



# Welcome to Lesmahagow High School



## Information for Primary 7 Parents and Pupils





## P7 Transition Programme 2021-22

<b>October/November</b>	Journey to Lesmahagow Starts.
<b>December</b>	Optional school visit – <b>Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021.</b>
<b>November – March</b>	Maths, Science, Music, Drama and English Transition events.
<b>November - March</b>	Transition Link staff visit primary schools to collect information about each individual learner.
<b>December</b>	Virtual Parent Information Evening 1. <b>Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm</b>
<b>January – March</b>	Support for Learning visit primary schools to observe classes.
<b>March</b>	Virtual Parent Information Evening 2. <b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7pm</b>
<b>March - May</b>	PE Transition events at primary schools. Dates and times to be arranged by schools.
<b>April</b>	Arrangements are made for P7 Induction days.
<b>May</b>	<b>Potential</b> PE Transition event at Lesmahagow High School. All schools involved. Date and time to be arranged.
<b>June</b>	P7 induction days are Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2022*.  <b>P7 Parental Information Evening 3</b> Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June in Lesmahagow High School at 6.30pm*.
<b>September</b>	P7/S1 Parent Open Afternoon*.  Support for Learning Open Evening*.
<b>October</b>	S1 Interim Reports.

\*Depending on circumstances

Further information can be found on the school website [www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk](http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk) on Twitter [@LesmahagowHigh](https://twitter.com/LesmahagowHigh) or by downloading the Lesmahagow High School App from the App Store or Google Play.

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## Messages from your School Captains and Vice Captains

### Laila Eaton – School Captain

Hello, my name is Laila. I am one of the school captains. During my time at high school, I have really enjoyed maths and physics. I also loved extracurricular clubs such as netball and football as they were a good way to make friends and socialise outside of my classes. The teachers are all very friendly and extremely helpful. I look forward to meeting you all soon!

### Riyan Siddique – School Captain

Hello fellow pupils, staff, and parents at Lesmahagow High School, I am your newly appointed school captain, Riyan Siddique, I love Lesmahagow high school because everyone respects each other, and we all have clear ambitions for not just our future but the future of our school.

### Sarah Fairbairn – School Vice-Captain

Hi everyone, I'm Sarah Fairbairn, currently an S6 pupil of Lesmahagow High who previously attended Milton Primary, I am a part of the leadership team at the high school and I understand this move is very daunting but I'm writing to ensure you that you will be supported and encouraged through the whole process, and you shouldn't be worried but if you are or have any questions or concerns you can always come talk to me- I have been in your position and would be more than happy to help :) Just remember there are so many different opportunities at high school like meeting new friends, new clubs and many more.

### Gemma Parker – School Vice-Captain

Hi my name is Gemma Parker, I'm currently a S6 pupil and have the position of Vice-Captain in the school. I know coming up to the high school can be a bit nerve-racking however I wish to reassure everyone it's not as bad as it may seem. Getting to meet many new friends and take part in many school activities make school very fun and exciting - there's always something for everyone.

I look forward to seeing you all here.

### Tanisha Sandford – Equity and Inclusion Captain

Hi my names Tanisha and I'm the Equity and Inclusion Captain for Lesmahagow High School. In school I enjoy languages and Administration. My advice for the P7's would be that the high school is a welcoming place and we aim to include and involve everyone that arrives.

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## Message from the Head Teacher and Depute Head Teachers

Dear Primary 7 pupils,

We are excited about you coming to our school in August 2020 and looking forward to meeting and working with you all. We strongly believe that you will enjoy your time at our school and will benefit from the wonderful subjects, activities and opportunities that are on offer.

Our school is a very inclusive school. We aim to ensure all pupils and young people receive the help and support they require to allow them to reach their full potential. Our school thrives on the wonderful relationships, which we have developed with all involved with the school including parents, pupils, staff and other agencies. At Lesmahagow HS, we treat everyone equally and with respect. This helps to build a welcoming and inclusive environment. We know you will contribute fantastically to this when you arrive.

Our staff work very hard and produce fantastic learning experiences for all pupils. We encourage you to make the most of your time at our school and to be as ambitious as you can be.

