



14th June 2109

Dear Parent / Carer

We hope this booklet will provide you with helpful information about your child's transition into Primary One in August.

Inside we have given an outline of transition activities that have already taken place and what's still to come in the last few weeks of this term.

The purpose of all transition activities is to familiarise the children with the school layout and routines so that starting Primary One is a natural progression into the next stage of their learning.

Our transition programme is structured in such a way to give children short, focussed experiences which will support them to build their confidence in the school setting and to be familiar with our school team.

From experience we know that starting school can be both an exciting and daunting time for families. Our aim is to provide you with the information you need to help make the transition into school as smooth as possible.

If you have any questions please feel free to ask a member of the Early Learning and Childcare Centre Team or myself.

We are looking forward welcoming your child into Primary 1 on Tuesday 20th August 2019

Mrs A Fraser

Head Teacher

Our Vision is for All to Love Coming to School, Aspire to be Leaders of Their Own Learning and Leave Feeling Accomplished. (Skipping In and Skipping Out)

Getting Ready For School

When children begin school they meet new people.

They get to know new places and make new friends.

Each child will learn new routines and rules. Our school rules are:

- Safe
- Mindful
- Aspirational

Building confidence and becoming increasingly independent are very important aspects of your child's development as they begin to settle into primary school.

You can help your child prepare for school by encouraging independence at home.

We would be grateful if you can try to encourage your child to;

- Manage zips, buttons, etc.
- Go to the toilet unaided.
- Remember to wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating.
- Put on and remove coats, jackets, shoes, etc.

Please ensure your child:

- ✓ Has all items of clothing, indoor shoes, packed lunch boxes and water bottles are clearly labelled with their name
- ✓ Knows if they are being picked up or going to Out of School Club at the end of the day. If they are being picked up that they know who is going to pick them up.
- ✓ Knows to wait with the teacher at the end of the day until the person picking them up is there.
- ✓ Brings a water bottle for drinking throughout the day – please only refill with water.
- ✓ Has a small snack to eat at Break Time. Alternatively, toast, pancakes etc. are supplied for a small fee at the school canteen during Morning Break.
- ✓ Has a pair of indoor shoes to change into when they are indoors.
- ✓ Wears their school uniform to school.
- ✓ Takes a jacket to school when it is cold or wet.
- ✓ Has a change of clothing - particularly pants, socks and trousers/skirt and a top.

Please note:

- ✓ Your child will be issued with a school homework bag in August, which should come to school daily and should last them until Primary 7.

Frequently asked questions:

Q. What day is P.E.?

A. An introductory letter will be issued by the Primary 1 class teacher during the new session. This will detail P.E. days and other important days/dates specifically relating to Primary 1.

Q. Does my child need a change of clothing for P.E.?

A. They will eventually. However, during the first term this is not necessary.

Q. Who do I need to speak to if I have any questions or concerns?

A. Speak to the Class Teacher either at the beginning or end of the day. If they are unable to answer your question you can ask at the school office where a member of staff will either help or refer you to a member of the School Management Team.

Q. Who is my child's Primary 7 Buddy?

The Buddies are set up the session before your child goes into Primary 1, taking into account the particular interests and characteristics of the pupils in each class. The Primary 1 or 7 Teacher will be able to let you know your child's buddy.

Q. What are the lunch choices?

A. A menu is issued each term to inform you of the lunch choices. There are usually 3 choices for main course and either soup or pudding and fruit daily. This is available on our school blog and The Highland Council website

Q. Do we have to pay for school lunches?

A. School lunches are free for all P1-3 pupils.

Q. What do I need to do if my child is unable to attend school i.e. unwell, appointment etc.?

A. Telephone the absence line on: (01463 257649). Leave a message.

Q. What do I need to do if I feel the weather is so severe that it could be dangerous to attempt to bring my child to school?

A. Severe Weather Guidance is available on the school blog.

Q. Can I see my child's classroom?

A. There are Open Afternoon's during the school year. You are able to view the classroom at these times during meetings with Class teacher and any sessions where you are able to come in and share your skills and knowledge/job etc. with pupils as part of our parent and family engagement.

