

30<sup>th</sup> August 2018  
(JD/KL)



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*Headteacher*

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Dear Parent/Carer

### Senior Student Learning Agreements 2018/19

Your son/daughter has now returned to Breadalbane Academy for a fifth or sixth year. We are always delighted by the number of pupils who choose to continue with us beyond the compulsory period and we hope this reflects well on the experience that we have provided for them to date.

Guidance teachers have discussed with S5/6 pupils our 'Senior Student Learning Agreement' which sets out some key principles for these year groups. There is nothing that should be a surprise in this agreement, but it is worth setting out from the word 'go' the high expectations we set for our senior pupils, who in most cases have actively chosen to return to school.

- **Our senior pupils set the tone**

We typically find that our senior pupils set a very good example for younger pupils in the school. We would expect any returning senior pupils to co-operate with all school policies, including those on school uniform, punctuality and classroom behaviour, as well as presenting a positive attitude in general over their school year. I strongly believe senior pupils are critical in setting a positive tone for the school, and staff always appreciate the role models they provide for younger year groups.

- **S5/6 is still full-time**

Although we like to allow our S5/6 pupils a little more freedom where we can, it is important to stress that pupils in these years are still in full-time education and should expect to sign up to a full timetable according to the rules for each year group. Pupils in S5 are required to pursue 5 courses, though in S6 they may reduce this to 4 courses, or 3 in the case of those studying for 3 Advanced Highers. We would also hope that S6 pupils with 'free periods' would use this time fruitfully.

- **We expect pupils to stick in with courses**

Where we deploy staffing and resources to offer senior courses, which often involve small numbers, we expect pupils to put in the effort necessary to ensure that these courses pay off for both them and the school. Pupils will also be expected to pursue all courses for the duration of the session, irrespective of offers from universities. This is also something that universities expect them to do. It is a very real source of disappointment to staff when pupils try to drop courses as the year goes on, and I want to stress from the beginning that when pupils sign up for a course, they are making a full year commitment.



I would ask you to discuss the above expectations with your son or daughter and support them in the commitment they make when they sign their senior student learning agreement, which will cover these areas.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our S5 and S6 pupils a rewarding and successful year and to thank parents and carers for their ongoing support for the work of the school.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John Devine', written in a cursive style.

**John Devine**  
**Headteacher**



**Breadalbane Academy**  
**Session 2018-19**  
**Senior Pupil Learning Agreement**

Pupil Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Register Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Welcome back to Breadalbane Academy. You have made an important decision to return to school. This Learning Agreement reflects a partnership between you and the school designed to ensure you take full advantage of your senior year(s).

The school will have a responsibility to provide a range of appropriate courses and other development opportunities in class and outwith it. We will also support you in making the choices that will allow you to take your next steps beyond school.

In turn, we would like you to sign up to the commitments listed at the bottom of this agreement, which guidance staff will discuss with you, and to complete the grid below noting the classes and levels you are signing up to. Please note too that the 'core' course/activities listed in the final section of the grid are compulsory for all pupils.

S5 pupils must have five options completed.

For S6 pupils, it is acceptable to have one free column or two in the case of pupils studying three Advanced Highers.

Any changes to courses must be approved by senior management and would usually take place by the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> August.

SUBJECT	LEVEL
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
<b>Senior Activities/SWA</b>	<b>Core Activity</b>
<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>Core Activity</b>
<b>Social Education /Religious Education</b>	<b>Core Activity</b>
<b>Registration</b>	<b>Core Activity</b>

I agree that I will:

- try to attend every day, notifying the school on the first day of any necessary absences
- attend all timetabled classes punctually, including registration.
- come prepared to work conscientiously and meet deadlines for homework/ folio etc
- meet all requirements of timetabled courses, for the duration of the course
- use all educational facilities and resources responsibly
- abide by all school rules, including uniform policy, and set a good example to others

<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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