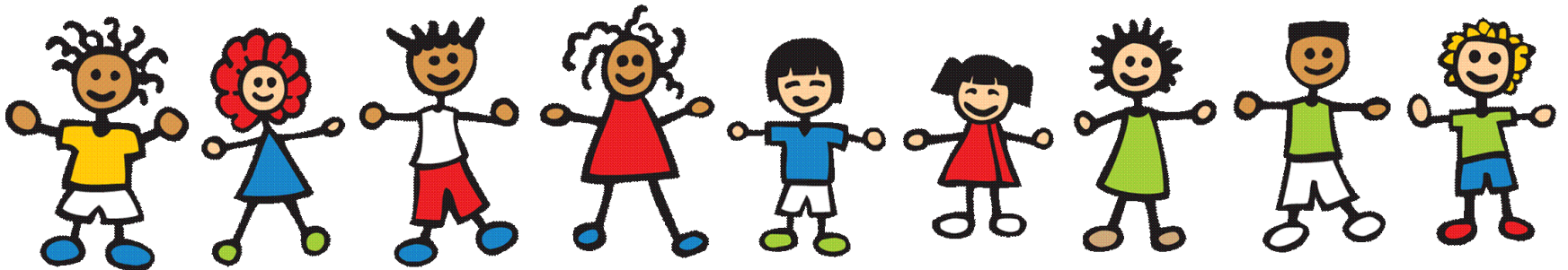


# Newtongrange Primary School

Primary 1 Information Session  
June 2023



"The process of transition occurs over time, beginning well before children start school and extending to the point where children and families feel a sense of belonging to school and when educators recognise this sense of learning".

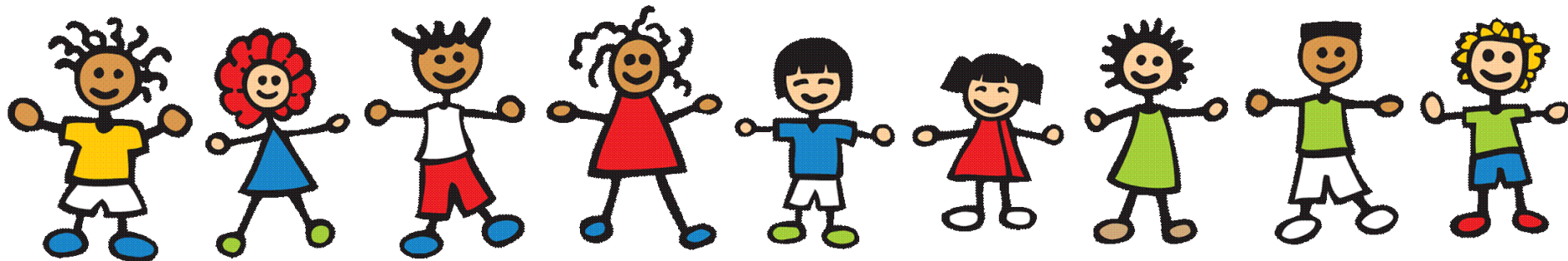


# Plan for this session

- School Information
- Vision and Values
- Staff Team
- Transition
- P7 Buddies
- Curriculum for Excellence
- Play
- School Day
- Start of the Day
- Playtime and Lunchtime
- What to bring
- First Few Days
- Settling in
- Home School Practitioner
- Unwell
- Medication
- Prepare for School
- Payments
- Become involved
- After School Club
- Welcome Packs
- Communication
- Questions

# School Information

- We currently have 15 classes and an ELC setting with a 62 full time spaces.
- School roll - 420
- P1 intake Aug 2022 - 52
- P1 class organisation
  - P1MH - 18 learners
  - P1T - 18 learners
  - P1M - 16 learners



# School Vision and Values



# Meet the Staff Team



Mrs Laura Cameron  
is our Head Teacher



Mrs Sarah Burrell  
and Miss Kerry Dolan  
are our Depute Head Teachers.

We are looking forward to you starting  
Primary 1.

# Our Primary One Teachers are...



Mrs Hannah  
Matheson



Mrs Becca  
Thomson



Mrs Emma  
McDougall



Mrs Laurie  
Harkness

# Key adults are...



Mrs Lynsay Mitchell is our Principal Teacher.



Mrs Sally McGurn is our Principal Teacher.



