



Welcome to Heathhall Primary School



Primary One Information Booklet



Heathhall School

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 22nd August 2023.

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

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

As a result of consultation with parents we will continue to operate a one way system for entering and exiting the school grounds. All pupils will arrive at 9.15am on their first day only. Pupils should line up with their parents outside the playground pupil entrance gate. This will be opened to allow access at 9.15am into the playground and this will give parents the opportunity to see their child enter into their classroom

Speaking to the Teacher

During the initial first two days of school we encourage parents/carers to help their child build up independence by entering the playground themselves. This means there is no opportunity to speak to the class teacher in the morning in the playground. If there is something to be passed on it is best to message your child's teacher via ClassDojo. You can also phone the school office to leave a message or request an appointment to speak to someone.

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.

Please **do not** use the message facility in ClassDojo to report an absence as class teachers may not pick this up until later in the day.

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.

School Lunches / Packed Lunches

Your child can choose to have a free school lunch or bring a packed lunch from home. Packed lunches 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.

The system to be used to collect your child's choice for lunch is ipayimpact. More information about this will be shared with you at the start of term and until you have access to ipayimpact a lunch can be ordered in the class.

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 Woods
P1 Teacher



Mrs Lynn
P1 Teacher



Mrs Copeland
P1/2 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 helps in the kitchen to serve your lunch.



This is Mr Cummings. He is our playground supervisor and he will help us if we need assistance 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.