



Castle Douglas High School

Primary 7 Parent Gateway
Meeting

Session 2023-2024



Aims of this evening

- For Castle Douglas High School SLT to meet parents/carers and discuss the transition process
- To give parents/carers information about Castle Douglas High School
- To answer any questions or concerns that parents or pupils have about the transition process
- To highlight the opportunities on offer to the pupils both in and out of school

The Senior Leadership Team



Mr Smith
Headteacher



Mrs Cook
DHT S1/S2



Mr Cathro
DHT S3/S4



Mrs Gillies
DHT S5/S6/
Dalry



Mr Williams
DHT



Our Vision



We aim to equip all young people with the skills, knowledge, values and attitudes to lead a happy and fulfilling life and to make a meaningful contribution to society. At the centre of this vision is a commitment to ensuring that our young people achieve their full potential and that they have the ambition and belief to achieve the highest goals.



School Day

- We operate a 7 period day with some double periods
- Pupils are not allowed to leave the school grounds at interval
- We ask that all S1 pupils remain on the school premises at lunch time
- Breakfast Club open from 8.30am – 9am



Period 1	9am – 9.50am
Period 2	9.50am – 10.35am
Interval	10.35am – 10.50am
Period 3	10.50am – 11.35am
Period 4	11.35am – 12.25pm
Period 5	12.25pm – 1.10pm
Lunch	1.10pm – 1.55pm
Period 6	1.55pm – 2.45pm
Period 7	2.45pm – 3.30pm

Communication with the school

Good communication is an essential aspect of our working partnerships with parents/carers. We value communication from home so please know you are welcome to contact us at any time.

- Forms of communication from school
 - Newsletter
 - Postcards
 - Website - www.cdhs.info
 - Facebook
 - Full and Tracking Reports
 - Personal contact from teachers
 - Parents' evenings
 - Text messaging (Group Calls)
 - E-mail



Communication with the School

- If you have a problem you wish to discuss with a member of staff please feel free to contact the school

Procedures

- If it is a **pastoral issue** then please contact your child's Pupil Support Teacher in the first instance
- If it is a **subject based** issue you should contact the Principal Teacher of the subject in the first instance
- You are however welcome to contact the Head Teacher or Depute Head Teachers if you feel the need to do so.
- If you're not sure who to contact, phone the office and they will direct your call to the right person

Attendance



- If your child is ill or has an appointment please contact the school office between 8.15am-9am or send an e-mail
- Registers are taken at the start of every period. If your child is not in class and you have not contacted us, you will receive a group call that you should respond to giving a reason for absence
- If your child feels unwell during the day, they should go to the school office who will contact you. Pupils should not contact you directly to ask you to collect them
- If your child's attendance goes below 85%, you will receive an attendance letter and you should get in touch with pupil support staff to discuss reasons for absence and appropriate support will be put in place, if required. Staff may carry out GIRFEC assessments and put in a request for assistance to the attendance team or other partner agencies as necessary.
- Pupils whose attendance drops below 60% must be referred to the attendance team and a Child's Plan will be opened in order to support the young person

Communication

Contact details

School website: www.cdhs.info [Castle Douglas High School](#)

Phone No: 01556 502821

E-mail address: coffice518@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

Email addresses of SLT, PTs Curriculum and PTs Pupil Support are available in the Handbook or on website.

House System

There are 3 Houses in the school. Each young person will be allocated to a house. Pupils will find out classes in May.



Mrs Cathro
- Kelton



Mrs Clive -
Threave



Mr Ingram -
Threave



Mrs Irving –
PT ASN



Miss McQuade
- Solway

Pupil Support



- Each pupil will have a Pupil Support teacher
- The role of the Pupil Support teacher is to support the young people through their time at CDHS
- This includes:
 - subject choice
 - personal issues
 - tracking interviews
 - developing social and academic progress
 - co-ordinating, developing and delivering PSE programme

School Uniform



- Black trousers/skirt
- Black dress shorts in warm weather
- White shirt
- House tie
- Black shoes or black trainers
- Plain black jumper– no logos

Hooded tops and jackets should be removed in class.

- PE Kit – no football tops



Responsible use of IT including Mobile Phones

- All young people sign a 'responsible use of IT' agreement
- Mobile phones must be switched off in class and stored in 'Photel'
- Staff may permit young people to use phones in class for a learning activity – we trust they will do this responsibly
- Consequences of not using IT/Phones responsibly will have privilege withdrawn
- Phones should not be out in-between classes



Mobile Phones and Social Media

- Please monitor the use of your child's mobile phone
- <https://www.parentclub.scot/topics/online-safety>
- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>
- Please contact the police if you have any concerns

School events and trips

- We organise a number of activities and trips throughout the year

Some are highlighted below:

- Ski Trip
- Edinburgh and London Trips
- Geography field trips
- Young Musician Competition
- Burns Speaking Competition
- Visits to school by theatre companies
- School Show
- Activities Day
- Sports Day
- Outside speakers



Clubs & Activities



A number activities are offered in the school. An information leaflet will go out to all S1 pupils in the new term.

Badminton	Basketball	Netball	Girls Football
Dance	Vocal Group	Rugby	Table Tennis
Baking Club	Study Support	Hockey	Guitar & Ukulele Club
Drama Group	School Show	Debating Club	Chess Club
Cricket	Volleyball	Multi-Sports	3D Modelling Club
Orchestra	Games Club	Orchestra	Keyboard Club

Lunch time



- The school cafeteria offers excellent food and a wide range of choice
- The cafeteria operates a cashless and cash catering system. Pupils will use their 'Young Scot' card
- A 'Meal Deal' costs £2.00
- Pupils can bring a packed lunch
- S1 pupils must remain on school premises at lunch time

Curriculum for Excellence

- Language and Literacy
- Maths and Numeracy
- Health and Wellbeing
- Science
- Social Subjects
- Technologies
- Expressive Arts
- Religious Education



BGE Curriculum Structure

In S1 and S2 all pupils are provided with their entitlement to a broad general education where they experience all seven curriculum areas. Pupils have the opportunity to personalise their timetable by choosing an elective subject in S1 and in S2. In each curricular area pupils will experience a common curriculum pathway where differentiation in the classroom will provide for the full range of ability.

For study in S3 pupils are directed to recommended pathways of study. They choose 5 optional subjects that may form the basis of their study towards National Qualifications in S4.

Electives have included:

- School of Golf
- School of Rugby
- School of Netball
- Art Illustration/Clay Model Making
- Re-cycling Project
- Science and the Movies
- School Magazine
- Learning to Crochet



Typical S1 timetable



	1	2	Break	3	4	5	Lunch	6	7
Monday	Elective	Elective		Art	Maths	Technical		Geography	Music
Tuesday	IT	Maths		French	Geography	English		PSE	Science
Wednesday	English	PE		HE	HE	Science		RE	French
Thursday	PE	PE		Maths	Science	Technical		English	Art
Friday	Science	French		Geography	IT	Music		English	Maths

P7 Visits to CDHS

- Supported Transition visits – on-going
- P7 Visit to CDHS – May 10th
- Transition Days – Wednesday 19th – Friday 21st June



Induction Days

Wed 19th – Fri 21st June

- Assembly – welcome and issue timetables
- Tour of school
- Follow S1 timetable and meet teachers





Parent Council



- Meets usually once per term
- Representative of each year group and all pupils
- Parents of new S1 welcome to join
- Chair of Parent Council is Mrs Helen Keron
- Minutes are available on the website – www.cdhs.info

Castle Douglas High School



- Do you have any questions?
- If you think of any questions when you leave please feel free to contact the school either by letter, e-mail or by phone
- Please complete the parental feedback sheet