



Taylor High School

Que tout soit pour Dieu

Carfin St
Motherwell
North Lanarkshire
ML1 4JP

Primary Transition Newsletter



01698 274976

2 June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you and your son/daughter prepare for the transition to Taylor High School, I wanted to provide an update on how we are supporting our new learners. The transition from P7 to S1 is an important time for our new learners, and we are aware that their excitement, and sometimes worry, may be starting to grow. I would like you to know that we are committed to finding appropriate and safe ways to help our children to be ready for their transition to Taylor High School. I wanted to provide you with a summary of the supports we have put in place, and our plans for the coming weeks.

TRANSITION VISIT PROGRAMME

I am glad to inform that we are now in a position to confirm a programme of planned visits for all our new S1s. In keeping with the safety guidance from Scottish Government and NLC, we will not be able to mix bubbles and have the full S1 group in the school at the same time. Instead, we will be able to support smaller class-groups from our various primary schools in making an afternoon visit to the school. For primaries requiring transport, pupils will be escorted on the bus by their teacher around 1pm on the day of their visit. They will be welcomed into the school at a class assembly where I will have the opportunity to meet them in person along with other key members of staff. Pupils will then have the chance to go on a tour of the school and be provided with a learner stationery pack and a transition booklet. Each young person will also be given a snack from our Canteen; if there are any specific dietary requirements, please ensure that these are highlighted to the primary school before the visit. Each primary school will be able to confirm the dates for these visits which begin on Wednesday 9th June.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS WITH P7s and P7 TEACHERS

The current context has meant that we have had to reduce face-to-face contact in favour of online options. Mrs Connell and Mr McQuaid have met online with our P7s, and Mrs Connell has been working closely with each school to make sure we are fully informed about all the necessary information to support a good transition for your child's learning and wellbeing.

VIRTUAL PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS

Similarly to the meetings with the pupils, we ran a number of Parent Information Sessions which were very well attended. It was our intention that all parents had the opportunity to see and 'meet' key members of staff who would be working with your children when they come to Taylor. This has been beneficial in supporting parents' direct contact with the school to discuss any queries that have been coming up regarding the transition to secondary school.



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<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/taylor/>



[@TaylorHS1982](https://twitter.com/TaylorHS1982)

ENHANCED TRANSITION SUPPORT

Transition to secondary can be a time of excitement and worry for all young people. Where there has been a particular need to support young people in preparing for their move to Taylor, we have been able to 'meet' with a small number of parents and young people. These meetings have been very useful in helping the young people to get to know the people and the school prior to arriving in August. As a further support, our local Community Learning & Development Team are planning to run a summer programme. Pupils involved in this will be contacted soon.

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES: MEET THE TEACHER & VIRTUAL WALKROUND

To support our new learners' familiarity with staff and the school, we have also made a number of videos available through Twitter and our School Blog. Teachers from across departments have been busy posting videos about what our new S1 will be doing in those subject areas when they arrive in August. We have also created a virtual walkround video to help give our pupils a sense of the space within the school. If you've not had a chance to look at our transition videos, please have a look [here](#).

UNIFORM

Uniform orders can be placed with Logoxpress before Monday July 12th to ensure arrival by the new term in August. Further details are available on their website about [sizing](#) and about [ordering](#). Our uniform consists of a blazer, black trousers/skirt and white shirt/blouse with school tie. School ties are available from the school office at a cost £4. We are very proud of our uniform at Taylor High School, and we look forward to seeing our new S1 pupils dressed for learning in the new term.

Information about free school meals and clothing grants is available on [NLC's website](#). Furthermore, NLC's Financial Inclusion Team is available to offer support and advice to families. The team can assist with welfare benefits and money advice. You can get in touch emailing us the Team at fit@northlan.gov.uk or by calling 01698 332551.

I look forward to meeting your children when they make their visit over the coming weeks. If you have any questions regarding your child's transition to Taylor High School, please get in touch with Mrs Connell who will be able to support your enquiry.

Yours faithfully,

Paul McWatt
Head Teacher