Mrs Lee Grieve is our Home School Practitioner.



# Key adults are...



Ms Freeland  
Office Admin.



Mrs Hosie  
Office Support



Mrs McMillan  
Office  
Support.

# Key adults are...



## Our Learning Assistants

# Transition



- ELC children are working through our Midmouse project
- ELC and P1 teachers are liaising to share information to ensure a smooth transition
- Our P1 teachers are in touch with Partnership Nurseries to share information and visit



# Transition

- Sessions in ELC
- Visits to Settings
- Phone calls
- Welcome emails
- Meet the Teacher
- Buddies
- Ongoing Midmouse project
- Short video of school will be shared
- Welcome pack and blue bag gift



# P7 Buddies



# Curriculum for Excellence

All children 3-18 in Scotland work through Curriculum for Excellence, our national curriculum.

Your child has already started on their journey in their pre-school placement. There are four levels within CfE and children are expected to achieve the different levels at key stages.

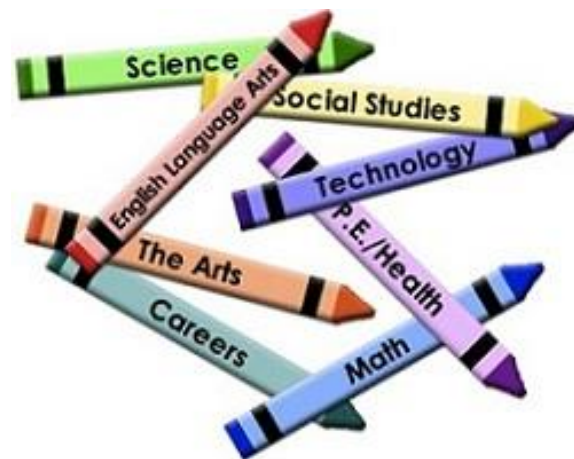
- Early Level                      End of P1
- First Level                        End of P4
- Second Level                      End of P7
- Third/Fourth Level                Secondary 1-3

Teachers use their ongoing professional judgement supported by standardised assessments to determine when a child has achieved the appropriate level.

# Curriculum for Excellence

Children in P1 are working within Early Level:

- Literacy
- Maths and Numeracy
- Health and Wellbeing
- Social Studies
- Science
- Technologies
- Expressive Arts
- RME



# Curriculum for Excellence

The purpose:

- Successful Learners
- Confident Individuals
- Effective Contributors
- Responsible Citizens.



*A well rounded, happy, capable member of society.*



# Curriculum for Excellence



# Play Based Learning

Play is a huge part of our Primary 1 curriculum.

## Why play?

Delivering our curriculum through play has ensured a smooth transition from ELC to school. Play enables our teachers to deliver the curriculum to smaller groups so children are receiving support and challenge at their level.

Children no longer come to school and sit at a desk of their own all day. They are taught in small groups at the teaching table and they are given a 'target' which is a job to reinforce their learning. Children will cover the same curriculum as before, however in a more active and engaging way.



# Play is the way that children naturally learn!

## It is a tried-and-tested way of preparing children to be successful lifelong learners.



# The best practice in early years

International evidence shows that children under the age of seven benefit from an educational approach that supports their all-round physical, emotional, social and cognitive development, rather than pushing them towards early academic achievement.

# Our Focus



# The best practice in early years

sssss..... Slow down !

ppppp..... Pacing !

ttttt..... Time for depth !

- Not changing what we teach - just making sure it is developmentally right for every child and delivered in a way that suits 5 year olds
- S - speed that promotes relaxed, happy children
- P - correct pace for your child, not whole class
- Developing fine motor skills before **handwriting**
- Stories, rhyme and phonics before **guided reading**
- T - time for curiosity and responsive planning

# Primary 1

- 3 areas
- Continuous Provision - classroom areas with a play based approach
- Regular access to the outdoors
- Focus on building relationships
- Child lead
- Pace dependent on readiness of each child

*'We need to make our school ready for your children, not make your children ready for our school.'*

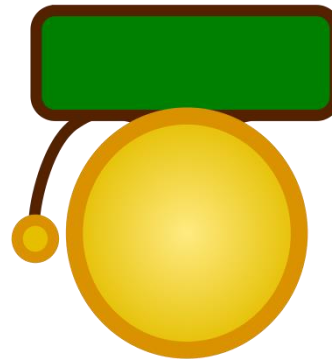
# Our P1 Area





# School Day

School Starts - 8.45am  
Doors open from 8.40am  
School Finishes - 3.10pm  
Friday Finish - 12.20pm



# Where to come in

P1 children enter and exit the school through the door outside the P1 classrooms within the 'wee' playground.