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We hope you enjoy the rest of your P7 and look forward to continuing your learner journey at Lesmahagow High School in August.

Best wishes,

Ms Lee (HT), Mrs Docherty (DHT) and Mr Robertson (DHT)

## ***'Aspire to be our best'***

### **Transition**

Any change can be challenging for young people, whether it is a move from nursery to primary, primary to secondary or to a post-school destination. Therefore, it is vital that we make these transitions as smooth as possible for our young people. The transition programme from primary school to secondary school is designed to increase pupil confidence and excitement in making the move, allowing them getting to know the school, the curriculum and members of staff well in advance of August when they will start in S1. We appreciate that parents may also have concerns about the move to secondary and we look to actively engage our prospective parents with events that allow them to experience the everyday life of the school and the opportunity to ask any questions that they may have. We hope this will allay any fears or anxieties that the young people and their parents may have about transition, ensuring a confident, happy start can be made to the next phase of their education.

This year, many of our events will need to take place virtually or in much smaller groups when we are able to offer physical delivery of transition events. This may result in certain activities and events detailed below being changed to suit what we are able to offer.



## Science Transition

*Primary (event may change due to current restrictions)*

Science transition begins early, in October and November, when Lesmahagow High School Science teachers will share fun and engaging activities throughout the year.



## *Lesmahagow High School Visit*

Pupils will explore safety in the labs and have the opportunity to understand what Science is like at High School. This helps them familiarise themselves with some of the equipment they will use when they start in S1.

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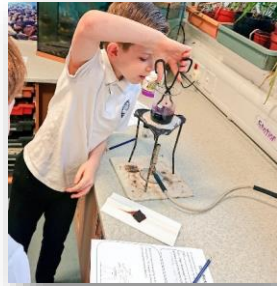
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### PE Transition

PE Transition events will take place in March and May for our primary pupils and will be led by some of our senior pupils. This will give the young people the opportunity to meet potential new classmates from an early stage in a fun and healthy environment.



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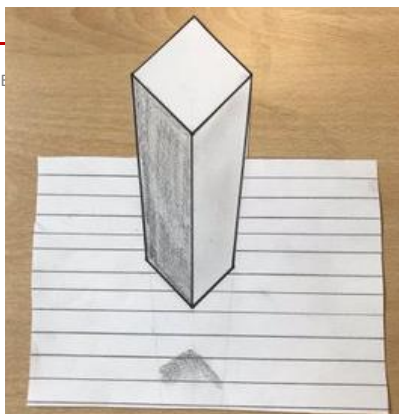
### Mathematics Transition

All P7 pupils will experience a maths lesson, as it would be delivered in high school. The lesson will include various Teaching and Learning approaches where pupils have the opportunity to use alternative resources and methods to learn. They will also experience differentiated material including challenge questions and support materials to further enhance and support learning.



### Technical Transition

Pupils will experience an introduction to Technical education, including the various subjects taught and an example of current student's work. This process will include developing their ability to measure using different measurements, drawing in one point perspective and sketching 3D shapes.



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### **English Transition**

Pupils will receive the opportunity to experience learning, as it would take place in an English classroom in high school. This will involve following a lessons on a chosen topic for each primary school. Pupils will then have the opportunity to apply their new learning and skills in carefully selected tasks.



### **Drama Transition**

Drama transitions will take place during January/February, 2022. The Drama teachers from Lesmahagow High School will visit the cluster primary schools to deliver some fun, interactive drama workshops outside.

The workshops will be designed to give pupils a taster into what the subject is like. The focus will be skills development, encouraging pupils to engage with their communication, team building and creative skills. Pupils will be asked to use their imaginations to create scenarios of what 'a day in the life' of high school might be like. We hope this will generate excitement and confidence in joining Lesmahagow High School next August.



### Music Transition

Primary 7 pupils will be invited to take part in music rehearsals before the Christmas holidays and will also be provided with fun Music tasks to complete at home. In the Summer term of 2022, the Music Teachers from Lesmahagow High School will visit the cluster Primary schools to undertake Music workshops outside where pupils will develop their musical skills through learning about the beat and rhythm!



