



# WELCOME TO BLAIRDARDIE PRIMARY SCHOOL



AN INFORMATION BOOKLET  
FOR PARENTS & CARERS  
2020-2021

# WELCOME TO BLAIRDARDIE PRIMARY

The Headteacher of Blairdardie Primary is Mrs Alison Pears. The Depute Head Teacher with responsibility for the Early Stages is Mrs Arlene McCallum. Mr Mark Young is our other Depute Headteacher who has responsibility for children in primary 4 -7.

We all look forward to working in partnership with you to help provide the best possible education for your child.

If you have any concerns or queries once your child has started school please contact the school office and we will arrange to call you back. You can also e-mail us at [headteacher@blairdardie-pri.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@blairdardie-pri.glasgow.sch.uk) Our telephone number is 0141 -944 - 1462.



Starting school is a big step in both children's and parents' lives. At Blairdardie we will try to make this a happy time for you and your child. As pupils return to schools following lockdown we have planned a recovery programme that means that things are a little different from usual. We have put measures in place in line with Scottish Government advice that mean that both children and staff are safe. Details of some of these can be found overleaf.

## NEW ARRANGEMENTS

As you will no doubt be aware that due to us being in the recovery phase of the pandemic, schools have had to put social distancing measures in place. This means children will be taught by blended learning - a combination of learning in school and virtual learning at home. Children will attend school on 2 days each week and be set tasks to complete at home for the remainder of the week. During their time in school they will be in a 'bubble' - a small group of children who will learn and play together. Each child will have their own desk and a tray containing their own resources.



The arrangement means that some 'bubbles' will attend school on a Monday and Tuesday whilst others will attend on a Thursday and Friday.

Details of which days your child will attend are included with this information booklet. Siblings will attend on the same days.

I have also included a sheet that may help you to explain 'bubbles' to your child.

## Playtimes

We are lucky to have a large playground with many activities for our children. Primary one will have a specific area to play in.

Our Pupil Support Assistants supervise the many playground areas.

## Lunchtimes

At lunchtime children can either obtain a lunch at the Fuelzone or bring in a packed lunch. All children in P1-4 are entitled to a free school meal. **Due to social distancing measures all children will eat their lunch in their class area at present.**



All children are entitled to free milk at lunchtime.

## Breakfast Club

Blairdardie Catering Staff usually operate "The Big Breakfast Service" as part of Glasgow City Council's scheme to offer all school children in Glasgow a breakfast service prior to the school day commencing.

The current charge for this service is £2 per day for the oldest child in a family and then £1 for siblings (unless free meals entitlement applies).

Breakfast is usually served from 8.00 - 8.45am.

Pupils in primary one and two are then supervised until just before the start of the school day when they are escorted to join their class.

**\*Unfortunately due to the current situation the number of children who can attend breakfast club will be limited. Applications to attend will be available soon from Glasgow City Council. Please keep checking our Twitter and website for updates.**



## Blairdardie Primary is a Health Promoting School

You may wish to send in a snack for your child. In primary one these are eaten in class. We operate a one snack policy. As part of our commitment to health promotion we would ask that you do not send in fizzy drinks, chocolate or sugary sweets. Water is the preferred option. Please note that due to a number of children and staff having severe allergies we are a nut free zone.



## Water

Research has shown that drinking water is very important in assisting learning. Please send in a bottle with a pop-up top full of fresh water each day with your child.



Please do not send in flavoured water or diluting juice.

## Uniform

Our school uniform consists of a white shirt/polo shirt with tie, grey trousers/skirt, blue school jumper/cardigan and black outdoor shoes. Children also need a pair of indoor shoes (preferably black gym shoes - available from school office) to change in to.

Shorts and a t-shirt for PE and dance lessons are also needed.

Our uniform is available to purchase online at

**[www.schoolwewearmadeeasy.co.uk](http://www.schoolwewearmadeeasy.co.uk)**.

To order select the Badged School Wear Option at the top of the home page and then select Blairdardie Primary from the alphabetical list.

Orders are delivered free of charge directly to your home address.

(Please see attached letter with details of our more relaxed approach to uniform at the moment).

