



Dalbeattie Primary School
Dalbeattie Learning Campus
Craignair Road
Dalbeattie
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Head Teacher : Mrs E. Duncan

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you all well and that you have had an enjoyable and relaxing summer. It was great to have the children back in school last week and to hear all about their summer holidays. It was also fantastic to see them with their friends again in classes and out in the playgrounds having fun together.

We are now into our first full week of term, and we look forward to a positive year with lots of engaging learning opportunities for all learners across the school.

Please find below some relevant information and reminders for the term ahead and academic session 26/27.



Dates for Diary

10th September Parent Council Meeting - new members welcome.

16th September - P7 Information Evening Dalbeattie High School.

23rd September - Open Afternoon

5th October - P7 Operation Safety

8th October - Sponsored Walks



Start and End of the Day.

School starts at 9a.m and ends at 3p.m for all classes. Gates will be open from 8:45a.m and 2:55p.m Pupils should be dropped off at the school gates and enter the playground independently. Pupils in P1-P3 should be collected at the end of the school day from the playground. Teachers will look for adults to hand children over to from the designated doors. Please look out for your child being released from school at the end of the day and make eye contact or wave to let teachers know you are there. If you are running late or there is a change of circumstance at pick up time, please contact the school office.

P3/4 and P4 will exit from classroom doors in the back playground through the green gate next to the slide. P3 parents should come into the playground to collect young people at the end of the day and are welcome round into the back playground through the gate where teachers will release the children to you.

Following the October break, with parental permission, P3 pupils may be released at home time to walk to meet you further from classroom door or walk home if you would like. Please let teachers know nearer the time about your decision.

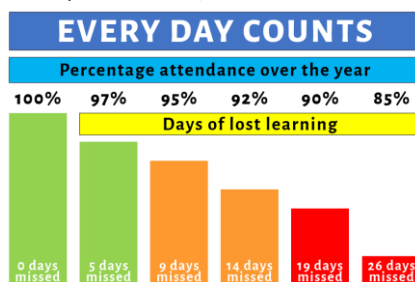
Attendance

We monitor attendance and late arrivals at school on a daily, weekly, monthly and termly basis. Our aim is for all pupils to have attendance of 95% or above. If we start to notice a significant pattern or decline in attendance and it dips below 85%, we will be contacting you about this. If we feel that our attendance officer is also required to offer support, then we will discuss this with you and make possible referrals. Below is a link to an attendance blog that may be of interest to you to support with any challenges you may be facing around your child's attendance at school.

Low attendance can also impact on pupil attainment and future achievements in national qualifications.

[Support your Child's Attendance in Dumfries and Galloway - Website for parents/guardians in Dumfries and Galloway to support attendance and late coming](#)

If your child is going to be absent from school, please make sure you call the office as close to 9a.m as possible or send an email to the school office. If we do not have a reason for your child's absence, then we will send a group call text and email. If we continue to have no contact, then it maybe that we are required to call emergency contacts or police as we will have no awareness of where your child is or their reason for absence.



Breaks :

10:30-10:45 P1-P4

10:45-11:00 P5-P7

We encourage healthy snack options. There is no requirement for huge amounts of food at break times. P1 should have snacks labelled with their name or in a small box as staff collect snacks and store them in boxes for the children to access at breaks. Please do not send snacks in lunch boxes as this often causes confusion for the younger children when we are ordering school meals as they think they are a packed lunch, but they should have ordered a school lunch. Snacks must not be shared as children may have unknown allergies and we do not want any medical emergencies as a result of shared snacks.



Lunches - All classes will have lunch 12:30-1:15. Infants will come to the hall slightly earlier with teachers to support the smooth running of the dinner hall.

Those of you that are already linked to ipay impact please make sure that you have topped up funds if required and order school meal selections online. **Reminder** - **All P1-P5 pupils are entitled to free school meals.** Even if your child brings a packed lunch, please take time to include this on our system as it does help teachers with organisation each morning.

P1 lunches -We are aiming to have ipayimpact details out as soon as possible to set up online ordering.

Link below provides information about applying for free school meals and clothing grants should this be required.

<http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/schoolmenus>



Water Bottles

Please remember to send a filled water bottle labelled clearly with your son/daughter's name to school each day. Pupils can access water dispensers or cold water taps in the school to refill their bottles throughout the school day. We do not provide cups for pupils to use at water dispensers.



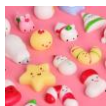
Label Clothes

It is always wonderful to see our children wearing their school uniforms with pride when they come to school. Please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly labeled with your child's name. Many of you will be aware of the amounts of lost property we accumulate over time, and it would help us return items to owners if they were clearly labelled. Any lost property not claimed by the end of each term is gathered up for Rag Bag.

If your child is wearing shoes with laces for school, please make sure they can tie these independently.

Make-Up

There is no requirement for children to wear make-up to primary school. I have already noticed some of our pupils have foundation applied, highlighter on cheeks and thick mascara on eyelashes. Please support us in this and remind your children that this isn't required.



Toys

There is no requirement for children to bring toys, themed cards, squishies etc to school. These cause distractions and can cause unnecessary situations between children if swapped or given to others to play with. Burst squishies can also be hazardous and cause unnecessary issues for teachers and janitors when they have to clean up after a burst. **Please keep all toys at home.** If a pupil does require a fidget toy in class, please speak to class teachers about this.

Annual Data Checks, Emergency Closure Arrangements, Blanket Permission Slip, Digital Photo Consent, IT Agreement and Dojo permission (P1 only)

These were issued to pupils last week and we ask that you take time to read and update/complete as required. Please add in any new medical conditions we need to know about in school. Please also make sure that we have up to date email addresses for main contacts too. We will be continuing to email letters and information out this session. Forms should be returned to class teachers who will then forward to the school office for collating so that we have up-to-date and accurate records.