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### **P7 Transition Days - June**

We are looking forward to Primary 7 pupils joining us for the two-day induction programme on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June** and **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June**, where they will closely follow their new S1 timetable in August. This will give them the opportunity to meet many of their new teachers, familiarise themselves with the school building and sample some of the subjects they will be studying throughout their Broad General Education. They will be in the classes that they will be in when they start in August, which will give them the opportunity to spend time with pupils from all of our associated primaries and establish new friendships.

Current S3 pupils will act as guides and escort pupils between classes. The pupils will be looked after **in the school** during lunch break and will be able to use the school canteen or alternatively bring a packed lunch with them.

During these transition days, any pupil who is entitled to a free school meal will receive this from our canteen. There is no need to apply for this or arrange a packed lunch.

### **P7 Parents Information Evening**

This year, we are aiming to hold two or three information evenings to keep you as up to date as possible throughout the course of the year. We hope to be able to invite you in to the school next year to meet face-to-face, but we will hold our first meetings in November/December and March online.

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The purpose of these evenings is to provide you with information and advice on important issues at this time in your child's school career, to give you a flavour of Lesmahagow High School and also give you an opportunity to ask any questions that you may have. In addition, you will have the opportunity to meet with the Head Teacher, the Depute Head Teacher for your child's year group, as well as the Principal Teachers Pupil Support, who will be your main contact with the school.

There will be an opportunity to purchase school uniform and have a blazer fitting between 4pm and 7pm prior to the information evening on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June. Alternatively, uniform can be purchased from our stockists, Scotcrest, online or in their Hamilton store.



### Ensuring transfer information is communicated effectively from P7 to S1

In ensuring a smooth transition all information pertaining to your child's continued education is transferred to staff at the high school. This information includes levels for all curricular areas, information on additional support requirements, medical information, social grouping and information regarding skills, hobbies and wider achievements. All this information is gathered throughout the year leading up to the new term in August.

<b>October 2021</b>	Meet with all primary Headteachers to discuss timeline for 'Journey to Lesmahagow' and calendar of events.
<b>November 2021</b>	Primary Head Teachers meet with secondary DHT, PT Support for Learning and relevant agencies to discuss supports for pupils who may need an enhanced transition or early support to ensure a smooth transition to high school.
<b>November – December 2021</b>	Link Transition Teachers visit primary schools to meet staff, pupils and Head Teacher.
<b>January – March 2022</b>	Ongoing visits by link transition teachers to discuss pupils and acquire information to help with transition process.
<b>March – May 2022</b>	Support for Learning staff meet with primary DHT, secondary DHT and relevant primary staff to discuss

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	those pupils who have Additional Support Plans or who need further general support.
<b>June 2022</b>	<p>P7 Transition Days and Information Evening. Parents and pupils will get to meet their new year group and follow a timetable which they will receive in August.</p> <p>Parents will have the opportunity to speak with SMT, Sfl and pupil Support regarding any concerns they may have.</p> <p>Classes finalised for August start and all information shared relating to supporting young people and meeting their needs shared with relevant staff.</p>

**Senior Management Team**

The Lesmahagow High School Senior Management Team (SMT) consists of the Head Teacher, Mr McGowan, and three Depute Head Teachers, Ms Lee (S3 and S6), Mr Gray (S2 and S5), Mr Robertson (S1 and S4) and Mrs Docherty (Inclusion Support Team).



**Ms Barbara Lee**  
**Head Teacher ~~(acting)~~**

**Depute Head Teachers**



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<b>Mr Alastair Gray</b>	<b>Mrs Linda Wright (acting)</b>	<b>Mr David Robertson</b>	<b>Mrs Pamela Docherty</b>
<b>S3 and S6</b>	<b>S1 and S4</b>	<b>S2 and S5</b>	<b>Inclusion Support Team</b>
<i>As of August 2022:</i>			
<b>S1 and S4</b>	<b>S2 and S5</b>	<b>S3 and S6</b>	<b>Inclusion Support Team</b>

### Pupil Support

All members of the school staff are here to help and support young people in Lesmahagow High School to ensure they learn in a safe, secure, healthy and happy environment. Partnership with parents/carers is essential in ensuring that all pupils receive the appropriate support to reach their potential. All young people should have an adult that knows them well and is the main contact between school and home. In Lesmahagow High School this is the Principal Teacher Pupil Support.

