

parentsportal.scot

Dear Parent/Carer

As you know we are always keen to improve how we communicate and engage with you during your child's time at school. Part of that is to use digital to facilitate exchanges about your child with you and generally about the school. The aim is to enrich our dialogue with parents/carers to help us all improve your and your child's experiences of school. I am delighted to let you know that East Renfrewshire schools are at an important stage that will advance digital engagement.

We have been working for the last year with national partners to provide parents/carers with access to a range of digital services. This will be taken forward through Parentsportal. I write to let you know of the services and ask that you undertake the few simple steps explained later in this letter so that you can take part. I would highlight that during the challenging times that the Covid-19 pandemic has brought to us all, this new digital provision will be particularly helpful.

The portal is designed to replace the 'schoolbag run' and also reduce paper transactions, which at the moment create challenges over distributing and returning to schools. The portal gives parents online access to a range of school-related services. At the heart of the system is a secure online account through **mygov.scot** which is referred to as a '**My Account**'.

This is an exciting first phase of a new initiative which enables and creates a digital relationship between parents, pupils and schools. With almost all parent having digital access either through the web or a mobile phone, we expect that uptake will be high. It will let you as a parent to view information, update details and transact at a time that suits you.

Initially this new service will introduce basic information about your child's school and will allow you to:-

- As part of signing up for the service, the verification stage linking your child to you.
- view school calendar and events
- view your child's class timetable (for pupils in secondary school)
- view your child's attendance
- complete the annual data check process electronically when issued
- update your own as well as your child's details at any time (**Please note that schools will still require address evidence before they will authorise any change.**)
- access online school payments without having to login separately to ParentPay.
- access your child's report card online (available soon initially for secondary schools)
- move easily between individual children in a family at different schools without the having to log back into the system.

As the product develops we look forward to seeing more services including an absence reporting service and links to parents evening booking systems. Additional services are being developed to provide further insight to your child's education.

Before attempting to register with **myscot** account and Parentsportal I would strongly encourage you to watch the videos on the webpage (url below) as the process, while not complicated, requires multiple steps. In order to link to your child, the data you provide during the sign up process **must** match the most up-to-date data that your child's school holds To access **parentsportal.scot**, please scan the QR code or click on the link below:-



<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/parentsportal>

On signing up to the portal, you will be able to link to your child and gain access to the above named services which are currently available. The Education Department has an agreed planned roll-out approach to manage adoption of the new service. This started with secondary schools and now that is complete it is being rolled out to primary schools. Please note that due to other developments that are underway nationally, Parentsportal is not available to early year learning and childcare establishments at this stage.

Your request to link your primary aged child would normally be approved within 5 working days and if you sign up immediately we will endeavour to authorise your link by the end of term on 26th June. If you sign up after this date your link will not be authorised until August. We would be grateful, however, if as many people as possible could sign up to the portal during the summer holidays as we hope that Parentsportal and its services will become an integral part of you and your child's school experience from the start of the new term in August 2020.

If you have any difficulty in linking your child to your account, you should either telephone (0141 570 7180) or email the school (schoolmail@giffnock.e-renfrew.sch.uk) before 26th June. After this date could you please leave your enquiries until the school office re-opens in August as the school email is unmonitored during the holidays.

Yours sincerely

Rob Lawson

Head Teacher

Step 1
Create myaccount at Parentsportal.scot
Register with your email and follow instructions on screen.



Step 2
Activate your account by clicking on the link sent to your email



Step 3
Sign in to Parentsportal.scot. Accept terms and conditions and proceed.
Link child by clicking button



Step 4
When you have linked your child(ren) the school will be required to verify your account.