



2024 - 2025

Information for Primary 1 Parents



Dear Parents and Carers

We are delighted to have your child joining us in August 2024. Starting school is a very exciting time for every child and at Moniaive Primary School we try to make this experience as easy as possible for both you and your child. We hope this will be the beginning of a long, happy partnership between the school, your child and yourselves.

We aim to provide a positive, stimulating experience for your child during their time at Moniaive. The purpose of this pack is to provide you with general information regarding some of the school's procedures that you need to know once your child starts school. We hope you find this information pack useful. It covers most of the general questions that parents new to our school usually ask:

- Your child's first day.
- Getting ready for school.
- Lunch-time arrangements.
- How to keep in touch.

More information is available in our main handbook and it can be found here <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15500/Moniaive-Primary-School>

We have also recently created a school Blog which can be found here:

[Welcome to Moniaive Primary School's Blog | Learning Lots, learning well, learning together! \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](https://www.glowscotland.org.uk)

If there is any other information you need, please contact the school as we are always happy to help. We are looking forward to working with you and your child to help them achieve their full potential during their time at Moniaive Primary School.

Mr Carter

Partnership Head Teacher

When will my child start school?

The new school year starts on **Wednesday 21st August 2024**. From the first week of school, the children in Primary 1 attend full days.

The First Day:

Wednesday 21st of August 2024.

- On the first day you and your child should arrive at school any time from 9.00am. You are welcome to accompany your child into the classroom when the bell rings at 9.10am.
- Children should be collected at 3.15pm from the main gate where the buses park or from the classroom door.
- Parents and pupils are not to exit via the office gate at the end of the day.
- Children entitled to school transport will be placed on the bus.

How long does the school day last for Primary 1?

School Starts	9.10am
Morning Interval	10.45am – 11.05am
Lunch	12.30pm – 1.15pm
School Closes	3.15pm

What does my child need to wear?

At Moniaive we try to take a sensible attitude to dress, and children are encouraged to wear school uniform as it promotes a sense of pride and identity with the school. We encourage clothing to be labelled clearly with your child's name. Uniform can be purchased from School Trends. www.schooltrends.co.uk Tel: 01142 512501

- Grey/Black/ Navy skirt, trousers, or shorts (no jeans)
- Blue gingham checked dresses (warmer weather)
- Royal Blue Sweatshirt / Hoodie/ Cardigan
- White or Pale Blue Shirt/Polo Shirt

Will my child have PE?

The children will have 2 PE sessions each week. One with our visiting specialist Mr Law and the other with the class teacher. The days and times for these will be confirmed. We ask that pupils wear their P.E. kit to school on these days. This can be a pair of shorts, joggers or leggings, a pair of gym shoes or trainers (slip-ons or

Velcro are easier for them) and a t-shirt and a sweatshirt or hoodie. For health and safety reasons, your child will be asked to remove all jewellery during PE and children with long hair should wear it tied back.

Is there anything else my child needs to bring to school?

Your child will need to carry items to and from school, ideally a reasonably sized school bag, (clearly marked with your child's name). It is important that drinks do not come into contact with reading books. We ask for your support in caring for books, as they are expensive to replace, and regret that we may have to ask parents to pay for damaged or lost books. Your child is provided with pencils etc. in class – however, we do understand that some children may wish to bring their own pencil case which they can use in class. Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their personal belongings.

Labelling

We encourage you to label EVERYTHING with your child's name on it before starting school as things do go astray.

Please try to label:

- all uniform & PE items, including socks / tights
- water bottle
- school bag and a book bag
- shoes / Wellies
- packed lunch bags / boxes

Any items found will be placed in the office, but unfortunately, we can only keep them for a short time. If your child's name is on the item, it will be returned to them. There are many places where you can buy labels online - or you can just buy a labelling pen and write your child's name on everything.

Healthy Snacks Children may like to bring a snack to eat at break. However, the time is limited and a small amount is all that is required. It is unfortunate if children have so much to eat that there is no time left to play. We would encourage healthy snacks that are good for your child and their teeth. It would be helpful if snacks for morning break were brought to school in your child's school bag rather than their lunch box.

Water Bottles We actively encourage children to drink water (not juice) throughout the school day. A drinking bottle (not glass) clearly marked with their name or a mark

which your child will recognise is recommended. Children may refill their bottles from the water fountain and children will take it home daily for washing.

Home Work/Family Learning

At Moniaive Primary, home learning activities are an important part of our home/school partnership and all children are encouraged to take part in a variety of tasks to enhance and support their work in class. This can provide valuable opportunities for parents and children to work in partnership and to share and enjoy learning experiences. We will send out termly learning leaflets to let you know what your child will be learning and how you can help them at home. We will also provide opportunities for you to come into school to see how we teach phonics, reading and numeracy strategies

How is information shared between school and home?

We use 'group call' as our main methods of communication. Termly newsletters are emailed out to inform you of current learning.

We also encourage families to check school bags daily and return any slips as soon as possible. However, recently we are trialling Microsoft Forms as a means of paper free communication!

If you have any general queries please contact the school office on 01848 200328 or gw08officemoniaive@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

If you have any concerns about your child please contact the class teacher by using Just2Easy or ask for an appointment.

What happens at interval time? Interval is from 10.45 – 11.05 a.m. All children go outside to play at this time. All of the children play together from P1 right up to P7. During playtime your child's Primary 7 buddies will support them in the playground. The children have worked together to create a weekly playground rota with different games. Please ensure your child has suitable outdoor clothing as, unless it is very wet, we go outside. During the morning interval and lunchtimes, the playground is supervised.

What happens during a wet interval? Your child will stay in their classrooms during very wet weather. Our Learning Assistant and P7 Buddies will supervise them. We advise against bringing toys to school, particularly electronic handheld games or other valuable toys, as we cannot be responsible for their safekeeping.

What will my child do at lunch-time? Children in P1-5 are entitled to free school meals.

For the 1st week the P1 teacher will order your child's lunch in the class. This is because the Catering Department cannot update their system till the P1 pupils start

school. Once they have been 'marked' on the register you will be sent all the information on how to login and their unique code to start ordering their lunches after the 1st week.

If at any time they do not like what they have ordered, they can change it for the other option available on the day with their teacher.

Lunch-time is currently from 12.30 p.m. - 1.15pm

The children can choose:

- To have a school meal.
- Bring a packed lunch.

School lunches are served in the dining room, there will be a member of staff on duty at this time. As we are a Health Promoting School, we ask that you provide a healthy packed lunch for your child.

Why is attendance important?

What if my child is unable to attend school or is going to be late to school?

What if my child has got to go to the dentist or doctor in school time?

It is your responsibility as parents to ensure that your child/children attend school regularly. For the safety of all children, it is important for you to telephone the school office prior to/at the beginning of the absence. Or you can email the office or send a Group Call, please do not send absences on Just2Easy. Absences are recorded in class registers and frequent or irregular absences not supported by a reasonable excuse, will be notified to parents and the matter may be referred to the Opportunities for All Service. If possible, please, try to make dental/medical appointments outwith school hours. However, if this is not possible, please inform us in writing or by telephone of the appointment and arrange to collect your child from class. More information: www.dumgal.gov.uk

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea please keep them at home for 48hrs after their last incident. That way he/she is less likely to pass on any germs to the rest of the class – or the teacher!

What happens if my child becomes unwell at school? If your child becomes unwell at school and needs to go home, we will phone you or your emergency contact to ask you to come and collect them. Please keep us informed of any change of your contact details, especially mobile phone numbers.

What happens if my child has an accident at school? Accidents can happen in the playground or in school. You will be informed of minor bumps and scrapes by a note sent home at the end of the day. If the injury is more serious, you or your emergency contact will be informed by telephone.

What are our behaviour expectations?

In collaboration with pupils, parents, staff and partners we created our Better Relationships, Better Behaviour, Better Learning Policy. Our Anti-bullying Policy was updated in November 2022 in conjunction with pupils and staff. Please ask the school office if you would like this sent to you. These will be regularly reviewed and revisited with children at Assemblies, Circle time and Health and Wellbeing activities.

We aim to promote positive behaviour and responsibility in all our pupils and reward this through a variety of reward systems such as House Points, certificates and stickers. This work is supported by our Rights Respecting School work, we were recently awarded Gold status from UNICEF.

Success in children's learning is recognised at Assemblies. Each class will share their learning at an Assembly for parents at least once throughout the session.

Mrs Clanachan