In the school we have a vertical system for pupil support, which means that each young person will be helped throughout their time at school by the same PT Pupil Support. Usually, children from the same family will all have the same PT Pupil Support, who is attached to a House group (Kerse, Logan and Milton).

Each Deputy Head Teacher has responsibility for two year groups and has overall responsibility for discipline within that house. The DHTs and PT Pupil Support work closely together to ensure the welfare of the young people in our care.

Our Pupil Support Team are:



**Mr Jim Mallaghan**

**Kerse House**

**Mr Andy Hill**

**Logan House**

**Mr Fergie Robson**

**Milton House**

Each Principal Teacher Pupil Support will:

- Help young people settle into school
- Be available to speak to young people when they need someone to talk to
- Be the main point of contact between school and home
- Check attendance and time keeping
- Check progress in all of subject classes
- Help young throughout their school career e.g. with options choices and planning for life after school

### **Support for Learning**

Transition planning from primary to secondary will take place throughout P7. Staff from the primary school and Lesmahagow High School will meet to discuss the young person's needs and prepare a plan to help ensure their transition to high school is as smooth as possible while also ensuring that there is a continuity of support when they move in August. All the people involved with the young persons' education including parents/carers and the young person will meet to further discuss and plan how needs can be best met at secondary and if any additional resources will be required.

The Support for Learning department is run by our Principal Teacher Support for Learning.



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**Mrs Hazel Laird**

**PT Sfl**

There are five School Support Assistants, ~~Mrs Abercrombie~~, Mrs Abercrombie, Mrs Abercrombie, Mrs McCallum, Mrs McLeod and Ms Speirs who support pupils in classes.

### **Enhanced Transitions**

It is normally necessary to start an enhanced programme earlier than the routine transition programme. This will be determined in response to the needs of the pupil, through liaison with the primary school and could be in P6.

Enhanced transitions are tailored to the individual needs of the young person and (in addition to all other transition activities) may include:

- Extra visits to Lesmahagow High School during the P7 year to get to know the school and staff
- Creating a photographic diary and visual aids to help the young person get used to what things and people in the school look like
- PT Support for Learning observing in the primary class
- Any requirement for adaptations to the classroom layout or to the physical environment will be identified
- After school walk round for identified pupils and families
- Additional activities for small groups

### **Buddy Programme**

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From the start of the session in August, a dedicated group of senior pupils support an identified group of the new S1 through the buddy programme. The seniors meet with a small group of S1 pupils every Friday for twenty minutes to offer advice and discuss any issues or concerns in relation to starting a new school. The senior pupils are also able to offer advice about studying, planning homework, organising schoolbags and how to get the best out of school life. It is hoped that this type of peer support will help all our new pupils to settle to the new daily routine of life in Lesmahagow High School. In addition to this it provides the pupils with another friendly face around the school and in the community!



### Literacy and Numeracy Groups

For the majority of young people their additional support needs will be met within the day to day work of the classroom. Some young people will need additional support out with the classroom in order to support their learning. For new S1 pupils, these needs are discussed and identified throughout the transition process and updated following monitoring reports and settling in reviews to ensure that supports in place are carefully considered and continue to be appropriate.

As young people need to be literate and numerate in order to access all aspects of the curriculum, some young people are extracted from class for approximately twenty minutes per week to work with members of the Support for Learning department on improving their literacy and numeracy in a small group setting.



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Faculty Head of Expressive Arts



