



Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020

## Transition information for Primary 1 Session 2020-21

Dear Parent/ Carer

We are delighted to welcome you and your child into Giffnock Primary School and our school community. Some of your children already attend our nursery class and therefore already know all about our 'Giffnock Family', a sense of community which we take great pride in. More than ever in these difficult times, our shared responsibility, trust and compassion for one another are paramount in all that we do.

We know that you and your child will have begun thinking about the move into Primary 1 and we are aware that you will have a number of questions about the arrangements ahead, in particular given the current closure of primary school premises in Scotland. We hope therefore that this letter will begin to answer some of these questions, with further communication and clarification to follow as we move through the coming weeks.

### **June Induction experiences and information:**

Ordinarily, we would be inviting you into school to meet the Senior Leadership Team, our new Primary 1 teachers and other friendly faces who you will get to know much better in the months ahead, as well as to experience practical aspects such as school lunches. This would usually be a time where you and your child together would be welcomed into Giffnock Primary. Given the current position we are planning to share as much as we can and will continue to adapt these plans as necessary, taking full consideration of national guidance regarding health & safety measures.

Following further clarity from both the Scottish Executive and East Renfrewshire Authority last week, we are delighted to be able to plan a transition visit during June for all of our children who will be entering Primary 1 in August. **These visits will happen during the week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> June.** This session will be a chance for your child to visit their new classroom, to meet their new teacher and to have a look within the school. **These visits will be planned in small groups of around six children and will last for about one and a half hours. Health & Safety guidance will be carefully adhered to, which unfortunately means that parents/ carers will not be able to come into the school and will have to remain outside of the school gates during this time.**

For some of our children, and given the lockdown restrictions that have been in place for us all, we know that this could feel an anxious and unusual situation but we will do all that we can to support them. A member of the Senior Leadership Team will also be there to welcome the children as may, where possible, Child Development Officers from other nursery establishments who would provide a friendly face for those children coming to our school for the first time.

During the visit, there will also be a chance to receive any necessary paperwork, along with getting a school homework bag and tie. Having only had our final Primary 1 lists confirmed at the end of last week, we are still in the process of finalising names and arrangements for these transition visits; further information will therefore follow over the next week in order to provide for you the exact times and details.

**In addition to these visits and during the week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> June, we will also be organising a second visit for our existing Giffnock Nursery Class children.** As we are unable to have a Nursery Graduation as usual, we intend to organise another short visit, within which some of our Nursery Class team will be there to say the best 'goodbyes' that are possible at this time. Unfortunately, parents/ carers will again not be able to attend. Further information on this will also follow shortly.

Our sharing of transition information with other nursery classes has been ongoing for many weeks now, so that we can get a great start point in knowing all about our new Primary 1 children. We are also preparing additional information that we will be sharing with you in the coming weeks as we normally would at this time, including teacher names and class details. However, as a start point and if you have not done so already, we would recommend going on to our school website where you will be able to find a wide range of information about life at Giffnock Primary:

[Giffnock Primary School Website](#)

[Transition to Primary 1](#)

Our school twitter feeds will also give you an enjoyable, visual perspective for life at Giffnock:

[Giffnock Primary School Twitter feed](#)

[Giffnock Primary Nursery Class Twitter feed](#)

**Primary 1 transition project:**

All of the nursery children in our local area who will be moving on to Primary 1 have been enjoying our 'Going on a Bear Hunt' transition project, which will continue over the coming weeks. We hope that this is proving both fun and engaging, and additional details will continue to be shared through our school website and Twitter feed as above.

If you have any other questions or issues that you would like to discuss further at this time, please do not hesitate to contact the school via our main email address: [schoolmail@giffnock.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@giffnock.e-renfrew.sch.uk). Our Principal Teacher Mrs. Judy Brown will be overseeing Primary 1 and will remain a good person for your contact and support in the year ahead.

Despite all of the challenges and uncertainty in the world around us, we remain very excited to get to know all of our new families properly and I am confident that our planning will support our children as best as possible down the exciting road that lies ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Rob Lawson  
Head Teacher