



And all our
other
non-cluster
P7s too.

P7/S1

Transition 2020

Our Vision at Boroughmuir

To ensure a confident , nurturing and inclusive learning community where ALL achieve their true potential.



We are very much looking forward to welcoming all our new S1s in August 2020. As you are all well aware things are a little unusual this year so transition may look a little different. We want all our P7s and their parents/carers to know that we are all in this together and we will do our very best to make it work for you. We will adapt and work together.

This "Transition 2020 " newsletter is made up of all the information we would normally share by visiting all our cluster P7s at our Primary schools face to face. This would normally take place this week. Having done this for the last few years I have covered all the questions which are normally asked of us when we visit at this stage. This will not cover all the questions everyone has but it will be a good start!

Please be reassured too that all the information we need to make transition work for you all has been shared by your teachers.

We are due to meet in June for the 3 day visit and parents information evening. We don't know yet if we will meet face to face before the summer. If not, we will make sure we continue to keep in touch and keep everyone feeling confident about transition 2020.

Ms Juliet Presly

Depute Head S1/S2

CONTENTS

TRANSITION 2020

<i>My classes</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>What do I wear?</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>My Timetable</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>What do S1 say?.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Our School Year</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Joining Clubs</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Parent Pages.....</i>	<i>6&7</i>
<i>Parents and Pupils.....</i>	<i>8&9</i>
<i>Pupil/Parent</i>	
<i>Feedback</i>	<i>10&11</i>
<i>Next Steps.....</i>	<i>12</i>



P7 Pupil Pages



These pages are designed to cover the information we share on our visits in April.

WHAT WILL MY CLASSES BE LIKE?

Your classes will be made up soon. We try to keep a few pupils from the same school together so there are some familiar faces. We do not set by ability but have mixed classes in S1. Maths classes are set later in the year after a few weeks usually in September.

You will be in a “**Register Class**” which is a class of between 25-28 pupils who register together in the morning and learn together in subjects which are “classroom” based like English, History, Geography and Drama. These class are named with the letter of your “House”. Each house has a Pupil Support Leader or guidance teacher who stays with you for all your time at Boroughmuir and they teach you once a week.

Our House Colours

Hartington 1H1 & 1H2 (Miss Grant)

Leamington 1L1 & 21L2 (Miss Nisbet/Mrs Marshall)

Montpelier 1M1 & 1M2 (Mr McIlwaine)

Viewforth 1V1 & 1V2 (Mr Brandie)

Westhall 1W1 & 1W2 (Mrs Wallace)

You will also be in a “**Practical Set**” for subjects like Health and Food Technology Science, Art and Design and Engineering. This has a maximum of 20 pupils. This is a mixture from different register classes. These classes have numbers such as Set 1.1. 1.2 and so on. French and German classes will mostly be your register groups and Mandarin will be a mixture from different register classes.

WHY AM I PART OF A “HOUSE”?

As you know from Primary being in a house gives you continuity throughout your time and at Boroughmuir gives you a guidance teacher who stays with you. It also makes you part of a smaller group in a large school. We also have house competitions during the year and House Captains from S6 who also have a leadership role. Our sponsored walk is the first big outing in our House Groups when all of S1 and all of S6 walk to raise money for a chosen charity. House colours are encouraged!

WHAT WILL HAPPEN ON MY FIRST DAY?

We know that the first day is very exciting and for a few a wee bit of a worry. We put in place lots of support and help to make sure it is ok. When you arrive in August there will be friendly faces at the front door to help guide you to your register class. You will have a timetable and if you are not sure about it someone will be there to help you. S1s have also told us these top tips to help make it easier

1. Plan your journey in advance to make sure you give yourself enough time. Meet with others if you can - if not someone will meet you at the front door at around 8.15am.
2. Pack your bag the night before. On the first day you only need pens/pencils etc. Books and other resources will be given out by teachers.
3. S1s get out early for break and lunch to avoid the crowds. Bring money in change or a packed lunch and a snack (no nuts). You are not allowed out of school grounds until after October.
4. If you have PE on the first day you should know in advance to bring your kit.
5. Never be afraid to ask for help if you get lost. There is always someone around a reception or Support for Pupils on the second floor safe places if you get lost.

WHAT SHOULD I WEAR TO BOROUGHUIR?

We are very proud of our school dress code. It offers our school community a sense of belonging and togetherness. It also promotes a climate for learning and achieving. We have a very popular “Nearly new” uniform exchange run by Mrs Craig in the Maths department. This helps us recycle and promote good environmental habits and helps us all save money too. More information about where to buy and what you need to come later in June.

Almost all young people attend Boroughmuir every day dressed in uniform. We try very hard and work in partnership with parents and young people to make sure dress code is worn to school every day. Some who do not will be encouraged and parents contacted to support the school.

What should my uniform look like?

Here is a register class to show you



WHAT CAN HAPPEN WHEN SOMEONE IN MY CLASS IS NOT BEHAVING OR LEARNING WELL?

We are usually asked this on our visits...

In our classrooms you will see posters showing the actions that will result when someone else disrupts your learning. You will be given a

RESPECT leaflet to take home in your first week.

The **RESPECT** code sets out our expectations of learning and attitude towards each other based on our values. We now have a visible series of steps for improving learning when some young people find this more challenging.

These steps will offer support and outline

consequences to make sure everyone can learn well together.

This may involve being removed from class for a short time so others can learn, restorative conversations, further support and contact with parents when required.



WHAT WILL MY TIMETABLE LOOK LIKE?

Every day starts with 13 minutes of registration at 8.32am. On Mondays

S1 have assembly with Ms Presly instead of registration.

At assembly we share information, celebrate success and have a wide range of guest speakers who come to join us. These speakers include pupils, staff and visitors.

Registration is organised differently by different teachers. It is often a sociable time to start the day positively and to check attendance. You will have the same register teacher all year.

Many S1 teachers organise quizzes, have time for reading, share the bulletin and have class discussions

There are 6 periods per day and 4 periods on Fridays.

You will have the same timetable all year until June 2021 when S2 starts. Your maths classes will change in September. Your languages will change from 2 periods of French and 1 period of German to 2 periods of German

and one of French after Christmas. If you do Mandarin you will do 3 periods per week all year.

School Day at Boroughmuir High School

- **Reg 8.32-8.45am or Assembly on Monday S1**

- **Period 1 8.45-9.40am**

- **Period 2 9.40-10.35am**

Break 10.35-10.50am

- **Period 3 10.50-11.50am**

- **Period 4 11.50-12.50pm (Fridays only 4 periods)**

Lunch 12.50-1.35pm

- **Period 5 1.35-2.30pm**

- **Period 6 2.30-3.30pm**

Subject	Number of Periods per Week in S1
Maths	4
English	4
Modern Languages	3
Science	3
History, Geography, Modern Studies	1 of each per week (3) total
RMPS	1
Art, Drama, Music,	1 of each per week (3) total
Health & Food Technology & HWB	2
Physical Education	2
Computing & Business	1 of each per week (2 total)
Personal and Social Education	1 period with your guidance teacher

What about homework?

S1s will get homework and this will vary by subject. Some subjects like maths and modern languages give regular, small amounts of homework.

Other subjects may give you longer deadlines with more to do - these are often subjects you have once a week.

Some teachers will give you options and level of challenge for you to choose. You may also be issued with a homework booklet at the start of the year in science for example.

It is your responsibility to keep up to date and get organised. You will get a planner to help you or you can use your phone. If you need any more help there is a homework club at lunchtimes once a week.

The club is held in Support for learning and there are computers available and staff to help you too.

JOINING CLUBS & EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



The Freshers' Fair Friday 11th September 2020

After about 3 weeks of S1 we hold our annual “Freshers Fair”. This is a very successful event held during the school day in our Assembly Hall. All of S1 are taken to the Fair by their class teachers. The hall is full of stalls and representatives of our clubs and activities. We are hugely proud and always so impressed by the quality and quantity of clubs on offer. The clubs and timings of the clubs change each year so we cannot give exact details before then. If you have an interest please let us know and a club could start...

How do I join clubs?

At the Freshers Fair all S1 receive a booklet full of the details of all clubs on offer. This is also uploaded onto your year group Teams page and on the website for your parents. All activities and clubs are advertised in our daily bulletin. Some clubs may start before or after the Freshers Fair. The bulletin is shared during registration and is on the screens around the building every day.

How many can I join?

There is no limit! Many S1s join two or three clubs. If you can fit them in to your week then there are no other barriers. Sometimes you may wish to join clubs which happen at the same time, this is unavoidable (we rely on volunteers of pupils, staff and parents) and you will have to decide which one you want to go to!

Why should I join Clubs?

Extra Curricular activities help you to develop skills and build confidence. They also help you to meet new people and people with similar interests.

Activity Week

The last week of term every year is Activity week for all S1-S3. We organise a huge range of exciting excursions and activities to finish our year with fun. There is an S1 residential to Benmore. If you don't want to go to Benmore there are a range of daily menus to choose from or week long activities.

You will get your choices for 2021 in September!



Some of the Clubs On Offer 2019-2020

****These change every year****

Art Club. American Football

Badminton, Book Club, Breakfast Club

Chess, Creative Writing, Choir, Cheer< Cricket, Canoe Club, Cello Ensemble

Drama, Debating, Dance

Enigma, Eco Club

Fitness, Film Club, Football

Gardening, Geography, Guitar Ensemble, GSA

Hockey, Homework, Hub

Knitting KIVA Microloans

Learning and Teaching Pupil Group

Multi Sports, Meditation

Netball

Orchestra

Philosophy & Cake Club, Pupil Council, Programming Club. Pop Choir, Pipe Band, Photography Club

Rugby (Girls and Boys) Reading

STEM Club, Scripture Union, Ski Race, Science

Tennis

Ukele

Wind Band

Yoga

Zoom Club (Animation)

P7 Parent Pages



These next 2 pages are designed to

address some of the initial transition questions for parents.

More of these details will be addressed in June.

HOME/SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

HOW DOES THIS WORK?

This is a frequently asked question from P7 parents. We are very proud of the improvements we have made recently with communication.

Groupcall & BHS APP

We use groupcall to contact you directly via email or text and we also upload relevant information on to our School App. You will all receive a password and login details for the App.

www.boroughmuirhighschool.org

Our website is regularly updated alongside our app. The latest news posts contain links to relevant information.

Twitter

Many of our faculties have their own twitter feeds and we have a whole school one too. These are all regularly used to share news and celebrate success and

achievements.

Daily Bulletin

This is daily information for pupils about what is happening in school. These are all on the app.

Parents' Evening Bookings

We use an online system to book appointments for parents Consultation evenings. S1 Parents' Evening is held in November and ahead of the date you will receive information about how to use the booking system.

ParentPay

You will be issued with instructions for setting up parentpay for your child in August. We use this to pay for school lunches, excursions or tickets for schools events such as S1 Party or Concert. Our cafeteria is cashless and we operate a biometric system and use fingerprints to pay. More details to come before the start of term. You can opt out of this.

Contacting us

Our website details all the ways to get in touch with us regarding attendance or other enquiries. Over time we may also be in direct contact via email or phone from relevant staff.



PARENT COUNCIL - GETTING INVOLVED

We have a very supportive, hard working and active parent council who support our school in a range of ways. These include joining a sub-group, getting involved in fundraising or attending the parent council meetings.

There are lots of ways of getting involved. Our school website has details of the **Parent Council Facebook Page** and the minutes of meetings from last year. A really good way to find out more is often the face to face contact and reps will be in attendance at our "Welcome Evening" for S1 Parents in September.

More information to follow.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We are still finalising our calendar for next session but I wanted to share the outline of the year with you at this stage so you can get an idea of what happens when!



June 2020 P7 Parents' Information Evening

In the event of school still being closed I will ensure you receive an update with all the information we would normally share at this evening.

September 2020 S1 Welcome Evening

This is a really good way to meet other parents and offer us feedback to continue to improve. The evening is facilitated by our S1 & S6 pupils and our Parent Council. There is a short presentation then discussion in small groups.

October 2020 Bring Your Parent to School Day

This is a great opportunity to “walk in your child’s shoes” for a day and find out how school feels. We have capacity for 60 parents to return to school and follow an S1 timetable as a class for a whole day. This has been a hugely successful initiative over the last few years and more than 500 parents have now been back to school. Details of how to sign up will be shared in September.

October 2020 S1 Tracking Report

A tracking report is a “snapshot” of progress made so far. This is colour coded and indicates Progress, Effort, Behaviour and Homework. This communication is to offer you feedback about the first six weeks.

November 2020 S1 Parents Consultation Evening

Online booking information will be sent to you to book appointments with your child’s teachers. Ten appointments are usually what we recommend. This is a follow up to discuss any issues arising from tracking reports.

March 2021 Second Tracking Report

This is a second snapshot of progress, effort, behaviour and homework.

May 2021 Full Progress Report

This is an end of year, detailed written report from all teachers outlining progress and next steps.

June 2021

New Timetable and start S2.

SUPPORT FOR LEARNING

As part of the transition process our primary colleagues have

already passed on information about specific learning needs of P7s . If your child has had

support for their learning this is likely to continue but may look different in a secondary setting.

There are many different forms of support available. You may have attended our afternoon in November to meet the support for learning team to find out more.

If you have child planning

meetings the chances are our SfL team will have met you already.

All our teaching staff have

access to our “Support Directory” which is a database we

create containing all learning needs and strategies to support learners.

This is updated with all our new S1 information each year and regularly throughout the year as we build up more information or needs change.



LOCKERS

Within the first few weeks in August we will let parents know about lockers. We have a round 700 lockers which is normally enough for all pupils who want them. Not everyone does...

The letter will let parents know about a deposit. When these are processed pupils will be notified that they have been allocated a locker and can collect a key from the office. This will be advertised in the bulletin.

LUNCHES

Many of our P7s had a chance to sample the food in our cafeteria as part of transition. It is healthy, very good value for money and offers a big range of options. There is a queue but at most it takes around 10 minutes to get to the front. S1s are first in the queue for the first few weeks! Pupils can also bring packed lunches.

ALLERGIES AND MEDICINES

Our primary colleagues pass on information about any medical issues or severe allergies so we should already know.

We also appreciate that sometimes it is easier to talk through arrangements with key people in school. We can put this in place to make sure we all feel confident about medical arrangements. In general most young people who use them carry epipens which they have at all times and we keep spares in our medical room.

What do I do if I feel unwell at school?

If at any point any pupil feels unwell we have a medical room beside reception which is staffed at all times by either Mrs Dunn or a member of our support staff. A pupil may need some time out and then return to class. If return to class is not possible we will contact parents/carers for the pupil to be collected or sent home. A pupil cannot leave school without permission.

ATTENDANCE & ABSENCE PROCEDURES

If an absence is known in advance please use the procedures outlined on the website and let us know. If a pupil does not attend registration a text message is sent home to let parents know. If there is no reply a further message or call is sent an hour later to confirm the absence.

Pupils are also registered every period by every teacher. If they do not attend a class during the day this is followed up.

Appointments during the day

All pupils leaving school must sign out at the school office before they leave. They must have written permission (letter from parents, appointment card etc).

MOBILE PHONES

Can Phones be used in Our School?

In our RESPECT Code there are the procedures for phones in school. We allow phones in school and the classroom usage is the decision and judgment of the class teacher. They can be used for learning but will never be a requirement. Phones are allowed to be used at social times but not between classes.

Misuse of Phones

If pupils are not following the guidance on phone use the phone will be removed for the day and passed on to the Depute Head. The pupil will then have to come and find the Depute Head to get their phone back at the end of the school day. Persistent misuse will result in parents being contacted or invited in to school.



BULLYING

According to pupils, parents and staff our school is a happy and safe place with positive relationships. We take any report of bullying very seriously and follow the policies and procedures in line with City of Edinburgh Council and National advice. We can only act upon information which is reported. We fully understand this is not always easy especially in S1. We have many ways of reporting bullying - these are highlighted in your planners and will be discussed in PSE in the first few weeks. They include people who can help and ways to let them know.

PC Fowler

We are so lucky to have an outstanding School Link Officer who many of you already know. PC Fowler works as part of our school team to support positive relationships and stamp out any form of bullying. PC Fowler delivers lessons in PSE and also leads assemblies on issues such as dealing with bullying.

Building our relationships and community strengthens positive relationships. Here is a typical year for S1. You can see there are events and activities designed to build our school ethos and community.



September 2020

- Freshers' Fair

October 2020

- Sponsored Walk
- S1 Halloween Party
- 1st Tracking Report

November



- Parents Evening
- Family Fundraising Quiz

December

- S1 Panto Trip
- S1 Christmas Party
- Christmas Concert
- S1 Christmas Ceilidh

March

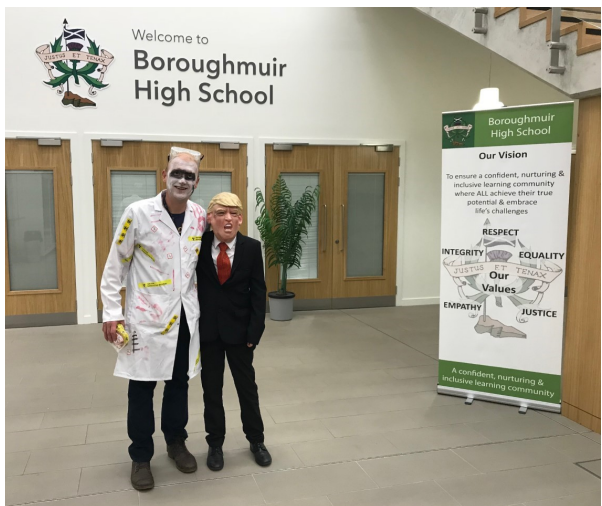
- 2nd Tracking Report

May

- IDL Trip to Hermitage of Braid
- Full Progress Report
- Help with P7 Transition

June

- Start S2 Timetable
- Sports Day
- Activity Week





What does learning look like and feel like at Boroughmuir in S1?

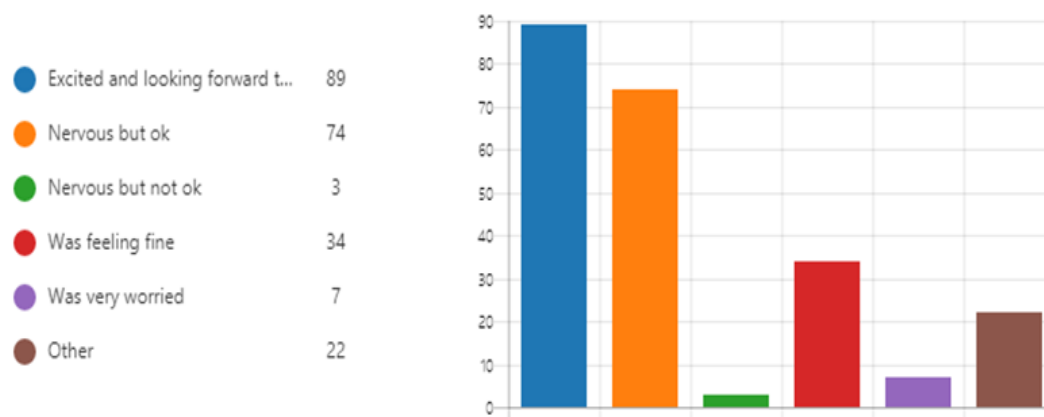
Our aim is to have high quality learning for every learner every day.

Some P7s have questions around the level of difficulty and the type of work in S1. This is what S1 said last year.

Hopefully this will help.

3. How would best describe your feeling on your first day at Boroughmuir?

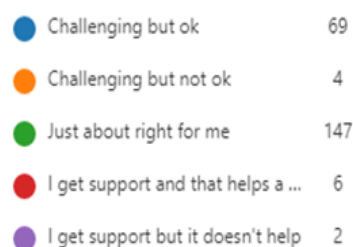
[More Details](#)



The Scottish Curriculum is designed from 3-18 so the learning you have covered in primary and the skills developed will be the building blocks for S1 upwards. Most young people will have reached the end of 2nd level and will start learning 3rd level Cfe work in a variety of ways.

