been arranged for each House. Epic Days are to support transition through team building, increasing confidence & self-esteem & connecting staff & pupils.

Each Head of House (your child's Guidance teacher) will attend as well as our S6 House Captains and other school staff. Activities will be delivered by City of Edinburgh (CEC) Outdoor Learning.

Thank you to all who have made the £33 payment. Please can the remaining payments be made as soon as possible via ParentPay. Consent Forms will be issued on Tuesday 23rd Aug. Please can the Consent Form be returned to Registration Teachers by Friday 26th August.

If you need any assistance please contact our school office. CEC Outdoor Learning information can be found [here](#).

The schedule for each visit is:

Date	House	Guidance Teacher	House Colour
Monday 5th September	Bruntsfield	Mrs Scherczer	Orange
Tuesday 6th September	Hartington	Miss Grant	Blue
Wednesday 7th Sept.	Leamington	Miss Nisbet	Yellow
Thursday 8th September	Montpelier	Mr McIlwaine	Purple
Monday 12th September	Viewforth	Mr Brandie	Green
Tuesday 13th September	Westhall	Mrs Wallace	Red

Whilst further information will be provided leading up to the date of your child's visit some key reminders are:

- Pupils will all leave and return from the school on the day of their visit
- School PE kit, accessorised with House colors (if they wish!) or other appropriate clothing for the weather should be worn. Sensible footwear for outdoor terrain is required. Waterproofs can be provided by the center if required.
- Water, snacks, and a packed lunch is required

Let's hope for good Autumn weather!

Registration

Registration classes start at 0832. We appreciate your support in ensuring pupils arrive in good time for registration. The important daily [Bulletin](#) notices are given during registration. We are using new labels for Register classes for S2. These are 2R1 to 2R10.

On Tuesday's pupils go straight to the Assembly Hall for the S2 Year Group Assembly.

Curriculum

The subjects taught in S2 are largely the same as those in S1. These are:

Art and Design	Business Education	Computing Science	Craft and Design
Drama	Health & Food Technology (HFT)	English	Geography
History	Physical Education	Mathematics	Modern Languages (French or German or Mandarin)
Modern Studies	Music	Personal & Social Education (PSE)	Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies (RMPS)
Science			

S2 to S3 Course Choice

The Course Choice Information Session is on Wednesday 25th January 2023 at 6.30pm. Pupils will start the S2 to S3 course choice process in December/January with inputs from our Careers Advisor (cara.davidson@sds.co.uk), Guidance teachers and via information provided during Assemblies.

Empowered Learning – iPads

We are hopeful we will be able to start to issue iPads in October 2022. We are confident these will help to enhance the learning experience, encouraging innovation, evoke imagination and nurture a love of learning. *Home-School Agreements* and *Responsible Use Agreements* will be sent out in the coming weeks. In preparation we have been improving the Wi-Fi across the school, agreeing policies and procedures, developing skills and curriculum planning. Further information can be found [here](#).

Microsoft Office 365 – Teams and OneNote

Each class and/or subject will have a Microsoft Office 365 Teams page with course notes, tasks and activities listed. Many teachers also use OneNote and SharePoint. Some homework tasks are uploaded onto OneNote and Teams as Assignments. There is also a *Class of 2027* Teams page is used to provide reminders and notices to the S2 year group. The login page for Office 365 is [here](#). Passwords were reset at the end of last term. If you have any problems with passwords please ask your child to see Mrs Braisby in room 2.09.

Uniform

Thank you for your continued support of our school dress code. It gives a sense of belonging and pride in the school, reduces financial pressures on families, discourages competition and assists in improving school security. A previously issued update is found here [Dress Code](#).

Nearly new uniform is available. The clothing is as good as new, but at a fraction of the price with blazers costing £5, and other articles of clothing priced at roughly £1. For anyone interested in purchasing uniform please ask your child to see Mr Beard in Maths to access the store.

School Support

Pupil Support Leaders remain your primary contact. Their contact details are:

House	Guidance Teacher	
Bruntsfield	Mrs Scherczer	kerry.scherczer@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk
Hartington	Miss Grant	Fiona.grant@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk
Leamington	Miss Nisbet	Caroline.nisbet@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk
Montpelier	Mr McIlwaine	Peter.mcilwaine@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk
Viewforth	Mr Brandie	Chris.brandie@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk
Westhall	Mrs Wallace	Lucy.wallace@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk

If you require any other assistance, please contact us on admin@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk.

The S2 contact for Support for Learning is Mrs Hall (sarah.hall@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk). The Support for Learning Department also run the Homework Club. This is held on Wednesdays after school in the library with staff available to offer study support advice, support with Office 365 and they provide snacks!

Our new Our Wellbeing Hub (WBH) is designed to meet specific wellbeing needs of individual pupils with a focus on supporting social interactions, improving self-confidence/self-esteem, and supporting those experiencing anxiety and/or emotional regulation. Pupils who attend the WBH do so for a short period following a referral and the production of an agreed individual plan and targets.

School Extension

Although delayed the school extension is making progress and we hope to be able to use the new classrooms later this school year. We have now opened the refurbished classrooms LG09, which is now an IT space, and LG10 which is now a 3rd kitchen.

School Improvement Plan (SIP)

We had a productive professional learning session with our primary school colleagues on Tuesday 16th August. This involved teachers from Bruntsfield, Buckstone, Cannan Lane and South Morningside primary schools. The focus for this session was Learning, Teaching and Assessment. Our [SIP](#) is focused across 4 main areas:

Teaching, Learning and Assessment	Health, Well-Being and Resilience
Equity and Inclusion	Equalities

Assessments

The *Subject Resources* document provides an overview of each course, resources, home-study materials and assessment information. This is found [here](#). Unlike in S3-6 there is no formal assessment period for S2s. However, many departments do complete tests in December-February in S2, and this tends to be a busy time for S2s.

Tracking and Reporting

Tracking reports will be issued in October and December 2022. The tracking categories will remain the same as those used in S1. These are: Progress, Effort, Behaviour and Homework.

The course choice information session is on Wednesday 25th January 2023. A written report will be issued to you in the first week in March, prior to the online Parent Consultation Evening on Thursday 9th March. Reference materials will be issued alongside tracking and written reports.

Kind regards

Clive Hembury

Depute Head Teacher | Boroughmuir High School

admin@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk

