



EDUCATION RESOURCES

TINTO PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Starting School

2020



April 2020

The original booklet was written by the Nursery Parent Consultation Group in partnership with Ms Stark and updated by Mrs Kilgallon and is designed to help you prepare your child for starting school in August.

Introduction

Primary education has changed considerably since you were at school – and it continues to develop! From next term we will explain how you can help your child at home with literacy, numeracy and other areas of the curriculum through workshops, leaflets and classroom visits.



Communication with School

Your child will be with us for seven years, so it is important that communication between home and school is as good as it can be.

Staff rely on parents to check the school bags, school App, website and email for communications from school. Each child is issued with a home: school communication jotter at the start of the year. Please use this to contact the class teacher should you have any queries or concerns. It is helpful if you remind your child to tell the teacher you have written something in the jotter as the class teacher may not be able to look in every jotter each day.

School App – Please download our App from the Apple or Google Play Store – search for 'PSA'. When you have downloaded this you will be prompted to search for a school. When you have found Tinto Primary School, the login to access the school is – Tinto and the passcode is – 5432. This is where you will find messages, a school calendar as well as news items regarding what your child's class has been doing throughout the day. It is important to turn on notifications for this App on your phone!



The school has its own website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/sl/tinto/>. You will find lots of important information about the school including, policies, newsletters, and more information about the school community. We also have a Facebook page, search for Tinto Primary School, Symington, and add us. You will be asked who your child is before being accepted to the group.

A newsletter is issued on the last week of the month and this is posted onto the App as well as the website – paper copies are by request only. This helps the school to be eco friendly and saves money. The newsletter has a report from the HT detailing events of the month, news items and important dates; the Parent Council and Tinto Fundraisers has a section updating the parent forum with news and minutes of meetings and the After School Club has a section listing events, news, fundraising and activities.



We will also update you by email and similarly you can email messages and queries to us on the following email address: parents@tinto-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk. It is important that we have your most up to date email address.

There will also be two Parents' Evenings (October and March), termly Open Afternoons and a yearly progress report will be sent home in June.

Please write a note to the class teacher if you have any queries or concerns or contact the school by phone.



There may be the odd occasion when your child comes out of school or arrives home in tears. Please feel that you are welcome to discuss worries at any time. If an incident has occurred at school we will do our very best to resolve it.

We do rely on parents to let us know if there are any changes in the home circumstances or family that may affect your child, i.e. bereavement, house move, etc.

Complaints or Concerns

Please speak to Ms Stark should you have any complaints or concerns.

Should this prove unsatisfactory, contact the Quality Link Officer:

Lisa Quinn
Council Offices
Almada Street
Hamilton

Tel: 01698 454723
Lisa.Quinn@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

What to Wear to School

Remember, your child is coming to school to work with paints, crayons, sand, water, clay etc so a set of sensible school clothes is recommended, bearing in mind that despite good intentions (and aprons!) glue and paint invariably find their way onto clothes.

1. **School Uniform** - this consists of . . .
 - ♦ grey trousers/shorts/skirt/pinafore
 - ♦ white polo shirt/shirt/blouse
 - ♦ purple sweatshirt
 - ♦ a school tie is entirely optional
2. **Gym Kit** – on gym days, the children should wear a t-shirt, shorts and gym shoes. If the girls are wearing tights, then a pair of socks should be in their gym bags. Football strips and Bermuda shorts are not acceptable gym kit. Please ensure long hair is tied back on gym days.

Bring the PE kit on day one and then the teacher can take the children to the gym hall should she plan to. A note will be put in the diary telling you on what days PE will be once the school timetable is written. Once you know this it is advisable not to send the children in ties/shirts that day as these are quite challenging for the children to put back on (and for the class teacher to assist up to 25 pupils!).

PE kits will be left in school but the teacher will send them home regularly to have them washed. Please remember to return the kits to school first day back!

3. **Shoes** – slip on or Velcro shoes are easiest for children to manage. Children also change into indoor shoes when they come inside.
4. **Labelling** – all items of clothing and shoes should be clearly names. Almost all the children wear the school uniform so items do tend to become mixed up – especially on gym days. Shoes are often very similar and P1 children cannot tell their shoes apart from others.

Examples of School Uniform



Grey skirt and white shirt with a school cardigan. Tie is optional. We have added the tartan pinafore dress to the school uniform this year.

Many children wear a purple summer dress, if the weather is nice! Grey trousers/ shorts and white polo shirt with a school sweatshirt.

