

Our Ref: LM/AC  
Date: 18 December 2017



ALL STUDENTS in S4, S5  
AND S6 IN WEST  
DUNBARTONSHIRE  
SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND  
PARENTS OF THESE STUDENTS

Dear Parent/Carer

I write to remind you that there will be no study leave for S4-6 students during this year's interim assessments. This decision was taken with the best interest of students in mind, since we believe that the best place for students to be during the interim assessment time is in school.

Being in school allows the students to take advantage of an appropriate study environment, to make teachers available to students to provide structured support and to answer any last minute queries about assessments and to maximise teaching time available for all subjects.

We are convinced that the provision of appropriate study spaces and structured support from staff during the prelims is the best arrangement for students. We would therefore encourage all students to take advantage of the facilities available to them in school during the interim assessment diet.

I have agreed with the head teachers that any student who chooses to study at home during the interim assessments with the knowledge and permission of his or her parent will not have his or her absence recorded as unauthorised. However, this must be communicated to the school in writing before the start of the interim assessments. Similarly, a student's entitlement to the Education Maintenance Allowance will not be affected if he or she chooses to study at home with parental approval.

Head Teachers have asked me to remind you that pupils studying subjects at National 2, 3 or 4 are required to attend school during study leave to complete Added Value Units and course work.

Examination leave during the SQA examinations in May and June will remain the same as in previous years for students in S4, S5 and S6 who are studying National 5, Higher or Advanced Higher level courses.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all young people continuing success in the forthcoming interim assessments.

Yours sincerely

*Laura Mason*

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