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### Reminder

We are still limited in welcoming visitors including parents/carers to the building. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.



**Inverurie**  
community  
campus

AMBITION  
INCLUSION  
INTEGRITY  
RESPECT

**INVERURIE**  
**ACADEMY**

Inverurie Community Campus  
Victoria Street  
Inverurie  
Aberdeenshire  
AB51 3QS

Telephone: [01467 532290](tel:01467532290)  
Email: [inverurie.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:inverurie.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

**Aberdeenshire**  
COUNCIL

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## Head Teacher Introduction

It's incredible how time passes so quickly when you are keen for it to slow down. This is the sense I have in having already reached the point where I am offering my final thoughts as Head Teacher at Inverurie Academy.

My overriding sense is of the many little things that make this school special to me and to many others: the sense of togetherness that our staff team have developed over these last years as we have journeyed together through COVID-19 and moving across to our new Campus; the overwhelming majority of students who evidence our Core Values as they go about their daily routines with a 'good morning' as they collect a face-covering, hold doors open for visitors around the Campus, or engage with their learning in our faculties; the enthusiasm our school community has for wider activities (Duke of Edinburgh, School Football, Coding, Chess, Eco-Group, Charities, LGBT etc.); and finally the support from so many parents & carers who engage with the school through the Parent Council and through general correspondence.

I would like to thank you for the privilege of leading this school and to assure you that I will leave a fair-sized chunk of myself behind with #teaminver.

I am delighted to be able to confirm that following interviews over the last few weeks, **Mr Neil Hendry** has been identified as the next Head Teacher of Inverurie Academy. News about his start date will follow shortly.

There is a fantastic, exciting next chapter to be written at Inverurie Academy, and I look forward to watching on with just a little bit of pride.

Mark Jones  
Head Teacher

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## Fundraising for Good Causes

During this short term, our students have been busy fundraising, and we have been delighted to see collective and individual examples of this great work...

Our Charities Committee helped us to fundraise for the Poppy Appeal, reaching a total of £152.09. Well done to all!



One of our students Euan B, has been busy fundraising for Alzheimer Scotland through a pandemic running challenge. Read about his exploits [here](#).



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## COVID-19 Update

The COVID-19 situation continues to evolve. We know that it is difficult to keep up with the frequent changes, but we will continue to do our best to support you with these. Please remember that we don't get advance warning of national changes! Our current main risk reduction measures are:

- The use of face coverings (unless exempt).
- Maintaining a high level on hygiene.
- One-way systems for movement around the campus.
- Staggered interval & lunchtimes.
- Regular use of Lateral Flow Test kits.

We will update you to any changes to these arrangements as they arise. We appreciate any support you can give to encouraging young people to work within with these measures.

PCR tests should be booked when:

- This is advised (for any reason) by contact tracers.
- Someone has one (or more) of the main COVID symptoms.
- Someone is a close contact of a positive case.
- Someone has a positive or inconclusive LFD test.

We are grateful for you letting us know if/as someone in your household requires a PCR test. We recognise that periods of self-isolation are frustrating. If there is any uncertainty re whether your youngster should or should not attend school, please contact us for advice.

## Join the Parent Council

We are a group of parents/carers who through our informal meetings work in partnership with representatives of the teaching staff and pupils for the benefit of the school community.

-The Head Teacher is invited along as an Advisor

-Members of the student body participate by representing the views of the Pupil Council

-The local Councillor comes along to share updates from Council discussions

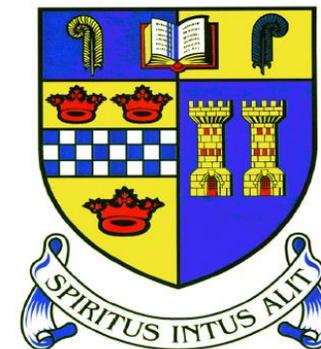
-Representatives from the teaching staff may also be there to share updates on recent or planned changes to policies/extra-curricular activities...

**Please feel free to get in touch or come along to one of our termly Committee meetings.**

**All parents/carers are very welcome!**

**Email:**

**[inverurieacademypc@gmail.com](mailto:inverurieacademypc@gmail.com)**



INVERURIE ACADEMY

PARENT COUNCIL

PARENT FORUM INFORMATION



## HWB Faculty Surveys – Get Involved!

The Health and Wellbeing Faculty would like your feedback! We have a couple of short surveys for you to complete about your young persons experience in Home Economics and Physical Education at Inverurie Academy. We would greatly appreciate if parents/carers could take a little time to complete these surveys and provide us with some feedback. Surveys should take around five minutes each to complete and we would like the views from parents/carers of pupils in all year groups. Many thanks.

### Home Economics Survey

<https://forms.office.com/r/pFja11uVnD>



### Physical Education Survey

<https://forms.office.com/r/MpJzmJmJYq>





# Wellbeing @ Inverurie Academy



As part of our Recovery Plan, we wanted to track pupil Wellbeing Data to show us what things we are getting right for students and to provide a focus for some areas we need to improve in. We had a fantastic response rate of 74% which we will look to increase for the next return. The whole school data is shown below alongside some short term focus areas.

Safe	Healthy	Achieving	Nurtured	Active	Respected	Responsible	Included
8.2	7.8	7.4	8.2	7.8	7.6	8.1	7.9

### Strengths

Our students feel **safe, nurtured** and **responsible** which, given the turbulent times we've all experienced is something we are really proud of.



### Focus Areas

**Achieving** - Regular conversations around what achieving can look like for students to increase awareness. InverMerit System and increased use of Praise Cards  
**Respected** - We have listened to student feedback around what has worked well this term, so we can do more of it has resulted in the launch of 'Funday Fridays'  
**Included** - Plan in place for increased leadership opportunities for students. School Instagram launched to reach students on a platform they are familiar with and using regularly



## Learning Places Scotland 2021

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, representatives from Aberdeenshire Council were asked to give a presentation about our Inverurie Community Campus. Six of our students were due to attend but were unable to do so at the last minute. They were connected virtually in the end.

A key feature of the presentation was a video created by an S3 Film & Media Class supported by our wonderful Mrs Elrick. You can see the video using the following link:-

[Inverurie Community Campus - YouTube](#)



Event Partner:  
 Scottish Government  
 Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
 gov.scot

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## Education Scotland Visit

Colleagues from Education Scotland visited Inverurie Academy during November, with virtual meetings taking place during 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November, and then an in-person visit during 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

At the end of the visit, members of the School Leadership Team met with the visit team who indicated that Inverurie Academy had overtaken all of the priority areas agreed at the last visit... some excerpts from a letter to be sent to parents & carers below...

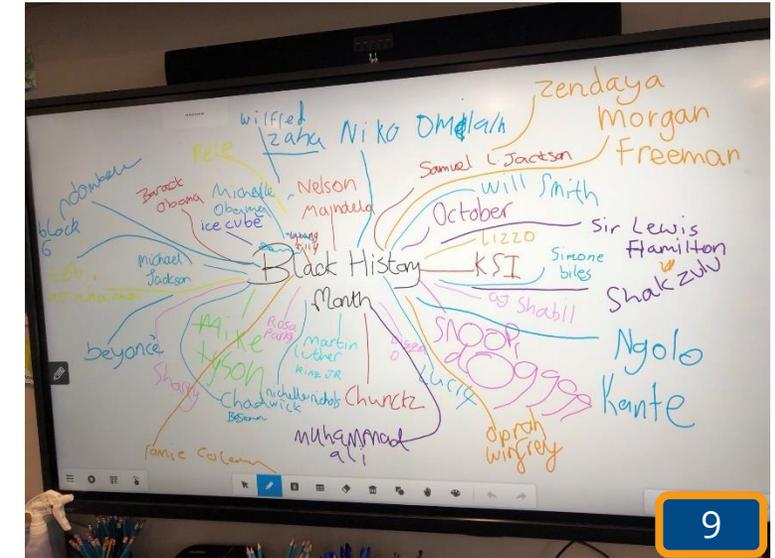
-  *Staff have addressed the recommendations from the original inspection successfully. As a result, we will make no more visits to the school in connection with the original inspection.*
-  *The school is now very well placed to continue its improvement journey.*



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# Inverurie Academy Active Learning in Pictures





## Competitive School Football Returns

We have been delighted to be able to get started with competitive school fixtures during this term. This has been a gradual process but very welcome and we hope there will be further progress early in 2022.



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## School Captains Legacy

Our School Captains have been interviewing Head of Education Mr Docherty and the Independent Advisor on Education Reform Prof. Muir. This is part of a project to research and survey the school community on the future of Education and the curriculum at Inverurie Academy.

Next up is a questionnaire for the school community which will be shared early next term. Watch this space!



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## Inverurie Community Campus – Construction Phase Update

<https://inverurie.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/30.11.21-ICC-Phase-2-3-Project-Stakeholder-Briefing.pdf>

Although our Campus opened in October 2020 you may have noticed that works haven't finished yet! We have received an update from the Property and Facilities Management group (see link above). Some of the key dates are below... looking forward to a finished Campus next summer!

-  Remaining demolition works to be completed by April 2022
-  Campus Car Park extension completed by March 2022
-  All Weather pitches completed by June 2022
-  Landscaping complete by July 2022





## Term 3 dates for your diary

### Calendar Amendment (Term 4)

Our May day holiday (Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022) has been moved to Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022. All students should attend school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022.

An additional holiday (to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee) will take place on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022. The local holiday on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June will continue as planned.

Our [calendar](#) has been updated and is on the school website.

05.01.22	Term Begins, Students Return
17.01.22	Merits Week for Students
17.01.22	Higher / Advanced Higher Assessment Period Begins
19.01.22	Parent Council Meeting 3
26.01.22	S2 Parent Evening (Virtual) 16.30 – 19.00
28.01.22	Higher/ Advanced Higher Assessment Period Ends
04.02.22	S2 into S3 Choice Deadline
07.02.22	Merits Week for Students
09.02.22	S4/5/6 Full Report – To Parent/Carers
10.02.22	Local Holiday
11.02.22	Local Holiday
14.02.22	Local Holiday
15.02.22	INSET Day
16.02.22	INSET Day
28.02.22	Merits Week for Students
04.03.22	S4/5 into S5/6 Choice Deadline
08.03.22	S3 Parent Evening (Virtual) 16.30 – 19.00
14.03.22	SNSA assessments for S3 students
21.03.22	Merits Week for Students
22.03.22	Parent Council Meeting
01.04.22	Last Day of Term – Dress Down Day (Charities Committee)