In the mornings, the doors open from 8.40am and staff welcome children in. This is a similar approach to ELC and children do not line up.

The area will be signposted on the first day to help children and adults know where to come in.



# Playtime

Children have a 15 minute break during the morning.

During this time, children can have a snack and play with their friends outside.

P7 Buddies will help them when they are in the playground and teach them new games to play.

Learning Assistants supervise the playground.



# Lunch time



- All children from P1-P5 are entitled to a free meal.
- Lunches are provided by Midlothian Catering services.
- Lunches are supervised by school staff and catering staff.
- The menu is based on a 3 week rotation.
- Menus can be accessed from the school app, school website and council website.
- Please discuss menu choices with your child.
- Children can bring a packed lunch to school. Nut aware school.



# Catering

- Becky and her team
- Cater for allergens
- Vegetarians
- Friday - packed lunch (opt in/out)
- Support children/alternative option



# What should my child bring to school?

- School bag - not too small
- 'Blue bag'
- Gym bag - shorts, coloured t-shirt and gym shoes to keep in school for PE.
- A healthy snack
- Water bottle - no fizzy juice
- Keep toys at home please



# School Uniform

- Grey/Black/ Navy skirt, trousers or shorts
- Royal Blue Sweatshirt
- White or blue Polo Shirt
- Blue summer dress
- PE Kit - shorts, t-shirt and gym shoes.
- Uniforms are available through the website.
- PLEASE label everything!



# First Few Days at School



**The First Day: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

On the first day please bring your child to school, we find it better if Primary 1 learners come in after the other classes.

You should bring your child along at **9.00 am**.

- All children and parents/carers should come to the P1 entrance. You will be met by the class teacher who will take your child and you into the P1 area.
- Children are to be collected at **12:00 noon** on the first day from the playground at P1 entrance.

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

- Your child should arrive between **8.40am and 8:45 am** and come through the P1 entrance.
- Children are to be collected at **12:00 noon** on the first day from the playground at P1 entrance.

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

- Your child should arrive between **8.40am and 8:45 am** and come through the P1 entrance.
- Your child will finish at the same time as the rest of the school on a Friday at 12.20pm.
- By the end of the first week we hope that the children will be able to come through the P1 entrance with the P1 staff team.

**From Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 your child will be in school full time: 8.45am - 3.10pm.**



# First Day

Once in school, children will spend time getting to know their teacher and each other.

Lots of different activities will be set out for the children so they can select what interests them - it could be reading, drawing, house corner, construction, small world etc.

They will start learning classroom routines including:

- Where to put their coats and bags
- Going to the toilet
- Having snack

Parent and carers will be invited into the classroom on the first morning to observe your child settling, take a picture, see their new classroom and briefly meet the class teacher and learning assistant.



# Settling In

- Be patient with your child if they say they don't want to come to school.
- Let us know if there are problems.
- We are always available to listen if there are any concerns.
- If your child is late, please enter the school by the main door and report to the school office.



# Home School Practitioner

- We recognise and acknowledge families can be faced with many different challenges.
- At Newtongrange Primary School we have a HSP who can provide family support.
- Lee Grieve is our HSP and works full time. Families can access Lee for a number of supports.

We can support your family with:

- Family disagreements.
- Parental separation/ Family changes.
- Bereavement, coping with family illness or disability.
- Unemployment, Housing, Universal Credits.
- Health and Wellbeing concerns at school including learning and development and school attendance.
- Family members feeling overwhelmed, low mood, stressed, anxious.
- Family substance misuse or addiction.

# What if my child is unwell?

- Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell
- Telephone the school by 9.00am
- If you don't phone, we will attempt to make contact with you to establish the reason for absence
- If your child becomes unwell at school, a member of staff will contact you to discuss



# What if my child has medication?

- Staff are trained in Emergency First Aid
- Consent form
  - - Regular medication e.g. inhaler
  - - Self-administered medication - see the office staff



# How you can help prepare your child for school ...

Read with your child.

