



Ready for School



Crookfur Primary Parent & Carers Guide to P1

(written by parents for parents)

Crookfur Primary Parent & Carers Guide to P1

So, it's finally here. School! You remembered to enroll (didn't you?!), checked the term start date, tissues in pocket and are good to go. But wait! Before you and your little P1-to-be set forth into school life....



You will need:

- **School uniform** – The uniform policy is on the school website [here](#). There is no need to wear Crookfur badged uniform. If you do want badged items, you can get items from shops such as Schoolwear Made Easy or Stevensons. Uniform consists of either white shirt and Crookfur tie or a red polo shirt. This should be worn with a grey or red V-neck jumper or cardigan and grey trousers, shorts or skirt. School shoes should be black. Many people buy a blazer, but this isn't essential. A waterproof coat is definitely essential though as children spend lots of time learning outdoors. Do measure your child if you are ordering a blazer (even better – try someone else's on for size). Note: Ideally the children do their own shoes/zips etc. so think carefully before buying those lace ups.
- **Wellies** - Unless you really enjoy cleaning school shoes caked in mud every night from October to March! Wellies are kept at school.
- **Indoor shoes** – children need a pair of black trainers or plimsolls for gym. If they are wearing boots to school in winter, they may change into these shoes at school for comfort.
- **PE kit** – P1 usually don't change for PE for the first few weeks. PE kit is a red tshirt and black shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms. Due to the current COVID restrictions, children have been going to school in PE kit + trainers on their PE days to avoid changing in school and this might continue in August.
- **School bag** – mainly used for a water bottle, break-time snack and homework.
- **Writing equipment** – school provides all necessary. But who doesn't like a new pencil case and some nicely sharpened pencils? Also handy to have for that all important homework!
- **Water bottle** – all children encouraged to bring a named bottle filled with water. This should return home daily. Can refill in school.
- **Packed Lunch box** – if required, however, with free school lunches for p1-3 many children take school lunches. An icepack is a good idea to include and keep everything fresh.

Label everything – yes, really. **Everything**. Stick on, sew on, iron on.... Or (very effective, and hold your head high) biro.



And you're off.....Are you walking, cycling or driving?



School Travel Plans

- **Park in Eastwood High School in a marked bay (NEVER the bus lane), cross to the high school side at a zebra crossing and walk across to Crookfur with lollipop lady (June). The Crookfur car park is for STAFF only, unless you are a blue-badge parking permit holder.**
- **Bikes and scooters** – can be secured in the storage areas at the cycle track

The School Day

Getting into school



P1 children enter the school through the P1 door (formally nursery entrance) where they are greeted by staff. All other children enter through the main school entrance. There have been some changes to school start/finish times due to COVID, but it is expected that school will revert to 9am to 3.15pm from August.

0850 First Bell – doors open for a “soft start”. Children can enter, hang up coats/bags and get settled.

0900 Second Bell – you’re late! Walk of shame to the school office if the P1 door is shut. The office ladies are lovely and will assist getting any wee ones to class.

On the first day of school the timings will be slightly different with a later start however you will be informed about this during the induction sessions in May/June time.

There is always a teacher at the door who can help with a quick query and there is an open-door policy if you would like to speak to the teacher directly, you just need to contact the office to get a message to the teacher SchoolMail@crookfur.e-renfrew.sch.uk or 570 7120.

Break time

1040-1055

- Snack – Put in school bag, separate to lunch box. Ideally something healthy e.g. carrot sticks, oatcakes. Or, you know, crisps. However, no nuts- Crookfur is a nut free school! Children are not allowed to share snacks. In P1, they will have their snack in the classroom before going outside to play.
- Make sure they have a waterproof as will generally play outside. A blazer may be insufficient.
- P1 play in the MUGA (multi-use games area) sports pitch most days. They also have their own playground area.

Play Time

- Be aware – ALL P1's come home and report that they didn't play with anyone. This is not true. The adults in the playground (members of school management, pupil support assistants and the janitor) look out for the children and organize games to ensure nobody is left out. The pupil support assistants or classroom assistants/teacher helpers work with the teaching staff and in the playground to look after the children.
- If children fall in the playground, they will also be looked after by a staff member who will apply a wipe and plaster and will probably need a good clean when they get home. Anything worse children will be sent to the school office and a phone call to the parent/carer if required. A letter will be sent home in the child's school bag if they have had a significant bump/injury at school. There is also a small supply of underwear/spare clothes in case of any 'toilet accidents'.
- P7 prefects also help with games.
- Tuck – you will hear rumours about playtime tuck. P1 and P2 are not encouraged to go but it is available in the dining hall and is paid for via ParentPay like school meals are once you reach P4.