Mrs Cairn Robertson-Cheyne

PT Equity and Inclusion



Mrs Gemma Smith

PT Equity and Inclusion



Miss Anna Fletcher

Faculty Head of Technologies & Digital Literacy



Mr Marc Campbell

Faculty Head of Health and Wellbeing



Mr Neil Ross

Faculty Head of Languages



Miss Louise Parsons



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## Curriculum Faculties

### Faculty Head of Science



Dr Irene Nicol

### Faculty Head of Humanities



Mr Mark Smith

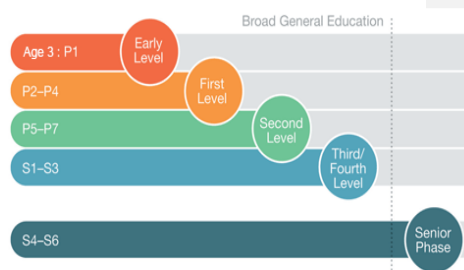
### Faculty Head of Mathematics



Mrs Aileen Murray

## BGE Curriculum

Students in Lesmahagow High School will be offered a Broad General Education throughout S1-3. They will study a range of subjects from the eight curriculum areas mentioned previously. Between S4-6 pupils will enter the Senior Phase where they will work towards achieving qualifications. They will have the opportunity to study a range of subjects from the curriculum areas previously listed.



Students will receive their entitlement to PE, Modern Languages and RMPS throughout their BGE phase and will have weekly Personal and Social Education lessons delivered by their Pupil Support Teacher. As shown below, each pupil will start every day with 10 minutes of Tutor Time where they will be registered and provided with daily / weekly announcements.

Below is an example of an S1 pupil's timetable, which each new pupil will receive and follow when they arrive in August.

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	TUTOR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Monday</b>	Tutor Time CE Miss Gardner B103	Music CE Mr Stirling B004	English CE Mrs Fair A106	Science CE Dr Nicol B205	Geography CE Mr Roberts A202	Technological Studies: Design and Manufacture CE Mr Wilson A202	Drama CE Miss Gardner B007	Modern Languages CE Ms Tully A201
<b>Tuesday</b>	Tutor Time CE Miss Gardner B103	Drama CE Miss Gardner B007	English CE Mrs Fair A106	Mathematics CE Miss Melvin B104	Physical Education CE Mr Mc Ginley GameHall	Physical Education CE Mr Mc Ginley GameHall	Religious and moral education CE Mrs Katzig A208	Geography CE Mr Roberts A202
<b>Wednesday</b>	Tutor Time CE Miss Gardner B103	Personal & Social Education CE Mr Robson A204	English CE Mrs Fair A106	Mathematics CE Miss Melvin B104	Home Economics CE Mrs Miller A102	Home Economics CE Mrs Miller A102	Science CE Dr Nicol B205	Information Technology CE Mrs Wilson B108
<b>Thursday</b>	Tutor Time CE Miss Gardner B103	History CE Mr Smith A203	Modern Languages CE Ms Tully A201	Mathematics CE Miss Melvin B104	Music CE Mr Stirling B004	Science CE Dr Nicol B205	Art CE Mr Sharp B112	Art CE Mrs Ritchie B110
	TUTOR	1	2	3	4			
<b>Friday</b>	Tutor Time CE Miss Gardner B103	Technological Studies: Graphic Communication CE Mr Wilson A202	Modern Studies CE Mr Rae A207	English CE Mrs Fair A106	Mathematics CE Miss Melvin B104			

## Uniform

**In Lesmahagow High School we take pride in our appearance and wear our uniform as a part of our school identity. All pupils are required to wear full uniform when attending or representing the school.**

There are many reasons why it is important to wear school including increased security within the school and in the community, preparing young people for the world of work where most jobs will have a dress code, removing the need to think about what to wear and promoting a positive image of our school.

Our school uniform policy is designed to be clear, fair and reasonable to both the parents/carers and young people of the school community.

The Lesmahagow High School uniform is as follows:

Required uniform	Unacceptable Uniform
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Black with school badge	Jeans, Jean like materials, skinny jean type trousers. This includes all forms of denim.
Plain black trousers or skirt	Leggings or Jeggings
Plain white collared shirt or blouse with sleeves	Tracksuits
A plain black jumper or cardigan without logos	Combat trousers or other wide baggy trousers
A school tie should be worn at all times. Junior ties are available for S1-3 pupils and a Senior tie for S4-6 pupils	Jogging bottoms
All footwear should be plain black	Sport wear (except in PE)
White, red or black t-shirt with black shorts, leggings or track suit bottoms and trainers.	Denim Jackets.
	White sports trainers or any patterned trainers.
	Clothing with slogans or large hooded tops.
	Hats or baseball caps
	Clothing which is deemed unsuitable in terms of Health and Safety, such as large belts, dangling earrings or hooped earrings, long chains / necklaces
	Shorts (except in PE)

Blazers are compulsory for all pupils from S1 through to S6. Our blazer supplier is Scotcrest, who are based in Hamilton ([www.scotcrestschools.co.uk](http://www.scotcrestschools.co.uk)). More details about our uniform can be located on the letters section of our website.



