DUNFERMLINE HIGH SCHOOL
Jennie Rennie's Road, Dunfermline, Fife KY11 3BQ
Telephone: 01383 602402
Email: dunfermlinehs.enquiries@fife.gov.uk
Website: https://www.dunfermlinehigh.co.uk/
Twitter: @DunfermlineHS
Iain Yuile, Rector

Our Learning *Our Opportunities* *Our Responsibility*

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for your support as we reach the end of a successful first term of session 2022-23. We look forward to welcoming all of our pupils back to Dunfermline High School on Monday 24 October. I would also ask for your continued support for our **school dress code**: https://dunfermlinehigh.co.uk/docs/DHS_Dress_code_-_Updated_June_2022.pdf

Our clubs are up and running, our Pupil Empowerment Teams have presented their 'exceptional' work to nearly 200 headteachers and managers in Fife, pupils are achieving national and international recognition and musicians are performing for the King. More details of all of this are included in our newsletter. Thank you to Mrs Hemmann who has created our school newsletter for term 1 and this can be accessed through this Sway: https://sway.office.com/i8Sg2WNfOSElFfTh?ref=Link&loc=mysways

Despite some difficult circumstances last year, Dunfermline High School continues make very good progress in the following ways:

- **Really positive improvements in Scottish Qualifications Authority attainment in 2022.** Recent national data (Insight) is clearly showing *a very strong performance by our pupils in almost every subject area when compared with how similar pupils performed in the rest of the country*
- **Improving positive destination figures which have been above our virtual comparator schools for the last three years**
- **Attendance figures which are significantly above the Fife average** – a school improvement focus in the last two sessions through our updated Attendance Policy
- **Rights Respecting Schools Silver Accreditation** has been achieved and our **accreditation visit assessor described the structure, format and principles of our Pupil Empowerment Teams (PET) as 'exemplary' and one which should be shared locally and nationally**. Particular reference was made to the high level of influence pupils had in so many aspects of school life beyond the normal roles of pupil councils – they had a real say in LTA and wellbeing and affected school improvement priorities. Particular reference was also made to the number of staff who contributed to the RRSA visit
- **Improving consistency of high-quality learning, teaching and assessment (LTA).** A great deal of work has been done by staff in the school to continue to improve the consistency of LTA and we are now seeing observable evidence of this improvement

- **Digital Schools Award** achieved following work by a collaborative working group with particular reference made to the **quality of the new school website, 'vibrant' Twitter feed and school newsletter** designed to support engagement. The report also specifically mentioned the **very effective engagement of pupils through the use of Satchel One and Monitoring, Tracking Supports and Interventions through Didbook**

  The feedback report states that *'**Dunfermline HS is a forward thinking and progressive secondary school that provides a wide range of digital learning experiences for their pupils. The school's planning displays strategic progression and cognisance that young people now learn better in a digital environment'***

Four members of our Pupil Empowerment Team attended two Fife Headteachers' Meetings in Kirkcaldy with Mrs Tomlinson to share the story of our PET and how they have influenced Dunfermline High School.

Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Attainment

Our S4, S5 and S6 pupils performed very well in terms of SQA attainment in 2022 and we are really proud of their achievements. A greater proportion of our S4 pupils achieved 5 or more National 5 Awards than in 2021 when there were no final exams. The figure is up more than 4% from the last year with an exam diet, which was 2019.

The percentage of our S5 pupils achieving 5 or more Highers is the highest we have on record dating back to 2013 (other than 2021, when there were no final exams) and is up by more than 4% since 2019, the last year SQA final exams were run.

Pupil performance in every individual subject is compared with how similar pupils achieved in the rest of the country using what is known as a Course Comparator Value and, incredibly, every subject at Dunfermline High School was positive except for two.

Our school improvement priorities (SIP) for the session are as follows:

1. **Curriculum Rationale for Improved Learner Pathways and Positive Destinations**
2. **Ensuring Wellbeing, Equality & Inclusion**
3. **Raising Attainment for All Through More Effective Feedback, Supports & Interventions**

Full details of our SIP for 2022-23 can be found at SIP https://dunfermlinehigh.co.uk/docs/School_Improvement_Plan_2022_and_23_Final.pdf and the School Standards and Quality Report (details of progress with last session's School Improvement Plan) can be found at SQR https://dunfermlinehigh.co.uk/docs/DHS_SQR_2021-22_Website_Final.pdf

Thank you for your continued support and I hope that you enjoy a good holiday period.

Mr Yuile
Rector