



# Welcome to Heathhall Primary School



## Primary One Information Booklet



## Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to Heathhall School. The aim of this booklet is to give you some specific information about our school and how you can help your child with early literacy and numeracy skills when they are coming into P1.

### First some general information,

**Schools plan to reopen on Tuesday 11th August 2020. More information on exact start date for your child will be sent out when we have more information.**

Initially your child will be learning about the classroom, school and getting to know each other and the adults who will be caring for them. During the day there will be lots of opportunities for your child to experience learning through play just as they did in the nursery setting.

All P1s will receive a free lunch.

Your child can choose to bring a packed lunch from home. Your child will bring this with them in the morning and it will be kept in the classroom until lunch time.

During the settling in period you may find your child becomes very tired in the late afternoon and early evening. P1 is a big step and it can take several weeks to get used to the new routines.

Early bed times will help your child be at their best and more able to cope with the day.

**School Day Routine (may vary due to Covid -19) Times of school day will be confirmed. Times and days may not be the same for all P1s.**

9am	Day Begins
10.40 - 11am	Morning Break
12.30pm - 1.10pm	Lunchtime
1.10pm - 3pm	Afternoon Session
3pm	End of school Day

You will receive a free school bag which can be used to transport all books, letters and school information. Please use this if you wish to return any information to the class teacher or the school office. Other school bags and pencil cases are not essential for younger children as storage space is limited and we do provide all children with pens, pencils, rulers etc.

## School Uniform

Children will require indoor shoes - black plimsolls/trainers.

Please label all belongings. Remember to name both indoor shoes. Indoor shoes need to fit securely as they are worn in and around school, in the classroom and when taking part in PE in the hall. If your child can't tie laces then velcro is best. Please see uniform leaflet for more information.

## MUGA Kit

Your child will have access to our outdoor Multi Use Games Area for either PE or intervals. For this they require outdoor trainers/long joggers or tracksuit bottoms.

## The First Day

Further information will be given on entering and exiting the school when we receive further guidance on this.

## Speaking to the Teacher

There may not be the opportunity to speak to the class teacher in the morning as access to the school environment will initially be restricted. If there is something to be passed on it is best to write a note in your child's diary. You can also ask for an appointment at the school office, in person or via phone.

## Absence

The protocol for the whole school is the same. If your child is going to be absent please contact the school in the morning for each day of absence. You can contact the school by visiting or by leaving a message on the office answering phone. If we don't hear from you by 9.30am you will receive a text message asking you why your child is not in school. It is your responsibility to call us back or reply to the text.

## Snack

**We are a nut free zone, thank you for your support !**

Please keep snack to one piece. Every day we promote healthy snacks; fruit, vegetables and natural yoghurts. Snack is eaten in the class so this allows you to send snack in containers if need be. Remember to label your child's container with their name.

## Packed Lunches

These are kept in the classroom. Please do not bring glass bottles or fizzy juice and make sure lids are sealed. Help is on hand for children to open things. Lunch menus are sent home at the end of each week for you to fill in with your child. This is to be returned to school on Monday. If your child is a packed lunch then please just write pack lunch on the menu. You will also receive a copy of the school menu to keep at home.

## How To Help Your Child at Home:

In literacy the focus will be on listening, talking, reading and writing.

You can help by asking your child what they did at school.

- The best thing/the worst thing!
- Top 5 for the day.

Listen to their answers and ask other questions. Talk about items of interest/hobbies. Ask your child to relay messages.

In reading the children will be using Synthetic Phonics. They will be learning the 42 sounds associated with reading. You will receive reading books when your child has established a visual memory and the ability to decode (sound out) words. Every child develops this skill at their own pace so please try not to compare your child with other children.

Children will receive sound homework to help develop their confidence. Please read along with your child and encourage them to talk about the pictures and what is happening.

Children will also receive tricky words and key words for learning "Look and Say". Play games with these. Turn them upside down, pick a word, I spy etc. All these approaches build up confidence in learning.

Letter formation will be practised alongside phonic work.

## For all homework

- Find a quiet place and always use praise!
- Choose a good time for you both

Try not to compare your child with others and if you have any questions or concerns, please do contact the school.

Make learning a pleasant and active event.

In maths children learn best when numbers are in a context.

- Sing songs and say number rhymes
- Look for numbers in the environment and talk about them. House numbers, number plates, prices, clocks, weights, phone numbers, calendars.
- Add number apparatus to your child's toy collection– counters, a purse, dice, dominoes, tape measure, ruler, pack of cards, timer, different shapes.
- Shop using real money.
- Play snakes n ladders, darts and other games that depend on counting and calculation.
- Watch and play sports that involve scoring, timing, counting and measuring.
- Invest in some maths puzzle books.
- Look for patterns and shapes on floors, wall paper, plants, animals and buildings.

We have a very useful leaflet that you can get from us in school.

## Water Bottles

Please provide your child with a water bottle (pull up lid) which is taken home each night. Only water can be drunk during learning time so please do not put juice into your child's class water bottle. Your child can have a drink of juice/milk etc at break time and lunch time. In class the children will experience "brain breaks." These are short activities which help the child to continue to focus .

Some children have a concentration time of their age plus 2 minutes. Remember this for homework tasks. The longer you stay at an activity the less likely it is to be completed well. Have a break, a drink and then go back to it.

## Key People for You to Recognise



**Mrs McLean**  
Head Teacher



**Mrs Sloan**  
Depute Head Teacher



**Mrs Little**  
P1/2 Teacher



**Miss Douglas**  
P1 Teacher



**Mrs Thomson**  
Secretary



**Mrs Gowan**  
Secretary



Please join us on our closed group facebook page: **Heathhall School**



Look at our new blog  
<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/heathhallschool/>

## Other People You Will Meet

This is Mrs Murdoch. She is our dinner lady. She takes the orders by visiting your class every day. She is helped in the kitchen to serve your lunch.



We are in the process of appointing a new playground supervisor. They will help us if we need help at play and lunch times.

This is Mr Biggs, he is our janitor and helps all round the school.



## Your Learning Environments in Heathhall



The lunch hall and where we do P.E.  
Great fun!



The front door of Heathhall School.



Our exciting, fun filled playground for all our pupils



A very busy classroom in Heathhall School.