To purchase from Scotcrest, visit their website via the link above and follow these instructions:

**Click** on Find your School > **Select** Lesmahagow High School > **Click** the product you require > **Select** the size required and the amount you would like to order > **Add** items to cart > Follow purchasing instructions as requested.

General uniform items can also be purchased from Scotcrest by selecting the Secondary Uniforms tab on the homepage of the website.

## The School Day

The school day varies from Primary School with pupils moving class (and subject) every 50 minutes. Each day starts promptly at 8:40 with 10 minutes of Tutor followed by seven periods. School finishes at 3:35pm Monday to Thursday and 12:30pm on Friday:

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Monday - Thursday		Friday	
8.40 – 8.50am	Tutor Time	8.40 – 8.50am	Tutor Time
8.50 – 9.40am	Period 1	8.50 – 9.40am	Period 1
9.40 – 10.30am	Period 2	9.40 – 10.30am	Period 2
10.30 – 11.20am	Period 3	10.30 – 10.50am	Interval
11.20 – 11.35am	Interval	10.50 – 11.40am	Period 3
11.35 – 12.25pm	Period 4	11.40 – 12.30pm	Period 4
12.25 – 1.15pm	Period 5	School finishes at 12.30pm on Friday	
1.15 – 1.55pm	Lunch		
1.55 – 2.45pm	Period 6		
2.45 – 3.35pm	Period 7		

### School Clubs and Activities

There are a wide range of school clubs and activities that run during interval, lunch and after school, including netball, rugby, science and craft clubs. The activities on offer change each year and pupils have the opportunity to get more information and sign up for any clubs that interest them, at the start of the year.



### Communication to Parents and Carers

We maintain regular formal communication with parents throughout the academic session through tracking and monitoring reports. However, parents and carers are more than welcome to contact their child's Pupil Support teacher if they have concerns or would like to discuss their child's progress further or arrange a meeting.

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Below is an estimated calendar of the formal communication you will receive from the school throughout the year.

Communication to Parents	Dates
Report 1	October 2022
Report 2	February 2023
Report 3	May 2023
S1 Parent's Evening	May 2023

For those pupils who require a review as part of their learning support, these will take place in January 2023.

As a school, we have many formats in which we communicate with parents. Below is a list of these formats. We advise parents to utilise these on a regular basis to ensure you stay up to date on your child's progress and school events.



Check out our school website for key information:

<http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/>

All letters and documents issued can be downloaded from the PARENTS menu.



Sign up to TWITTER and follow @LesmahagowHigh to see all our tweets from the school and/or from various departments across the school.



**@LesmahagowHigh**



Download our school app and receive notifications straight to your mobile which includes news and key information. Our school calendar is included.



Download **School App for Parents** from your app store and choose **Lesmahagow High School**



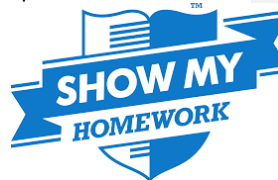
Make sure you are signed up for **ParentPay**: all trips are now payable online and departments can email parents regarding subject matters. Activation letters are issued by the school office.

[www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)



**Show My Homework** is a new app that we launched in August 2019. This new app will help young people organise their homework and help with parental communication regarding homework.

All our pupils and parents/carers can download the app from their app store – PIN numbers are available from our school office.



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## Attendance and Late Coming

At Lesmahagow High School, we believe good attendance and punctuality are key to ensuring pupils reach their full potential and reap the benefits from high quality teaching and learning. Young people should endeavour to be at school everyday and on time, ready to learn.

However, we appreciate that, at times, pupils may be absent from school due to unforeseen or unavoidable circumstances. If this is the case, we require parents and carers to inform the school by calling the school number and leaving a message on our designated answer machine or by speaking with one of our office staff. Please detail the reason for the absence and expected duration especially if absences are expected to be longer than one day. In addition, any appointments that students have should be indicated in advance so that this can be recorded on our system, preventing unnecessary attendance messages being sent.