Lunch

1235-1335

Hot lunch

- Free! Menus available via [East Ren website](#) on a three weekly cycle.
- Pupils are helped to choose in class in the morning and are given a coloured wristband to wear indicating their choice for that day.
- It is really helpful, especially in the first few weeks if you've gone through the menu with them in advance.
- Sylvia, the kitchen supervisor, is wonderful and will always make sure the children have something that they will eat. She is also great with dealing with any food allergies.
- P1 are first to lunch room and are seated and served. Bread and vegetable sticks are in the centre of the table. Children are supported and encouraged (but not compelled) to eat up.
- P1's are still welcome to "go pack". Children eating packed lunches now sit at the same table to those eating school lunches – for a while they sat separately.
- After lunch is all eaten up it's out to play. If the weather is truly awful then it is "wet play", and they will be supervised inside.



Schools out

1515

- Collect from P1 door at 3.15, where dropped in the morning.
- Children are not allowed to leave unless collected by an adult – so don't panic if you are 2 mins late. (Although – don't be!) They will be taken to the office to wait if you are very late.
- Later in year you may be allowed to make arrangements with the teacher for older siblings to collect or the children to go down the hill themselves – but not yet!
- Last day of term school is out 14:30 (except summer holidays at 1pm). This will not be sprung upon you make sure the school has all your up to date contact info as you will receive helpful reminders through text and email! School holiday dates can be found on the [ERC website](#).
- P.S. It's a full day in school from the get go so expect some grumpy, tired children for the first couple weeks – but they get used to it quickly!



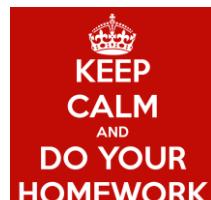
School life

Absence – see also [here](#)

- Planned absence e.g. dentist, email the office SchoolMail@crookfur.crnfrew.sch.uk They should be collected from the school office at relevant time.
- Unplanned absence e.g. illness, phone 0141 570 7120 or email the office before 9.15am and let them know (or they will phone you!).

Homework

- P1 children usually start homework after the September weekend
- Consists of language and maths. And some specials.
- Given on a Tuesday, back on a Monday
- Should be 10-15 mins per evening. Genuinely. Teachers are very supportive about this. Speak to them if it is taking longer and turning into a drama.
- Homework bag - provided by school.
- Library books – chosen and returned weekly also in a bag provided by the school.



ParentPay

Although you won't pay for school lunches in P1, the school operates a cashless system, so any payments e.g. for school trips need to be made through the [ParentPay system](#).

Jotters' home

Your child's jotters and worksheets will be sent home periodically for you to see what they are learning and provide a comment on improvements you note. You'll get these to keep at the end of the year.

Communication

The [school website](#) is a key source of information about what's happening, everything you need to know about school life is on there. The [school calendar](#) is excellent for pre-planning to support parent workshops and be aware of key events such as parent/carer evenings and school shows! There is also a [Twitter feed](#) which you can follow.



Another fantastic way to find out what is happening in the classroom is to follow the [P1 class blog](#) which is updated every week on the website and gives you information on what the class are working on and has input from different children each week.

In addition, the office will sent out texts, emails and newsletters. These are communications about the general life of the school. Please make sure the office has your correct email address and mobile phone number as a lot of communication is sent out this way. Any whole school communication will also be posted by the Parent Council on their [Facebook page](#).

Assessment



Teachers are constantly assessing your child's performance. Communication regarding your child in particular comes via sending school jotters home, parent/carer evening and reports. You can find more information in this [parent guide](#) to Assessment.

If you want to get in touch with your teacher, there is always a space in the homework diary to write a note for the teacher. Or you can contact the office to arrange to talk with you teacher or, if needed, a member of the Senior Management Team (Mrs Jamieson for P1).

Getting involved

- **Parent council:** The Parent Council is composed of three elected members per stage and meets regularly with school management. The Head Teacher acts as professional adviser to the Council. The Parent Council meet around six times a year in the evenings. The Parent Council have a number of duties and responsibilities. Parents/carers can find out more about the work of the parent council [here](#). The Parent Council has an active [Facebook Page](#) where school communications are posted. You can contact the Parent Council through your Parent Council year-group representative or via email CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com
- **Coffee & chat** – The Parent Council and the school organise coffee & chat sessions for parents each term to allow you the change to speak to other parents and school staff in an informal setting. Younger children are very welcome at these events. Grandparents or other carers are also very welcome.

- **Fundraising & social group:** There is a very active and successful Fundraising Group, which organises events for children and adults. These events can be used to raise money, which is used to benefit the pupils. Again opportunities to get involved will be at the start of term. There is usually a P1 disco in September.
- **Diversity Group:** This group looks at equality and diversity matters and encourages inclusion within Crookfur.
- **Parent helpers:** There are lots of opportunities to get involved and support the school. These can be as simple as supporting parent workshops and events by the Fundraising Group to assisting on class trips to helping organize and prepare wall displays at a suitable time – more information will come your way ☺

Last but most of important of all enjoy this exciting time and welcome to Crookfur Primary!



OTHER USEFUL LINKS

School holiday dates <https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/school-holidays>

Car Parking guide <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Crookfur/parents/car-parking-information/>

Free school meals and clothing grant information
<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals>