



EDUCATION
KING'S PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
20 CROFT STREET
DALKEITH
EH22 3BA

Head Teacher : Mrs Laurinda Renton
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Dear Parents and Carers

Return to School in August 2021

We are writing with some information that will support you and your child with their return to school in August. Once we receive further guidance we will write out to you again.

The following procedures will continue into the next academic session. We will be working alongside our Parent Council to regularly review our procedures and we welcome any feedback.

School Drop off and Collection

Our three school gates will be unlocked at 8.35am. Gate A is the gate facing our Early Learning and Childcare Setting (ELC) garden on Croft Street. Gate B is the gate from the park. Gate C is the gate into the playground at the back of the Infant building.

We are encouraging active travel to and from school e.g. walking, cycling, scooting, wheeling, etc. If it is essential for you to travel by car, then we ask that you park safely away from the school and walk the last part of your journey. We would like to emphasise the importance of this in order to prevent any congestion and to ensure the safety of all.

If your child is in ELC - P3, we respectfully ask that only one parent or carer enters the playground with your child and that you wear a face covering. If your child is in P4-7, we ask that they enter the playground by themselves. This is to minimise the number of adults in the vicinity of the school. We also ask that you do not gather in the playground or at the entrances to the school as contact between children, parents and carers from other families should be minimised.

We do understand that all children have their own specific needs and if you think that this might prove difficult, please contact the school so we can make an alternative arrangement with you.

Lining up Arrangements

ELC: Please enter the playground via Gate A. It is necessary at this time to reduce the number of adults in our playground therefore each child should be accompanied by only **one adult**.

Primary One and Two: Please enter the back playground via the Gate B or double gate at Gate C. Children will line up and enter the school via Door C. It is necessary at this time to reduce the number of people being in our playground therefore each child should be accompanied by only **one adult**.

Primary Three: Children should enter the main playground via Gate B or via Gate A. Children will line up and enter the school via Door B. It is necessary at this time to reduce the number of people

being in our playground. We would respectfully ask that **no adults** enter the playground with the children unless you have made an alternative arrangement with us.

Primary Four-Seven: Please enter the main playground via Gate B or Gate A. Children will line up in the main playground and enter the school via Door A. Please note that Primary 3/4 will line up and enter the school via Door B. It is necessary at this time to reduce the number of people being in our playground. We would respectfully ask that **no adults** enter the playground with the children unless you have made an alternative arrangement with us.

Please be assured that there will be clear signage and staff available to support with our lining up arrangements. We recognise that you may have more than one child that you will be accompanying into school, therefore please choose the gate that suits your needs best.

In the event of wet weather, we will not be able to bring the children into the hall as we usually would, therefore please bring your children to school as close to their start time as possible.

Staggered Start and Finishing Times

We will have hand sanitising stations in our school playground at each of our entrances to enable the children and staff to sanitise their hands before entering the school building. In order to allow enough time for this, we have introduced staggered start and finish times and this will also avoid congestion in the playground. This will not affect the children's learning time.

***P1, P1/2, P4, P7: 8.50am – 3.15pm, 8.50am – 12.25pm Friday**

***(please see P1 first week arrangements below)**

P2, P5: 9.00am – 3.25pm Monday to Thursday, 9.00am – 12.35pm Friday

P3, P3/4, P5/6, P6: 9.10am – 3.35pm Monday to Thursday, 9.10am – 12.35pm, 9.00am – 12.45pm Friday

We would ask that your child arrives to school on time. However, we appreciate that sometimes this may not be possible due to appointment etc. If your child does arrive to school late, please phone the school office to let us know of the reason. Your child should report to the school office unaccompanied to be supported to join their class.

School Uniform

To enable good hygiene practice, during this time we will be taking a relaxed approach to school uniform. It is strongly advised that you wash your child's clothes at the end of each school day. If your child is not wearing full school uniform, we would ask that you are mindful of the suitability of your child's clothing for school and the fact that we will be maximising outdoor learning. We would also ask that you do not send your child in football tops. We will let you know when your child will have P.E so that they can come to school dressed in appropriate sportswear. Please note that there will be no changing facilities for children at this time. Following advice from Education Scotland, P.E will take place outside. Please ensure that your child comes to school with an outdoor jacket everyday given the changeability of our weather in Scotland! We also recommend that all children's clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name and class.

School Lunches

All children in Primary 1 to Primary 4 are entitled to a free school meal. Please note that this is a change and that P4 are now included within this. Children will eat snacks and lunches in their learning spaces, before going out to play. Tables will be cleaned before and after food. Further information will follow about school lunch provision. BACS payments will continue for this time for those entitled to free school meals in P5-P7.

School Bags

Children should bring a school bag with a water bottle and packed lunch to school each day. These will be kept on your child's peg in the cloakroom area. We will provide children with an individual stationary pack which will remain in school. We therefore ask that your child does not bring in a pencil case or any additional items from home. We will review this at a later date.

Communication

We want to ensure that we make our return to school welcoming and as smooth a transition as we can. Due to the current situation, we are unable to have parents in the school building, including access to our School Office. We know that some of you like to catch the teacher at the start or end of the school day to discuss any matters concerning your child. As this currently will not be feasible, please contact us in the first instance:

- by telephone the school office on 0131 271 4610
- by emailing kingspark_ps@midlothian.gov.uk

We will continue to use our School App, Website, Twitter and letters to communicate with our school community regularly.

Primary One

This will be a very different experience for your child starting school in Primary One and we want to support you and your child as best we can. As we are unable to invite you into class, we will ensure that we take a photo of your child on their first day at school and post it on Seesaw for you to have as a memory. We have been able to provide a Virtual P1 Transition experience for your child, before the summer, and this will support them to come into school on their first day. In order to further support this transition, please note that during the first week, there is a slightly different arrangement for your child's start and finish time so that the playground is quieter.

Wednesday 16 August - Friday 18 August: Arrive at 9.15am and pick up at 12.15pm.

We will continue to focus upon settling the children in and promoting the health and wellbeing of all. We know that it has been another challenging year and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents and carers for your continued support.

Wishing you all a very happy, healthy and safe summer break.

Warm wishes

Laurinda Renton

Head Teacher