6. How would you describe your learning so far?

[More Details](#)



What if I find the learning too difficult or too easy?

Firstly don't worry. S6 pupils volunteer to

support younger pupils in class. Your teachers will also get information about you which helps them plan lessons. This is one way you may get help if you find things tricky or too easy. We also have PSAs who help support learning in class. Teachers also work hard to make sure there is a range of levels of challenge in each lesson. There is always extension work available if you have got through things quickly.

How are we “tested”/assessed in S1?

The answer to this is - in lots of ways in s1. You will have some “tests” at the end of pieces of learning but also lots of other ongoing ways for teachers and you to assess progress - this can include presentations, posters, written answers, group tasks, what you design, program, cook, do, make, say!

Digital Technology

Can I Bring my Own Computer?

Pupils cannot access the school wifi and individual devices are not supported, so the answer is no. Pupils who need any access to computers are issued with one whenever they need them for use in school.

We are very well resourced with computers and have a number of IT suites and also mobile “class in a box” sets of laptops for use all over the building.



Office 365

We use the Office 365 suite of apps at Boroughmuir. This is free of charge and supports every pupil to access learning online. Many pupils will already be familiar with the skills to use this but if not this is covered in S1.

Teams are used widely across the school to share learning.



Feedback from S1 Parents about Learning & Teaching in S1

What they liked by September 2019

- * Varied lessons
- * Liked the goal of the week in PSE and homework diaries good support
- * Guidance staff good
- * SLT mingling with pupils
- * Office 365 - homework being done on Teams is useful to catch up if pupils have missed a lesson
- * Enjoying doing 2 languages - French and German
- * Very welcoming for S1s
- * Pupils feel supported, no fear of speaking to teachers or older pupils especially in PSE
- * Excited about Activity Week
- * Only positive things to say about teachers
- * Trombone and music lessons
- * Good range of subjects
- * Good pupil support
- * Friendly atmosphere - lovely school nurse
- * 3 different classes good for integrating students to meet others
- * Communication between school and parents is very good - emails

Information about placing requests should be **obtained directly from:**



City Of Edinburgh Council

www.edinburgh.gov.uk

School.placements@edinburgh.gov.uk

Tel: 0131 469 3033

We really hope this newsletter has helped to start the process of transition for this year. Please be reassured that we are working behind the scenes to do all the “normal” bits of transition at this stage in the term. We are still meeting with primary colleagues to ensure smooth transfer of relevant information. We will have a year group of 260 in S1 next session.

We will be making up classes and allocating guidance teachers over the next few weeks.

Before the end of term you and your child will know which class and which house they are in and you will know who your point of contact will be.

I am aware that some schools managed several of our transition activities this year and attended the Open Afternoon in October. This has meant that the building and some people are familiar already. This is a big step forward. For others who haven't yet been or are not part of our cluster we will make sure you are not disadvantaged by this.

I will get back in touch in the next few weeks when we have a clearer idea of when we may be back in school. We will keep in touch.

Take care, stay safe and hope to see you all soon.

Ms Juliet Presly DHT



Transition Next Steps

May

- We complete the transfer of P7 pupil information
- S1 classes created
- Our new whole school timetable will be finalised
- Any more transition updates will be shared

June

- S1 classes will be complete and teachers allocated
- Timetables will be issued to P7s and parents
- Website updated with relevant transition details

August

- We welcome our new S1

Map of the Building

I have uploaded a map on to the website and sent to our primaries.

You might want to have a look at it with your child and get a feel for the layout to help allay fears of getting lost and build confidence with the building! There are five floors in total.

- Lower Ground - Rooms are labelled LG.01, LG.02 Health and FT, PE, D&E & Drama Assembly Hall
- Ground - Rooms are labelled G.01, G.02 Reception and the Office, Music, Media and Art Games Hall
- First Floor - Rooms Labelled 1.01, 1.02 English, Modern Languages, Cafeteria and Atrium
- Second Floor - Rooms labelled 2.01, 2.02 Computing, Business, Library, Social Subjects, Support for Pupils, MUGA
- Third Floor - Rooms labelled 3.01, 3.02 Science and Maths