Ref: JF/lj

25th April 2023

## **Stranraer Academy**

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## Dear Parent / Carer

As part of our continued work to ensure, safety, good order and a positive learning environment throughout Stranraer Academy, we have made changes to our toilet facilities over the last few months.

I hope you feel I have kept you informed of these as we have progressed. This letter is, I hope, the final update as work completes. Please be assured that we have listened to pupils and parents throughout and that the changes are having a significant effect on our culture. As an example, we are currently into our second month of zero incidents of vandalism across the school.

## **Toilet Options:**

At Stranraer Academy, all pupils should feel confident in visiting the toilet during the school day. Toilets should be clean, calm and available.

**Open Toilets:** Toilets are available in the Music and Office corridors that are open. Pupil privacy is ensured through the use of cubicles. Many schools and public buildings now operate this model. It makes for easy supervision but maintains privacy. These toilets are easily accessed without the need for a key. Visits during break and lunch will often be to these toilets.

**Key Entry:** Toilets in our 'pod' teaching areas are accessed by pupils requesting the key from a teacher. This system ensures toilets are managed, calm and available during class time. Most of our pupils who occasionally need to use a nearby toilet during class time will make use of this option.

**Accessible Toilets:** For pupils with specific medical needs there are a range of accessible toilets. Pupils will be shown these toilets and supported in their use by school and NHS staff.

Our toilets are an important facility for the comfort and dignity of our pupils. They are not social spaces nor zones where we do not maintain our usual high expectations.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your support and encourage parents to speak to us if there are any specific worries for your child.

Yours faithfully

Jamie Farquhar Acting Headteacher