What to Bring to School

All pupils should bring a coat to school every day – even if it looks nice and sunny at 8.45 am! The weather can be very changeable and all pupils should be able to access the outdoors not only at playtimes but also when the teacher uses the outdoors for learning. Please ensure your child has a sunhat and sunblock in their bag for this reason also.

All children should also bring a school bag. This will then be used to carry their homework folder and reading books. The bag should be able to fit in an A4 file. Children will also be asked to put letters from school in to their bags. Play-pieces (snacks) are also brought to school in their bags.

Children do not need to bring fancy pens, pencils and rubbers to school in P1. These often become lost and children can then become upset.

All pupils should bring a named bottle of water to school each day. Research has shown that children learn more effectively if they have access to water. The bottles can be topped up if the child drinks all the water.



Playtimes

The children will be going out to play every day – weather permitting – from 10.30-10.45 am. Most children bring a play-piece each day. Please give your child a play-piece that can be comfortably eaten in 15 minutes and still leave time to play! The school canteen offers toast- and- go where children can order fruit or toast for their morning snack. This service is free of charge. There are always 3-4 adults in the playground.



Lunchtimes

Lunchtime is from 12.15-1.00 pm. The children can have a school dinner (a menu is sent out twice a year and is online on South Lanarkshire Council's website, or the school App) or bring a packed lunch. It would be very helpful if you would read over the menu for the day before the child comes to school. The children are supervised and helped with cutting up food/opening packaging, etc. Please let the class teacher know if you wish your child to come home for lunch.



All children in P1 – P3 are entitled to free school lunches.

Milk is available to purchase at 20p via Parent Pay. This can be drunk at break or lunchtime.

Please do not remove your child from the playground at playtimes or lunchtimes without speaking to a supervisor – this is for your child's safety.

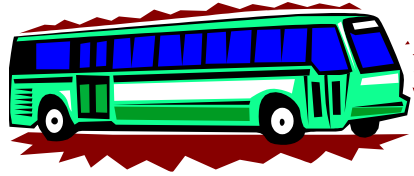
Absences

Due to Scottish Government regulations, all absences must be accounted for. Please contact the school to explain why your child is absent. You can leave a message on the answer machine or speak to a member of staff. Staff will contact you by phone after morning and afternoon registration if your child is not in school and you have not contacted us.

Holidays taken during term time cannot be authorised and will be logged as unauthorised absences. It is school policy not to send work with a child who is going on holiday. If your child is going to be absent for a long period of time due to illness then work can be sent home in this instance.

If your child has a doctor/dentist appointment during the school day a responsible adult must collect him/her from the school office.

Travelling to School



You can apply for school transport via the South Lanarkshire Council website. You will receive a letter from SPTC explaining pick up and drop off times and where your child will be collected from/dropped off. Please note there are no escorts on any of the school busses and ensure your child can use a seat belt.

Mrs Stewart (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) / Mr Gold (Thursday, Friday) (school janitors) will be at the drop off point in front of the school at the beginning of the school day to ensure that children get off their bus safely.

Children are asked to walk into the playground, where they are supervised until 9.00 am.

Homework

Homework will be given out on a Monday and asked to be returned by the following Monday. This allows parents more flexibility taking into account clubs etc.

Homework is not intended to be a stressful time for you or your child. If you find either of you are getting upset or frustrated, just leave it! Revisit the next day or leave a note in the diary for the class teacher.

Preparing your child

1. Talking! Talk about your shared experiences as you shop/cook/play together.
2. Make sure your child can follow an instruction and carry it out when told the first time.
3. Read and tell stories, particularly at bedtime, so that he/she learns that books give a lot of pleasure.
4. If your child wants to write his/her own name, please DO NOT use capital letters.
5. Encourage him/her to sit and draw carefully, and allow him/her access to pencils, crayons, scissors, play dough or plasticine, gummed paper, paint etc. This helps your child's hand control to develop.
6. Encourage your child to keep their room tidy. He/she should be getting used to dressing him/herself in the mornings and be able to fasten coats and shoes independently.
7. Please practice road safety with your child.
8. Toilets for boys! If possible, let your child experience an urinal when out and about with dad/male relative.
9. And finally, please don't threaten your child with the words *"wait 'till you get to school!"* If you set guidelines at home, the school can reinforce and build on them. It is not the role of the school to introduce behavioural guidelines first! It is also not the role of the school to be the "bad cop"! We want the child to want to come to school!

We look forward to seeing you in August and working with you in partnership over the next seven years.