



# **Pilmuir Primary School**



## **Starting School Information for Parents and Carers August 2021**



Welcome to Pilmuir Primary School. We hope that settling in to our school will be a happy experience for everyone – your child, you as a parent or carer and for the staff who will be working with your child.

This booklet will hopefully give you some ideas of how you as a parent or carer can help your child come along to school ready to enjoy him/herself from the first day. We are still unsure exactly what school is going to look like in August, but we will keep in contact with you and share more information as we have it. The information in this booklet is based around what our normal school day is like.

Our helpful staff and pupils will guide your child through their early days and be on hand to support them with the new places and routines.

### **School Times**

Below are current school times, these will be reviewed and updated.

9:00am – 10:15am	Learning Time
10:15am – 10:30am	Morning Break
10:30am – 12:15pm	Learning Time
12:15pm – 1:00pm	Lunchtime
1:00pm – 2:15pm	Learning Time
2:15pm – 2:30pm	Afternoon Break
2:30pm – 3:15pm	Learning Time



### **Parents Visiting**

Please enter using the main door. You will be able to let someone in the office know you are here. During COVID we ask that you phone school prior to coming in.



**School Phone Number** 01309 673034

## Parking

Our school car park is for Blue Badge holders and deliveries and is not a dropping off zone, we ask that you do not park here. Please park safely thinking of our neighbours and remembering that there are always small children around. Thank you for your cooperation with this.



## Some Frequently Asked Questions

- **When does my child start school?**

The new school year starts on Tuesday 17th August 2021. Primary 1 children are in school for the whole school day until 3:15pm.

- **What happens on the first day they come to school?**

Your child will start at 9:15am, this will allow all other class lines to be admitted to school and we will be able to help your child to line up. Following current guidance, parents will not be able to enter the school grounds.

- **What will my child need on the first day?**

- o A smile!
- o A plastic bottle filled with water
- o A small healthy snack



**All of your child's belongings should be labelled with their name, including clothes and shoes.**

- **Where will I collect my child?**

Parents should wait outside the playground, alongside the wall. The class teacher will ensure each child is reunited with their adult.

- **What happens if my child takes ill at school?**



- We will contact you immediately.
- If we cannot reach you, we will contact your emergency contact. Please keep all contact numbers given to the school up to date, particularly mobile phone numbers.
- Your child will be supervised until an adult comes to collect them.
- If your child has an accident at school, it may be necessary to take him/her to the medical centre or hospital. We will contact you so you can go there directly.

- **What if my child has a medical condition?**

- Please speak to the school about any aspect of your child's health which may concern you.
- If your child requires medication to be administered in school, then you must complete the relevant forms which can be obtained from the school office.
- Please do not send your child to school with medicine and a note of instructions as the medicine cannot be administered.

- **What if my child has an appointment?**

- Please inform the school office beforehand.
- No child is allowed out of school during the school day unless they are collected by an adult.
- If you are collecting your child at playtime or lunchtime, please report to the office and a member of staff will collect your child.

- **What if my child is absent from school?**
  - If your child is unable to attend school, please telephone or email the school before 9:15am. If we do not receive contact from you to confirm, your child is safe at home, we are required to contact the police to conduct a safe and well check. **This is to ensure the safety of your child.**
  
- **What if I am unable to collect my child at home time?**
  - Please make sure your child knows who will be collecting them each day. If this changes, please inform us by contacting the school office.

### **Adults your children will meet at school**

- Mrs Thorley –Acting Head Teacher
- Mrs Sinclair – Primary 1 teacher
- Miss Casburn – Additional Support Needs Teacher
- Mrs Kinlin, Mrs Harper, Miss King, Miss Kinlin, Mrs Nicol, Mrs Liney – Pupil Support Assistants in school
- Mrs Fyfe – Classroom Assistant
- Mrs Bradley – School Administrator
- Mr Mair (George) – Janitor

### **School Lunches**

All pupils in P1-3 are entitled to a free school lunch. The menus run in a four week rotation and can be accessed through the Moray Council Website

[http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray\\_standard/page\\_55519.html](http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_55519.html)

and school website

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/my/pilmuirprimaryschool/information-for-parents/school-meals/>

Please read over the school lunch menu with your child so they know what to order. Your child may choose to take a packed lunch from home (only put in what you would expect them to eat normally at lunchtime). We are a nut free school, please do not give your child food that contains nuts (for example some chocolate based products contain nuts). Thank you for your support with this.

### **School Uniform**

- White polo shirt / shirt / blouse
- Navy sweatshirt
- Black or grey trousers / skirt
- School shoes – that your child can fasten independently



**Please label all items of clothing with your child's name.**

**Gym Kit – Currently children are not getting changed for PE in school due to COVID guidance. When this changes they will need - in a bag with your child's name clearly visible**

- Gym shoes (plimsolls)
- Shorts
- White T-shirt – no football colours
- NO JEWELLERY (Earrings must be removed for gym days.)

### **Home Learning (Homework)**

- Current COVID guidance has meant that children are not taking work home and back to school. Home learning activities may be issued through Glow to support learning in the class. Home learning should NOT be stressful for children OR parents. Please contact the school if your child is struggling for any reason.

## **Promoting Positive Behaviour**

In Pilmuir Primary School we have a policy of promoting positive behaviour. School staff like to work with parents as partners to prepare children with the skills they need for life. We are ready, respectful and safe and you can help your child with this by encouraging them to be a good citizen, to care about others and to help if they can.

## **Starting School**

Starting school is such an important time for children, it is a time of great excitement and anticipation. There are lots of new things to learn and new friends to make and have fun with. It is also a time when parents and carers may feel a little apprehensive. We are here to support your child and you. There are some things that you can do as a parent/carer to help your child be independent at school.

It will be helpful if your child is able to:

- Go to the toilet by themselves.
- Put their jacket on, fasten and unfasten it and hang it up on their peg.
- Take shoes on and off and fasten them.
- Wipe his/her own nose.
- Change in and out of school clothes and gym kit.

You can help your child by:

- Explaining to your child they should not go out of the playground at break times.
- Explaining to your child if they are hurt, they should always tell an adult.
- Encouraging them to be independent.
- Putting any money in a purse or an envelope clearly labelled.
- Clearly labelling all of their belongings.

## **Activities you may enjoy with your child before they start school**

- Look for numbers, shapes, and colours when you are out with your child.
- Read to your child as often as possible, encouraging them to listen carefully. Let them hold the book with you and to turn the pages. Talk about the story and the pictures. Ask them what they think will happen next. Let them tell you the story in their own words.
- To encourage listening and talking skills, practice nursery rhymes and number songs together. Allow your child to complete the rhyme or make up their own rhyme.
- Play games together, encourage taking turns, matching pictures, sorting items by colour or size, counting objects.
- Fine motor skills are really important to encourage readiness for writing – try cutting, threading, puzzles, play dough, Lego and Duplo.
- Let your child ‘write’ their own story, what looks like a scribble to an adult can be important writing which has a meaning to a child. This is an important stage in learning to write. Please do not use capital letters when writing for your child, apart from the beginning of a name.

## **Getting involved with the school**

At Pilmuir we have an active Parent Council, Friends of Pilmuir, who represent all parents and support the school in its work. They also arrange fundraising events for the school. All parents are welcome to attend meetings and help with events. We understand that you may be unable to attend meetings and encourage you to volunteer to support Friends of Pilmuir in the activities they arrange throughout the year.



We hope this leaflet has given you the information you need as a parent/carer about your child's transition to P1.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the school and we will be more than happy to help.

Thank you for your support.