

People Directorate

Head Teacher: T S Stevens



Carrick Academy
72-74 Kirkoswald Road
Maybole
Ayrshire
KA19 8BP

Tel: 01655 883003 or 01655 889432
Email: carrick.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Our Ref: Your Ref:
Date: 26 March 2018
If telephoning or calling ask for: T S Stevens

Dear Parent/Carer

There is a lot happening in the school over the next couple of months so I have tried to summarise events for you.

School Holidays:

Carrick Academy will close for the Easter holiday at 2.30pm on Thursday 29 March. Pupils return to school on Monday 16 April at 8.45am. Monday 7 May is the May-day holiday; the school will be closed on that date. The school will also be closed for the May long weekend on Friday 25 and Monday 28 May.

Easter School and SQA Examinations:

Easter School will be open to support young people in the preparation for their final exams; this has been detailed in a separate letter and information is on the school website. The S6 Graduation will be held in the Carrick Centre on Friday 27 April; all S4/5 pupils will remain in school. SQA examinations commence on Monday 30 May; this will be the first day of study leave and pupils will return to school on Monday 4 June. Our staff will be available throughout the examination period should your child require any additional support. I wish all of our children every success in their final exams. Individual pupil SQA examination timetables will be issued after the Easter holidays.

Scottish National Standardised Assessments (SNSA):

S3 pupils will complete online standardised assessments in literacy and numeracy. The assessments help to identify children's progress, providing diagnostic information to support teachers' professional judgement. Our young people do not have to revise or prepare for these assessments. The assessments are as inclusive as possible to accommodate the needs of young people who require additional support. There is no pass or fail. Testing will take place nationally and ours will begin after the Easter holiday.

S3 Work Experience:

S3 pupils will undertake a work placement during the weeks beginning Monday 30 May and Monday 7 May. Each pupil will have been allocated a placement in one of these weeks. It is a fantastic opportunity for our young people to experience the world of work and I hope they enjoy this experience.

Arrangements for the start of the New Timetable:

S6 induction will take place on Friday 1 June; all S6 pupils should make their way to the Assembly Hall for an 8.45am start. The new timetable will commence on Monday 4 June; S1-3 pupils will be

issued with their new timetable before this date. At the start of period 1, new S4 pupils should go to the Assembly Hall and new S5 pupils should go to the Dining Hall where timetables will be issued.

Parent Council Events:

The Parent Council are hosting an **80's Disco and Auction night on Saturday 2 June in the Speakers Club in Maybole, tickets are £5** and are available from the school office. The Parent Council meet bi-monthly and I would like to invite you to join us at our next meeting which will take place in Carrick Academy on Wednesday 30 May at 7.00pm.

On-line School Payments:

South Ayrshire Council secondary schools have been operating an On-Line School Payments system from November 2017. Around 20% of our parents/carers are now regularly using the system for the on-line payment of school meals. We would like to encourage a higher uptake and as such have re-issued guidance notes on how you can sign up for this system. Unfortunately we haven't had many new trips that could be added to the system but it is our intention to build on this over the coming months and we would encourage as many parents as possible to pay on-line. You will receive an e-mail via the on-line system if your child has been accepted onto a trip.

We would however ask you to be careful when adding money on-line; please ensure that you choose the correct fund eg School Meals or a specific trip. If you have any issues either trying to sign up for the system or when you are using the system please contact the school office who will be happy to assist.

Consultation on the School Day:

I consulted you on proposed changes to the school day in December last year; this was part of the wider consultation in South Ayrshire. At the Leadership panel in February, it was agreed that the changes to the school day will take place starting in August. The school day will start at 8.45am each day and each class will have a 10 minute 'Ethos and Life of the School' period. The school lunch will be reduced to 40 mins each day. On a Monday and Tuesday the school day will finish at 3.40pm and on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday the school day will now finish at 2.50pm.

P7 Induction Days:

Our P7 pupils will spend 4 days in the school from 12-15 June as part of their transition programme to secondary school. Our S3 pupils will have the opportunity to take on leadership roles during that week to act as buddies to our new cohort.

Please ensure that the school has an **up-to-date contact number and email address for you** so that we can keep you fully informed of all that is happening in the school. Our School Website address is <https://carrickacademysayr.weebly.com/> and you can follow us on Twitter @Carrick_Academy.

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Easter. Thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me at the school if you have any matters of concern that you wish to discuss.

Yours sincerely



Shona Stevens
Head Teacher