

Starting School



Primary 1
at
Loughries Integrated Primary
School



Your child is starting P1 at Loughries Integrated Primary School. We hope your child will be happy here and will soon feel part of our school family. This booklet gives some important information about life at Loughries as well as some helpful advice on how to help your child feel settled in Primary 1.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school and we will try to help you.

Some important information...

Teacher's name: Miss Miller

Classroom Assistant: Mrs E Rea



The School Day...

(Mon 31st Aug- Fri 23rd Oct):

School begins - 9.00 am

Break time - 10.30 am

Home time - 12.00 noon

(Tue 3rd Nov onwards):

School begins - 9.00 am

Break time - 10.30 am

Lunch time - 12.15-1.00 pm

Home time - 2.00 pm



In The Morning

The school day starts at 9.00 am. For the first few weeks you are welcome to bring your child directly to the classroom. (Please enter through the front door.) To encourage independence, let your child carry their own school bag, look for their peg in the corridor and hang up their own coat.

Don't worry if there are a few tears when you leave your child into school in the morning... they will usually have disappeared before you reach the school gate. Reassure your child that they will have a good day in school and tell them that you will see them later as you say goodbye.



After the first few weeks, the children may play in the playground until the bell rings at 9.00 am. They should then line up in the playground and will walk into school with the teacher on duty. Playground supervision begins at 8.45 am when a member of staff will be on duty. Please ensure that your child is not left unattended in the playground before this time.



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs from 8.15am until 8.45am. Cost is £2 per child per day or £1.50 each if there is more than one child in the family attending. The money should be paid in cash on the day. No bookings are necessary. Toast, drinks and cereal are available. Children should come into Breakfast Club through the front door of the school into the Canteen.



Break time

Children have their break at 10.30. We try to encourage healthy snacks, such as fruit, vegetables, a Frube, pancake, or bread sticks. Please ensure this is a small snack, usually one thing is sufficient. Children's break should be sent in a lunchbox.

On Fridays children can bring a small treat such as crisps or a biscuit. Please do not send lollipops or sugary sweets.



Lunch time

At lunch time, the children can have a school dinner or a packed lunch. Currently a school dinner is £2.60/day (Cost is subject to change.).

School dinners have to be booked online using an online platform called 'School Money'. These are booked and paid for, if required, in advance. Bookings open on a Friday morning and close on the Sunday night at midnight.

A menu will be available at the beginning of term and will be sent home with your child. It is also available on the school website.

If you feel your child is entitled to free dinners, please complete the form provided by the Education Authority, which will be available on their website in June 2020.

Please note both paid and free dinners need to be booked.



In the afternoon

At the end of the school day, children should be collected at the fire exit door of their classroom. Please stand facing the door so Miss Miller can clearly see from it who is there to collect the children. On very wet days please enter the school building through the front door to collect them.

Please try to be on time to collect your child from school. Children find it upsetting if they are the only one left waiting with their teacher - especially when they are settling into school. If you are delayed and know you are going to be late, please telephone the school and let us know. Also please send in a note or telephone to inform us if your child is being picked up by someone different. We will not send your child home with anyone we don't know.



Concerns

If you have any concerns about your child's progress, behaviour or anything else that's happening in school, please ask to speak to the teacher. You can do this by asking for a quick word at home time. If you feel you need a longer chat, please phone school to arrange an appointment or write a note directly to the teacher and give it to your child to hand in. If we have any concerns, we will ask to speak to you. (See Positive Behaviour Policy)

Road Safety

Please talk to your child about Road Safety. When parking to drop off or pick up your child / children, please leave the junction at Loughries / Ballyblack Road clear and do not park on the double yellow lines. We would ask that all parents are especially careful when driving to and from the school at home time when a large number of children are leaving school. When collecting your child, please ensure that they stay with you the whole time and do not run around the school grounds or outside the school gate unsupervised.



School Uniform



The children should wear:

White polo shirt with school logo

Red sweatshirt with school logo

Grey trousers / grey skirt

Red school coat with school logo is optional

White / grey socks (boys and girls) or red / grey tights (girls)

Black shoes

School Bag (These are available from school for £5)

For PE your child will need a pair of black P.E. slippers. These should be named and kept in school on their peg in a drawstring bag. On PE days, currently Wednesday and Friday, the children should come to school wearing black jogging bottoms and black or white trainers, along with their school polo shirt and sweatshirt.

Uniform can be purchased from: School Days, 2 High Street, Newtownards.

Telephone : 028 91827717 or order online [www.schooldaysltd.co.uk](http://www schooldaysltd.co.uk)

If you feel your child is entitled to a uniform grant, please complete the form provided by the Education Authority, which will be available on their website in June 2020.

All the children wear the same uniform and so it is important that you name all sweatshirts, coats and shoes clearly. Sewing a name label on the top of jumpers and coats is the best way to name items.

Other Information

Toys:

We have toys in school. We ask children to leave their toys at home and play with all the P1 toys when they are in school. When children bring toys to school it can cause upset if others want to see the toy or play with it. Children then become even more upset if something gets lost or broken.

Your Child's Health:

If your child has a medical condition which may affect his /her school life, please make the teacher aware of this. There is space on the **Data Collection Form** and **Primary 1 Information from Parents** sheet for this information. When your child starts school they will be susceptible to many illnesses. You should ensure that he/she has been adequately immunised. If your child is ill they should remain at home. (See **Guidance on Infection Control in Schools**)

During the Primary 1 year your child will be given a medical inspection by the school nurse. You will be notified of this in advance and invited to attend.

Medicines:

If your child is well enough to attend school but needs to take medicines, please fill in a **Medicine Administration Permission Form** and give it to Mrs Rea, Mrs Thompson or the class teacher between 8:15 and 8:45am by going to the front door of the school. A copy is enclosed but further copies can be obtained from our website. Medicines will not be administered without this consent. Children must not carry medicines to school. If your child needs an inhaler this must be kept with your child's teacher. Please check the expiry date. (See **Policy for the Administration of Medication**)

Allergies:

We are a nut free school. Please check ingredient lists to ensure no nuts are listed. As some of our pupils have this very serious allergy we appreciate your cooperation on this matter.

Absence from School:

If your child is absent, please inform the school of the reason by completing an **Explanation for Absence from School** slip on their return to school. A set of slips are enclosed but further copies can be obtained from our website. If your child is ill and likely to be absent from school for an extended period of time, please telephone the Secretary.

School Website:

www.loughriesips.com - check us out!!

Facebook Page:

Friends of Loughries Integrated Primary School

School Photographs:

During the year a photographer will spend a day in school. You will be informed of the date and asked if you wish to have an individual portrait taken of your child and/or a family group photograph. You will also be given the opportunity to purchase a Primary 1 Class Photograph.

Data Protection:

From time to time the teacher may wish to take a photograph of your child, whilst on a school trip or during an exciting event in school. We like to display these photos in the classroom and upload some onto our website or Facebook page. Occasionally we invite the "Chronicle" to take a photograph for publication. We would ask that you give your permission for this to happen by completing the [Internet and Photograph Permission Form](#). (See Policy for the Use of Images)

Internet Use:

In common with most schools our pupils will have access to the Internet. During school, teachers will closely supervise and guide pupils towards appropriate materials and the school's Internet provider employs measures to protect against access to inappropriate materials.

There is a world of quality educational resources available on line and when used properly can effectively aid the learning of the children who use them. However, the school respects the right of each family to decide whether or not to give permission for your child to use the Internet. Please complete the [Internet and Photograph Permission Form](#).

Intimate Care:

In the event of any child requiring a change of clothes due to sickness, toileting accidents or a child arriving at school rain wet, it is the agreed policy of the school to act immediately to address the child's discomfort and distress. Please return clothes borrowed freshly laundered and promptly. Please complete the [Permission for Staff to Provide Intimate Care](#). (See Intimate Care Policy)

And Finally...

We hope you have an enjoyable Summer and we look forward to seeing you all at the end of August!