Use a knife and fork.

Play games with them.

Take turns.

Encourage them to use a pencil.

Identify own name and belongings.

Identify numeracy and literacy everywhere.

Get changed independently.

Write their name on everything.

Pack and unpack school bag.

Use toilet independently.

# Payments

- Payment for trips, uniforms etc can be made via Parentpay (preferred option)
- [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)
- Accounts for families new to the school will be set up in August



# How you can get more involved in our school?

Children do their best when families and school work in partnership.

We welcome partnership with families through a number of different ways.

- Support with learning at home
- Sharing the Learning Events including:
  - Stay and Play
  - Sharing the learning
  - Showcase assemblies
- Parent Helper
- Parent Council
- Parent Teacher Association (PTA)



# After School Club



# Welcome Packs

- Information booklet
- School Holidays
- Uniform Order Information
- Home School Practitioner Information
- PTA Letter
- After School Club Letter
- Active Schools Information
- Parksmart Information
- School App
- Parent Pay Letter
- Positive Behaviour Approach
- Button Starts P1

# How to find out more...

We aim to keep you informed throughout your child's time at Newtongrange Primary School.

You can speak to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns - quick chats/ appointments.

You will receive regular newsletters with school updates. Our school website and app is continuously being updated with news and helpful information.

You can follow us on Twitter - celebrating learning and achievements.

SeeSaw - each class has a SeeSaw page.



# Communication

<http://newtongrange.mgfl.net>

@NewtongrangePS

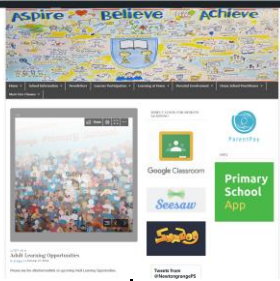






[Newtongrange.PS@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Newtongrange.PS@midlothian.gov.uk)

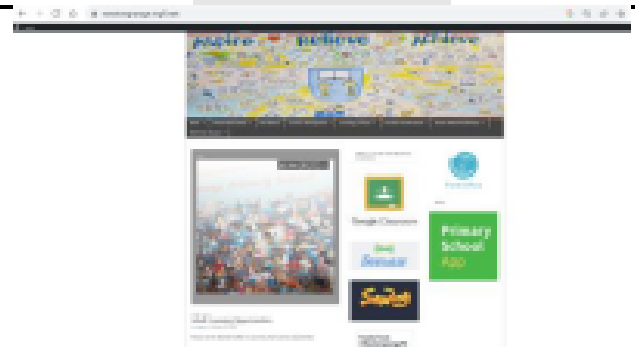
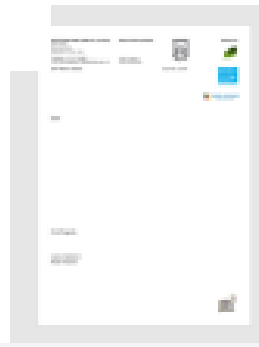
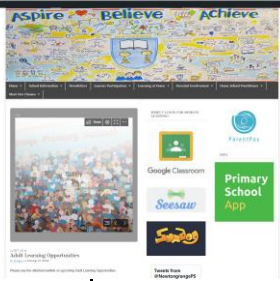
0131 271 4645

Chat to us 😊





Communication Type	What is it used for
	<p>Photos Key events shared Class Learning</p>
	<p>Newsletters Key dates Class information Termly Overviews Reminders</p>
	<p>Learning snapshots for all classes</p>
 Google Classroom	<p>Home Learning P3 - P7 Classwork P3 - P7</p>



Return slips  
Payment required  
Permissions over and above local environment forms

School Documents  
Class Termly overviews  
School Closure Activities

Email - [Newtongrange.PS@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Newtongrange.PS@midlothian.gov.uk)  
Phone - 0131 271 4645

If you would like to speak to the class teacher, the best way to organise this is to email the school and request a call back or to call the office.  
Letters can also be sent into school with children, P1 pupils - notes can be put into blue reading bags with any information for teachers.  
Important Communication will also be sent by email via group call.



We hope your child will be very happy at Newtongrange.

A positive partnership between home and school ensures the best possible educational experience for your child.

We look forward to working with you and your child.



# Questions





# ENJOY!

We would like to wish you a really enjoyable summer and we all look forward to seeing you and your children in August