If a student is absent without reason, a text message will be sent by the school to the parent or carer to inform them of this and a response is expected.

Any absence which, is planned or expected to last for a substantial period of time, should be explained to a student's Pupil Support teacher and followed up in writing.

Research shows that good attendance leads to improved attainment and achievement.

- Highest 20% of attainment by pupils had an average attendance of 97%.
- Lowest 20% of attainment by pupils had an average attendance of 76%

**Q** When is **90%** NOT considered to be a positive outcome?

**A** When it is linked to **attendance**

- ▶ **90%** attendance = **1/2 day** missed every week !
- ▶ **1 school year** at 90% attendance = **4 weeks** of learning missed !
- ▶ Over **5 years** of school = **1/2 school year** missed !

Poor attendance = less chance of success

Good attendance means...

BEING IN SCHOOL  
At least 96%  
of the time

Best chance of success

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It is expected that all students *will* achieve at least a 95% attendance rate across an academic year. Students will be absent for unavoidable reasons but we ask for your support in ensuring students attend school regularly and meet the local authority and government's expectations. Any problems preventing regular attendance should be explained to the student's Pupil Support teacher at the earliest possible stage to ensure the relevant supports can be implemented to help support students in attending school regularly. The earlier the support, the more successful the outcome.

The school will monitor all pupils attendance closely and will contact parents and carers if we have a concern. The school will implement a wide range of measures and supports where a student's attendance is an issue. Where there is no improvement following the implementation of school interventions, it may be necessary follow the local authority's attendance procedures and seek support from external agencies to help bring about positive change and support the student back to regular attendance.

In a bid to encourage excellent attendance, students who represent the school at events and functions are expected to have at least 95% attendance. In addition, students who wish to attend events such as school dances, trips and sporting events should also have a good level of attendance. There will always be exceptions to this based on individual circumstances, so please get in touch if you have any concerns.



## Late Coming

Students who arrive late to school should go to the school office to sign in with a member of our office staff. This ensures our system is updated to reflect that that student is now in the school building.

If a pupil is regularly late, Pupil Support staff will contact parents and carers regarding our concerns and may arrange a meeting to discuss possible supports.

### *I'm not missing much...*

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...
<b>1 day every two weeks = 90%</b>	20 days per year	4 weeks per year
<b>1 day per week = 80%</b>	40 days per year	8 weeks per year
<b>2 days per week = 60%</b>	80 days per year	16 weeks per year
<b>3 days per week = 40%</b>	120 days per year	24 weeks per year

### *It's only 10 minutes...*

Late by...	That equals...	Which is...
<b>10 minutes per day</b>	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 and half weeks per year
<b>20 minutes per day</b>	1 hr 40 minutes per week	Over 2 and half week per year
<b>30 minutes per day</b>	Half a day minutes per week	4 weeks per year
<b>1 hour per day</b>	1 day per week	8 weeks per year

Every day and minute counts!

If you want your child to be successful at school, good attendance and punctuality matters.



## Transport

South Lanarkshire council provide transport for secondary pupils who live two miles or more away from the catchment secondary school by the shortest safe walking route.

Pupils will be entitled to free transport:

- If they live two miles or more away from the catchment secondary school by the shortest safe walking route.
- If they have been recommended for school transport by their doctor and the school medical officer for health reasons.
- If they attend a specialist school or centre recommended by the council
- If they have to walk a route which is considered unsafe in relation to the West of Scotland Road Safety Forum guidelines.

**All parents / carers of S1 pupils starting in August 2020 and whose child meets the criteria for school transport, must apply to south Lanarkshire Council to secure their transport entitlement.**

Following this, no further request for transport whilst your child is at school is required unless there is a change of address.

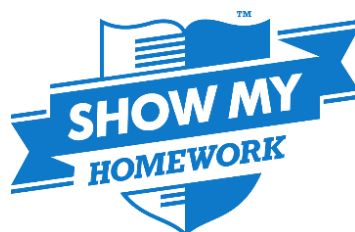
More information can be found on the SLC website.