Q. What do I need to do if my child has any medical conditions, allergies, food intolerances etc.?

A. Complete a medical form which you can pick up from the school office and drop medication of there.

Q. What do I need to do if my child is coming to school and has some antibiotics or other medication for short a period?

A. Once again.....same as above.

Dates for your information and diary

Date	Event
Ongoing	<p>Visits to P1 Your child may have already talked about visiting our P1 classes for some play based experiences. These have been ongoing since September. From Easter onwards there will be further visits for our N5s where they will take part in a variety of planned activities including singing games, craft projects and free choosing.</p>
Week beginning 20th May	<p>Buddy sessions Every child moving into P1 in August 2019 has been paired with a current P6 pupil who will become their P7 buddy as they start school.</p> <p>Our Nursery 5 pupils have met their buddies and are enjoying spending time together. Below is an outline of what the children do together during their buddies time.</p> <p>As pupils about to enter P7 our P6 buddies are great ambassadors for the school and help to promote all the positive aspects of school life. The role of the P6 pupil is to promote school life to their buddy and reassure them about any worries they may have. Sometimes this is more effective coming from another pupil than an adult!</p>
Thursday 20th June 6-7pm Monday 24th June 1.30 - 2.30pm	<p>Primary 1 Information Session – ALL P1 parents in old classroom in off the hall. All parents of children who will be starting Primary 1 in August 2019 are invited to join us for our information session. There will be opportunities to meet P1 staff (as far as possible) and information will be shared about the P1 curriculum and arrangements for the first few weeks of school. There will also be an opportunity to answer any questions you may have.</p>
June 19	<p>Resilient Kids Programme All Nursery 5 children moving into P1 will take part in the Resilient Kids to School Programme. The series of short activities prepares children for the move from nursery to P1 through stories and games, and continues after August once they have moved into P1. More information will be shared at the P1 Information Evening in June. Your child will take part in Resilient Kids on one of the following groups of dates. Mrs Gibb will run this programme.</p>
Wednesday 26th June	<p>Lunch Visit We hope you are able to join us for lunch on Wednesday 26th June at 11.45am Children should be collected from the nursery and brought through to the canteen.</p> <p>Children will have their lunch provided free of charge. For any adult wishing to have lunch the cost is £4.00 including dessert or £2.60 without dessert.</p> <p>When finished lunch, parents can either take their child home or take their child back to nursery door where they will be met by staff. If you are taking your child home, please ensure you return to the nursery to complete sign out sheets before leaving.</p>
Thursday 4 th July	Nursery closes for Summer break. Our Early learning and Childcare Centre is open until 5.30 on the last day of term.
Monday 19 th August	In-service for staff
Tuesday 20 th August	School re-opens for pupils

Primary 6 Buddies

The job of our P6 buddies is to spend some time each week with the younger children to form positive relationships with a focus on developing skills together.

In August, the buddies will help your child to settle in to their new class.

The buddies will help to look after them in the playground, show them around the school buildings and help them learn the routines of the school (e.g. where to buy their snack at break time, where to put their rubbish in the canteen).

P6 Buddies agree to have certain responsibilities such as:

- Carrying out activities with their buddy as directed
- Supervision of their buddy during activity
- Promoting our school to their buddy, listening to their worries or concerns and reassuring and helping them with these
- Being a positive role model of acceptable and appropriate behaviour while with their buddy
- Following instructions and advice from School and Nursery staff.

Buddies Activity Programme

Week 1: Free Play

Children get to know each other by playing together

Week 2: Free Play Outside

Spending time getting to know their buddy a little more using outdoor space and equipment.

Week 3: Free Play Indoors

Working on different table top activities such as lego, drawing, making pictures with shapes.

Week 4: Craft

Variety of craft activities using chalk and other mediums

Week 5: All About Me

Children use paper and drawing materials to draw a picture of themselves and things of importance to them including likes and dislikes!

Week 6: Working with Numbers

Variety of Maths and Numeracy games including counting, singing, playing shops etc
This week will also include chatting about meeting their new teacher in the very last week of term.