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Broughton High School

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Dear Parents / Carers

One of the consequences of Covid-related restrictions is that it is currently impossible for schools to offer 'traditional' face to face parents' evenings which provide the opportunity for you to talk to your child's teachers. We have considered a few options including cancelling parents' meetings altogether this year or conducting appointments over the phone. Neither is satisfactory; the first because of the crucial importance of the partnership between schools and parents and the second because of the operational challenges this would pose. We have therefore chosen to adopt an online booking and online video appointments platform. The platform provider is Netmedia, a company that works with over two thousand schools, including the majority of secondary schools in Edinburgh. One of its directors lives in our school catchment area.

The adoption of a new way of doing things always poses challenges. We have to learn something new and then put it into practice. It will be easier for some of us than others. With this in mind, please see the bottom of the page for the links to three separate user guides. These will help everyone to get to grips with the system and, hopefully, engage with class teachers at the parents' evening. ¹ Please also view the following video to introduce you to the system: <https://youtu.be/aMmfbIM8LIM>

As we try this new approach any number of issues could arise, some known and probably some unknown. We have tried to envisage technical issues and have done what we can to mitigate these. We also know human error will affect the process. I would ask all users to please be patient as we move forward. This will be new to all of us, parents and teachers alike. Our children and young people have been grappling with online learning systems since March and it is now our turn as adults to do our best and rise to this challenge!

Our first two parents' evenings this year are:

S4 – 19 November

S5/6 – 26 November

If you have a child in one of these two year groups, please look out for an email invitation to make your bookings. On the night itself, please follow the guidelines provided. I hope we can all make the best of this opportunity to re-connect.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing support for our school during this highly challenging time. Our young people continue to show resilience, flexibility, community spirit and a welcome sense of humour.

Kind regards

John J Wilson
Headteacher

¹ <https://parents-booking.com/downloads/Parent-Video-Meeting-Invite-Letter.docx>
<https://parents-booking.com/downloads/ParentsHowTo.ppt>
<https://parents-booking.com/downloads/Video%20Call%20Information%20for%20Parents.pdf>