## Injuries

If children fall or are hurt at school, or indeed feel unwell they are attended to by a member of staff. Mrs Cameron - Lunn is our trained first aider. If it is felt necessary we will contact a parent or emergency contact to come and collect the child.

Children are supervised until they can be collected.



## Appointments

If your child has an appointment for the doctor, hospital or dentist at the start of the school day please call the absence line. We operate a "sign-out book" for children being taken out of school before the end of the school day so please call at the school reception and your child will be brought to you.

## Medication

If your child has prescribed medication or an inhaler, that is necessary to be administered during school hours, this can be arranged. You are required to complete a "permission for medication" form before we can do this. This applies to both long and short term medication. It does, however, have to be prescribed medication. If this applies to your child please contact our school office in the first instance. **Due to current restrictions if at all possible medicine should be administered at home.**



## Health Checks

There are periodic Health Checks throughout Primary School: e.g. height and weight for primary one children. These are carried out by the school nursing team and who work closely with the school. You will be informed of this checks in advance.

## Oral Health

As part of the Childsmile programme children in Primary 1 and 2 are usually involved in the toothbrushing programme. Unfortunately this has been put on hold at the moment. We will send further details as they become available.



## Keeping in Touch

Please keep information coming to us.

- Change of address, telephone number, e-mail address and emergency contact.
- New Doctor.
- Any additional medical information that we should know about.



## Newsletters and Events

There will be a monthly newsletter keeping you up to date with school events. These are sent by e-mail. Paper copies are also sent.

## Absences

**The pupil absence reporting line** has been created to provide an efficient flexible way for parents/carers to report absence.

**Please phone the dedicated absence team on 287-0039 to report the following absences:**

**Sickness absence:** If the absence lasts more than one day, parents and carers are required to call on subsequent days to provide an update. A letter should be provided to the school when the child returns from their absence.

**Medical or dental appointments:** Parents and carers should call the team to report absences for medical or dental appointments. The school requires a letter or appointment card as evidence of the appointment to ensure permission is given to be absent from class.

**Please phone the school directly to report the following absences:**

To make sure you receive the right support you require, parents and carers should still contact the school directly to report absences of a sensitive or personal nature, for example: bereavement, serious illness, injury (for example a broken limb), contagious diseases or illness.

**The pupil absence service is provided by a dedicated team of experienced Education support staff. The information you provide to the team is updated in the school system when you call, so the school is immediately aware of all absence.**

## SOME IMPORTANT POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND

- Please put your child's name on everything. Coats/jackets, jumpers, indoor and outdoor shoes, etc. You would be amazed at the amount of items lost daily!
- Please make sure your child can use the toilet and wash their hands independently and effectively.
- For P.E your child will need a tee shirt and shorts. These should be brought to school at the beginning of the session in a named gym bag. They will be sent home regularly for washing. **(Please note that during the start of session 2021 due to social distancing measures children will not change for PE)**
- Money sent to school is always safer in a purse or envelope.
- When buying a schoolbag buy one that is big enough to hold an A4 homework folder without bending it. If it is a rucksack style, it should fit comfortably over your child's shoulders on top of their outdoor clothing.
- Always check your child's school bag for letters/messages from school. Children often forget to deliver these.
- Tired children find it difficult to enjoy school. Ensure that your child is having sufficient sleep at night.
- Please ensure that your child is on time for school. Children who arrive late miss valuable teaching as well as causing a disturbance to the rest of the class. If you should arrive late, please enter the school building by the main entrance and **report to the school reception.**
- Children worry if they have to wait for you at the end of the school day. Please ensure that you are on time when collecting your child.

# And Finally.....

## GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

Some of the following are things that would help your child's transition to school run more smoothly for everyone involved.

### CAN YOUR CHILD?

1. Dress and undress themselves
2. Remove their coat, hat, gloves etc. & hang them up.
3. Remove and put on their shoes by themselves
4. Use the toilet and flush after use.
5. Wash and dry their face and hands.
6. Use a knife and fork.
7. Tidy/Clear away their toys.
8. Use a tissue to wipe their nose.



We hope you find the information in this booklet useful. Remember a partnership between parents and school is the key to ensuring that your child's seven years with us is a positive and happy experience.

We look forward to welcoming your child to Blairdardie Primary in August.