



PATRICIA GOODBRAND BSc(Hons), MEd

Head Teacher

Speyside High School Mary Avenue, Aberlour AB38 9QU

Tel 01340 871522

Email admin.speysidehigh@moray-edunet.gov.uk

Website www.speysidehighschool.net



Our Ref: PG/MF

Date: 06 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year Heads and Principal Teachers of Guidance

Your young person's guidance teacher will not have changed and their contact details are as below. Please use your Guidance Teacher as your first point of contact with the school for any information or concerns.

Fiddich	Ms L Harley	fiddich.guidance@moray-edunet.gov.uk
Livet	Mrs T Winwood-Young	livet.guidance@moray-edunet.gov.uk
Rinnes	Ms S Rowley	rinnes.guidance@moray-edunet.gov.uk

Please note that for some young people, as they have moved up a year, their year head will have changed.

S1/S2	Mrs A MacInnes	admin.speysidehigh@moray-edunet.gov.uk
S3/S4	Mr E Picksley	admin.speysidehigh@moray-edunet.gov.uk
S5/S6	Mrs H Duffy & Mr M McWhirter (job share) (Mon/Tues/Wed) – (Thurs/Fri)	admin.speysidehigh@moray-edunet.gov.uk

Guidance Teachers and Year Heads can also be contacted through the school office on 01340 871522.

We continue to have our dedicated pupil absence email PupilAbsence.SpeysideHigh@moray-edunet.gov.uk

Pupil Leadership Team

Following extensive training our prefect team are up and running to support everyone around the school particularly during breaks and lunchtimes. Thank you to all the young people who have taken up this opportunity to support the wellbeing of us all.

Staffing

I am delighted to let you know that after successful interview Ms McMillan has been appointed 0.4 FTE Acting Principal Teacher of Technical and Computing. I am sure you will all join me in wishing Ms McMillan well in her new position.

Advanced Higher Geographers restart local MICCI project

Last week our Advanced Higher Geographers travelled up to Tomintoul to restart our involvement in the Moorland Indicators of Climate Change Initiative (MICCI). This national-wide project is coordinated by the National Parks and sees young people collecting environmental data at key moorland sites throughout the UK. Speyside High now has a site above Tomintoul which we will visit annually, contributing to the MICCI data base. As well as gaining practical experience of fieldwork techniques, young people can also choose to use the data gathered as part of their course work. Many thanks to Polly (Cairngorms National Park Authority Ranger) and Mark (Crown Estate Scotland Ranger) for supporting us.

Wellbeing/.



Healthy
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Achieving
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Wellbeing (Sponsored) Walk.

I am pleased to let you know that plans are in place for our annual Wellbeing Walk. Further details about the arrangements will be sent home with young people on Monday 9 September.

Supporting Positive Relationships and Safety

Following last week's parent council meeting, I have been asked to highlight actions in place to support positive relationships and safety of all in school. This is difficult to quantify as any list is not exhaustive and different situations lead to different responses as appropriate.

Expectations in all classes are high ensuring wherever possible highest levels of behaviour. Appropriate support and where absolutely necessary sanctions are in place for young people to support positive relationships and behaviour. In general there is always a Senior Leadership Team presence at break and lunchtimes around the school. Wherever possible colleagues will be present on the High Street of Aberlour at lunchtime – this is not possible every day. Throughout the day there is a duty rota of colleagues to deal with any concerns.

Prefects have been trained in a leadership role to ensure when they are on duty at break and lunchtimes they can support positive relationships and the safe running of the school. All toilets have had vape alarms installed. There are QR codes all around school for young people to report any concerns. The positive relationships policy is also available on the school website.

Anti-Bullying Policy

Following consultation with parents/carers, young people and staff last session, the revised Speyside High School Anti-Bullying Policy is now live and available on our school website: <http://speysidehighschool.net/anti-bullying-policy>

Positive Relationships Policy

Last session, young people and teaching staff were asked their thoughts on the Speyside High School Positive Relationships Policy which was launched in 2018. The feedback has contributed to the relaunch of the Positive Relationships Policy with staff receiving an input during the August In-Service and young people being informed during PSE classes. The revised Policy can be found here: <http://speysidehighschool.net/policies/positive-relationships-policy>

One area of significant change in the Policy is the issuing of Merits. There is now a monthly focus which links to our school vision and values. Each month will focus on either Ambitious, Responsible, Respectful or Creative with criteria for each where a merit can be awarded. These are communicated via Pupil Notices and also displayed on posters in each class room. At the end of each month, those who have received a merit/s will have an email sent home to Parents/Carers to share their success.

Should a young person receive 15+ Merits in a term, their Guidance Teacher will send home a Praise Postcard to highlight their success. If a young person receives 20+ Merits in a term, they will receive a voucher to claim a snack at the canteen at break time. We look forward to sharing the successes of your young person with you as we move forward.

S6/.



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S6 Students Learning Day for International Sustainability Diploma

Speyside High School is part of the pilot project for this new qualification, being developed by the FIDA team at Dollar Academy. The Diploma is at Level 6, equivalent to a Higher course, and is acknowledged by UCAS. Five of our S6 young people are working towards their Diploma this year. This week they travelled to Dollar to work with young people from across the pilot. Part of their day was working with the University of Stirling Enterprise Team to explore how business and design-thinking skills to support turning ideas and concepts into reality. Our young people were a credit to the school and we are excited that alongside our Global Goals curriculum in S1 and S2, we are creating opportunities for Sustainability education throughout all stages at Speyside High.

National Roles for our Social Studies teachers

Over the last year, two of our colleagues have taken on national roles with *Education Scotland*. Mr Turner, Principal Teacher of Geography, has been appointed as a Peer Mentor in Learning for Sustainability, and Ms Childs, Principal Teacher of Modern Studies has been appointed as a Mentor in Building Racial Literacy. These roles are a fantastic opportunity to share ideas, learn and support colleagues in Moray and beyond.

Career in healthcare

There are a number of live online workshops taking place for young people interested in careers in healthcare. These take place from 12.30 pm to 4pm during the first week of the October Holidays. Further details are included in the posted attached. Young people can discuss further with Mr Picksley or their Guidance Teacher.

CV Workshop/.

Please find attached details regarding a CV Workshop being run by DYW. Link to sign up

<https://dywmoray.co.uk/news-events/spotlight-your-skills-cv-workshop>

A Message from Speyside High School Parent Council

Do you want to be more involved in your child's schooling but don't have much free time?. Becoming a member of the Speyside High School Parent Council is perfect for you! Small time commitment - large impact within your young person's school community.

We meet 4 times a year - at the school - for about 90 mins. We get direct information/updates about the schools plans and any relevant issues from the head teacher. We raise and provide funds for pupil activities and events. We have input into how the school makes decisions and offers programmes.

Join for one year or six! All you need is a few spare hours a year and an interest in your young person's school life and opportunities.

Interested and would like to know more? Please join us on Wednesday 30 October 2024 for our AGM at 7pm upstairs in the school library. We will have a warm welcome - snacks and soft drinks provided

We look forward to meeting you!

Whats/.



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What's cooking

S1: Vegetable Soup
S2: Fajitas
S3 Practical cookery: Chocolate orange Tart
S5 Practical cookery: **Tuesday-**
Thursday- Chocolate Gateaux
S5 HFT: Sesame chilli chicken
Wider achievement: Cheese Scones / Minestrone soup
Baking Club: Marble cake

Yours faithfully

Mrs P Goodbrand
Head Teacher

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