P.E Arrangements and Information from Mrs Gray

Please find below the times each class have P.E with Mrs Gray our P.E specialist. As well at times with Mrs Gray, the children will also have P.E with their class teachers and these will be shared individually by class teachers on the class dojo page.

Mrs Gray is aiming to be outside for P.E between August and October and children will require outdoor kits and change of clothes and footwear.

Outdoor PE kit = joggers or leggings, t-shirt (not cropped tops or football tops/t-shirts of any team including local ones), sweatshirt and waterproof jacket. Children will be outdoors even in a slight drizzle. A change of footwear and socks is encouraged as well as a change of clothes as we don't want children sitting in damp clothing throughout the school day. Mrs Gray also requests that pupils leave jewellery, especially earrings and chains at home on PE days, and come to school with a full water bottle. Long hair must be tied up for health and safety reasons on PE days. If your child does wear earrings on a PE day, they will be covered with medical tape during the lesson.

Football kits and t-shirts from clubs should not be worn as part of PE kits in school. Please keep these for out of school clubs.

Mrs Gray - times should remain the same all year.

	Mon	Tue
9-10:25/10:45	9-10 P7D	9-10 P5
	10-11 P7C	10-11 P5/6
10:40/11:00-12:30	11-12 P1	11-12 P4
1:15-3:00	1:15-2:15 P1/2	1:15-2:15 P2/3
	2:15-3:00 P6	2:15-3:00 P3/4 PE with Miss K

If pupils have P.E before break times then they may come to school in their P.E kits with a change of clothes/footwear for after the lesson. If having P.E later in the day (after breaktimes), children should come to school in their uniform and will change for P.E at school. Pupils may come home in P.E kits if their lesson is at the end of the day.

If pupils do not bring a full change of clothes for after PE then parents will be contacted about this. We have noticed that many of the children don't change their leggings or joggers from PE. For hygiene and personal comfort reasons children are expected to change.



Contacting Staff

Classes on dojo have been updated and hopefully you all have access to this for your child(ren). Only parents may link to classes on dojo. Please do not share any links with other family members. Anyone that does not have permission to join dojo will be deleted from the app.

If you are not linked, please contact the school office about this. Through dojo you will see what has been happening in school and classes, we will aim to use the calendar on dojo more frequently and share learning on a termly basis.

Please do not email teachers to notify us of pupil absences as these must be reported to the school office each morning before 9a.m. If there are to be any changes or messages throughout the school day, please call the school office with these too. Class teachers will not necessarily be checking dojo messages or emails throughout the day during learning and teaching time.

Our school blog is also still active and you can access school documents on this and Parent Council Information.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/dalbeattieprimaryschoolblog>



Medication

Medication stored in school was sent home with most children before the summer break. If your child requires medication to be administered during the school day, please collect a new medication form from the school office for this. We will require medical forms to be updated on a termly basis and will issue forms as required. We are only able to administer medication that has been prescribed specifically for the pupils by GP, Dr or at a minor ailment pharmacy labelled with pupil name and dosage.

Illness

Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. We are very mindful of viruses and the spreading of germs. We continue to promote handwashing throughout the school day. We follow NHS guidance around diarrhea and sick bugs and children must remain for 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhea.



Hair checks

Although we are just at the start of the school session can I please remind everyone to check children's hair for little visitors on a regular basis. If further advice or information is required about head lice, the school nurse team can be contacted at Gardenhill Medical Centre. The website below also contains useful information.

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/skin-hair-and-nails/head-lice-and-nits/>

Flu Immunisation

We are due to have the immunisation team in school on 5th of November. Forms for this will be issued to children in due course. Please complete as required and return to school.



Car Parking Issues

May I remind everyone that only cars with access badges should be coming into the school car park. There is also no drop-off zone within our car park so please refrain from using the loading bay as such. If new badges are required, please contact the school office by email or phone for a form to complete.

May I also remind everyone about safe and responsible parking on the roads around the Learning Campus particularly on Haugh Road. Being respectful of residents' drives and access to their property is very important and we ask for your continued support with this.



Cycling and Scooting

We are a health promoting school and encourage active travel to and from school. It is always great to see pupils on their bikes and scooters. However, can we ask that electric scooters are not brought to school. Thank you for your support with this.

The playground and pedestrian area is also very busy at drop-off and pick-up times. Children should not be cycling or scooting in these areas. We ask that bikes and scooters are pushed in the school grounds from the yellow bollard. Please discourage pupils from cycling up and down the path next to the nursery if not entering from Haugh Road. If cycling to and from school children **must** wear a helmet.



Mobile Phones

We are unable to store mobile phones in school for children. Please encourage your child not to bring their phone to school unless there are exceptional circumstances. If children do bring phones, they must be switched off as they enter the school playground through the green gates and kept in school bags for the duration of the school day. If anyone is caught using their phone during the school day then we will be applying the same policy as Dalbeattie High School, **see it, hear it, lose it**. If we have to remove a phone from a pupil then parents will be asked to come to the school reception to collect the phone. We are also not responsible for lost or damaged phones should children bring one to school.

Conduct on School Grounds Reminder

Can I remind everyone about conduct when in school grounds/on council property. Any personal disputes or issues should not be brought into the playground or school grounds. Please see below council statement with regards conduct.



I hope everyone has an enjoyable and positive first term and I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with everyone involved with Dalbeattie Primary School.

Kind Regards
Mrs E. Duncan