## Homework

Homework is an important aid to learning. It helps students develop positive study skills and habits that will serve them well throughout life. Some other reasons for giving homework are:

- Reinforce learning covered in class.
- Helps prepare students for upcoming assessments.
- Further challenges their learning to develop a deeper understanding.
- Helps parents and carers to understand what students are learning in school.



## Show My Homework

As a school, we have decided to move away from a traditional homework diary to a system that is better suited to the lives of our young people. Show My Homework has replaced paper diaries for the whole school, and is now being used as the primary method of assigning homework.

SMHW will allow you to see the details of all set tasks, deadlines and submission status. This system will improve communication around homework and greater visibility into homework set and completed.

A public calendar of all issued homework is accessible by clicking the SMHW logo on the school website or at <http://lesmahagow.showmyhomework.co.uk>.



## Show My Homework App

The associated app is likely to be the way that most pupils will use the system and have been advised to download it. This means they will get regular updates and push notifications on upcoming assignments and deadlines directly to their phones. If you download the app, you will also receive notification.

When students arrive in August they will be issued a letter that provides a unique pin number which will allow parents and carers to access SMHW so that you are kept updated on your child's workload and progress.

Apple QR Code



Google QR Code





## Treat Me Well



Treat Me Well is guidance for all SLC establishments that has been developed in line with Respect for All – The National Approach to Anti-Bullying for Scotland’s Children and young People (November, 2017).

Treat Me Well provides a framework which is underpinned by effective partnership working, that supports the school to fulfil our responsibility to support the health and wellbeing of all children and young people.

At Lesmahagow High School we have high standards and expectations of all our young people. These expectations are underpinned by our Values: Respect, Honesty, Ambition, Resilience and Equity; and our vision ‘*Aspire to be our best*’. These are promoted within our school and help to ensure there is a joint commitment from all to establish and maintain positive ethos and culture of dignity, inclusion, equality and a strong sense of community.

We all have a responsibility to anti-bullying and if you ‘**see it, report it**’.

A copy of our Promoting Positive Relationships Policy can be found on our school website:

- <http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/>



RESPECT

HONESTY

AMBITION

RESILIENCE

EQUITY



## Parent Council

The Parent Council is a group of parents selected by all parents in the school to represent their views. Parent Councils have an important role to play in school improvement by ensuring that the parental perspective is represented and taken into account.

The role of the parent council is to help create an environment where all parents know that their views matter, and where they feel confident and comfortable putting them forward. They work on behalf of all parents to discuss educational matters that are of importance to all.

The objectives of the Parent Council are:

- To work in partnership with the school to create a welcoming school which is inclusive for all parents.
- To promote partnership between the school, its pupils and all its parents.
- To develop and engage in activities which support the education and welfare of the pupils.
- To identify and represent the views of parents on the education provided by the school and other matters affecting the education and welfare of the pupils.

If you wish to contact the Parent Council then email:

[office@lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk) and mark for the attention of Parent Council in the subject line.

**WE NEED YOU!**  
**JOIN THE PARENT COUNCIL**  
GET INVOLVED IN YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

*Your voice counts!*

*Respect Honesty Ambition Resilience Equity*

 **LESMAHAGOW HIGH SCHOOL**  
**PARENT COUNCIL**

MEETINGS THIS YEAR & NEXT:  
MONDAY 02/8/19  
TUESDAY 08/10/19  
WEDNESDAY 13/11/19  
MONDAY 13/1/20  
TUESDAY 18/2/20  
WEDNESDAY 23/3/20  
MONDAY 11/5/20

MORE INFO AT:  
[HTTP://WWW.LESMAHAGOW.S-LANARK.SCH.UK/PARENTS/PARENT-COUNCIL/](http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/parents/parent-council/)

RESPECT

HONESTY

AMBITION

RESILIENCE

EQUITY



This booklet is designed to give you an introduction to Lesmahagow High School and give you some important dates to enter in your diary for 2021/22.

### **School Handbook**

**More detailed information on the school is available in the School Handbook. The most recent Handbook is now available on the school website using 'The School' menu at the top of the page:**

**<http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/>**

***If you do not have access to the internet and would like a printed copy please inform the Primary School and we will arrange to get a printed copy to you.***

