

ST MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Midlothian
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EDUCATION
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Midlothian



*****PLEASE NOTE THE NEW SCHOOL ADDRESS*****

May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Primary 1 Transition

Over the years, St Mary's has developed a transition programme that allows children to move from Nursery to Primary 1 in a smooth and meaningful way. However due to the pandemic and current restrictions we have had to alter the activities that your child would normally have taken part in.

The primary schools within the Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Locality has been working together to plan transitions which are similar, so that all children receive an equitable experience.

Our transition programme for session 2020-2021 will be split into 2 parts and begin from Tuesday 19th May 2020..

VIRTUAL transition (through our school website) – P1 TRANSITION

- Primary 1 handbook/power-point available for parents providing key information about starting school.
- A child friendly document all about Primary 1.
- A presentation about our new school
- Contact with school through email/ post/ phone-call. – **A RANGE OF FORMS AND LETTERS WILL BE POSTED HOME TO YOU – PLEASE HOLD ON TO THESE UNTIL THE SCHOOL RE OPENS**

PHYSICAL transition

- When it is deemed appropriate and following advice from the Scottish government, children will visit their new class and meet their teacher. We do not know who the P1 teacher will be at the moment.
- All school uniform can be purchased directly from Borders Embroidery by 20th July at latest for an anticipated August return <https://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/schools>

We know this is a very worrying time for everyone, particularly if you have a child who is due to start school in August. Like you, we are waiting for national guidance around the reopening of schools. At this stage, we cannot tell you exactly when your child will start, but we will ensure that their classroom is a safe environment and that they are welcomed warmly. Children learn best when they feel secure, safe and happy. The wellbeing of our children will be our first priority. We will keep you updated as soon as we are informed.

We know that families have been encouraging their children's learning at home, and this has been important in developing their knowledge and understanding. Please don't worry if there are skills your child doesn't yet have. Every child is an individual and we are experienced and ready to welcome everyone. Play and learning will go hand in hand once your child joins P1.

Throughout June, we are going to have a transition theme for all our new Primary 1 children. This will be based on a popular children's story. We will post weekly activities on our school website within the P1 transition section. <http://stmarys.mgfl.net> This will begin on Monday 1st June 2020.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or want to share information that would support your child's transition to school please contact us through email. stmarys_ps@midlothian.gov.uk

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Liz Laird
Headteacher