

Lochardil Primary School

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www.lochardilprimary.org.uk



TO PARENTS/CARERS OF PUPILS IN – ELC

Date: 8th February 2020

*Article 28 (Right to Education)
Every child has the right to an education.*

Starting school is usually a time full of excitement for children and their families, although it can also present a worrying time as children are moving on from a setting and people they are familiar with to an unfamiliar classroom. We may then worry about children and how they will cope with this transition and change. COVID-19 within the past year has presented a whole new load of challenges and we understand that this will be a particularly worrying time for you and your child. That is where we are here to reassure you about our extensive transition programme for our children moving onto primary 1 in the summer. The children have already had several opportunities throughout the year to engage with the primary 1 classroom in a small group for approximately 20 minutes at a time, focusing on the 3 core areas of the curriculum.

Term 2 – Literacy (completed October – December)

Term 3 – Numeracy (when we return on the 22nd – Easter break)

Term 4 – Health and Wellbeing (After the Easter break – July)

As we will be returning to school on the 22nd February (*this decision will be confirmed by the Scottish Government on Tuesday 16th February – providing sufficient progress in tackling the virus has been made*) we will be returning in term 3, therefore our transition focus on our return will be numeracy.

This year our transition programme has been slightly different with the precautions that need to be taken to prevent the spread of Covid-19, which means groups of children mixing together needs to be kept to a minimum. Therefore, to keep everyone safe we are completing our transition programme virtually and participating in Google meets with the primary 1 class where the class teacher will be engaging in some numeracy focused activities.

We ended our last school year virtually so our current primary 1 children completed their final 2 terms (*nearly*) online, therefore they will be able to help our current children from their past experiences. They were unable to visit our classrooms in person and met their buddies virtually. We are in the process of creating virtual tour videos of our current primary 1 classrooms and cloakroom areas to share with the children. We will also introduce our current Primary 1 teachers, although please note that our staff and class allocations for next year have not yet been assigned therefore the primary 1 teacher's may change. We will be setting up a P1 Transition Google Classroom for the final term of the school year which all the children will have the opportunity to join.

Nearly all children have experienced some disruption in the last year or so. Primary 1 teacher's are obviously

aware of this and they will be ready for the children and take the time that they need to settle in. Schools will be a bit different to usual because we will be adapting to what the children need. There is also not a list of things that children should be able to do before they go to school and children should never be compared to one another. Children will always develop at different rates and at a time that is right for them. Meanwhile there is lots you can do to help through play, games and fun. Nothing is required or expected, but hopefully you find some of the ideas below to be fun and help deal with any worries you might have.

<https://stagedinterventionhighland.files.wordpress.com/2020/07/starting-school-hwb.pdf>

<https://stagedinterventionhighland.files.wordpress.com/2020/07/starting-school-reading-2.pdf>

<https://stagedinterventionhighland.files.wordpress.com/2020/07/starting-school-writing.pdf>

<https://stagedinterventionhighland.files.wordpress.com/2020/07/starting-school-maths.pdf>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Kind Regards

Miss Clare Mackenzie