

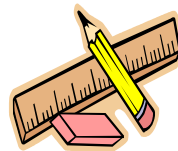


For every child to be confident as individuals, both socially and academically.

Dalsersf Primary School



Starting School Information August 2023



Honesty Respect Hardwork Kindness Teamwork

Welcome to Dalsersh Primary School. We hope that settling in to our school will be a happy experience for everyone concerned.

This booklet will give you some ideas how you as a parent/carer can help your child come to school ready to enjoy him/herself right from the first day. We can assure you that our helpful staff, and pupils, will guide them through their early days and their subsequent years at Dalsersh Primary School. Our full whole school handbook can be found on our school website, listed below.

School Times

8.15am – 8.45am Breakfast Club (free and no need to book)

9.00am-10.30am

10.30-10.45 (15 minutes playtime)

10.45-12.15

12.15-1.00pm (lunch)

1.00pm-3pm

School Contact Details

Phone Number 01698 882680

School website <http://www.dalsersh-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk/>

Email address gw14dalsershpsoffice@glow.sch.uk

Keeping up-to-date

The quickest way of keeping up-to-date is by downloading our school app.

You can set up the alerts for your child's class only and for the News items that are written by the Head Teacher.



There is also a school website where school related policy documents are kept and additional information about our school.

Parking

Please use the designated visitors parking spaces or alternatively park out with the school grounds or use the car park at the side of the school. The drop off bays should be available for mini-buses and taxis who drop off/pick up children before and after school and also for school deliveries, these are not parking spaces As you can appreciate, it can become very congested at peak times and your child's safety is of paramount importance and therefore wish to reduce the chances of potential road accidents or damage to vehicles.

Some important questions answered

When does my child start school?

Your child starts school on **Wednesday 16th August 2023**. From that day the children will be in school **until 3.00pm**. All children will start at 9.15am.

What happens on the first day?

- You will be invited to bring your child to school, entering the side gates nearest the Community Wing entrance, at 9.15am.
- Your child will line up outside their classroom and Mrs Barber, Mrs Cowie and myself will be there to welcome you. .
- Photographs of your child can be taken in their seat. Please ensure for GDPR purposes you only take a photograph of your child.

What will your child need on the first day?

- A school bag (suitable to take an A4 Folder)
- A bottle of water
- A small healthy snack
- Indoor shoes (black gym shoes) with their name on them. These will be kept in school and will also be their gym shoes
- A smile!

Where will I collect my child?

Parents should wait at the black side gates (nearest the Community Entrance) Mrs. Barber will ensure each child is reunited with their parent/carer. As the time progresses, the children are encouraged to find their parent/carer and return to the gate if they cannot find them.

People who will work with/support your child at school

Head Teacher - Mrs Ingrid Gardiner
P1 Class Teacher - Mrs Thel Barber
Support Staff - Mrs Isobel Cowie, Mrs Suzanne Beattie and Mrs Jean Taylor
Team Leader – Ms Julie Graham
Janitor – Mr Stuart Muir

School Lunches

All pupils P1-5 are entitled to a free school lunch, a copy of the new menu is enclosed in your child's gift bag. It can also be accessed via the South Lanarkshire Council's Website or our School App. Please read over the school lunch menu with your child so they know what to order. If your child doesn't like what's on that day, please issue them with a packed lunch (only put in what you would expect them to eat normally). Please put your child's snack in their school bag (not packed lunch box). Milk should be pre-booked online via ParentPay; this can be done two weeks in advance. Milk costs 29p. The office will send you information about how to set up your ParentPay account which is SLC's online payment system.

If your child has a special dietary need, food allergy or intolerance then please let the school office know and the cook in charge will be in touch.

What happens if my child takes ill at school?

- We will contact you immediately.
- If we cannot contact you we will contact your emergency contact. Please keep all phone numbers given to the school up-to-date, particularly mobile telephone numbers.
- Your child will be supervised until an adult comes to collect them.
- If your child has an accident in school, it may be necessary to take him/her to hospital. A member of staff will accompany them until you arrive.

What if my child has a medical problem?

- Please speak to the school about any aspect of your child's health which may concern you.
- If your child requires medication to be administered in school, then you must complete the relevant forms which you can get from the school office.
- **Please do not send** your child in with medicine and a note of instructions **as the medication will not be administered.**

What if my child has an appointment?

- Please inform the school office (by email or phone) or the Class Teacher (beforehand) using their homework diary.
- No child is allowed out of school unless they are collected by an adult.

What if my child is absent from school?

- If your child is unable to attend school, please telephone the school on Day 1 before 9.30am. If the absence continues, please keep us informed. If no contact is made to explain an absence, emergency contacts will be contacted. Mrs Gardiner may then also pay a visit to the home if there is still no explanation for an absence. If this persists for a period of time then a social work referral will be made.

What measures are in place regarding Covid-19?

We still continue to exercise the following routines in school:

- washing, or sanitising, their hands at regular intervals throughout the day
- increased ventilation in the classroom (windows open)

School Uniform

- Sky blue polo shirt */shirt/blouse
- Black sweatshirt*
- Black trousers/skirt
- School tie
- School shoes – preferably without laces unless your child can tie these independently.
- Indoor shoes (black plimsols or trainers)

* embroidered items are available but not essential. You can purchase school embroidered items and ties from www.scotcrestschoools.co.uk

Indoor PE (you will be given your child's day for this in August)

- Gym shoes (we use the indoor shoes for this)
- Shorts (no football teams)
- Polo shirt (pupils usually wear this on their PE days to avoid changing)
- No jewellery please (earrings must be removed for gym days. On non-gym days small studs only to be worn at school)

Outdoor PE/ Learning (you will be given your child's day for this in August)

- Joggers/leggings
- Jumper
- Jacket
- Trainers

Homework

- Please check your child's bag and diary every evening.
- Please sign your child's homework and homework diary.
- Homework should not be stressful for children or parents. If your child is struggling for any reason, please let the teacher know.
- From early September your child will be issued with homework along with a homework diary.

Starting School

Starting school is such an important time for children. For them it's a time of great excitement and anticipation. There are lots of new things to learn and lots of new friends to make. However, it is understandable that you as a parent/ carer may be a little apprehensive. There are some things that you can do as a parent/carer to help your child be independent at school.




It will be helpful if your child is able to:

- go to the toilet by themselves
- put their jacket on, fasten it and hang it up on their peg
- put their shoes on and off
- take their jumper/ cardigan on/off
- get up early for school
- wipe his/her own nose.

You would help us and your child by:

- explaining to your child they should not go out the gates at break time
- explaining that unlike nursery, the toilets are in a separate area and they must ask to go
- explaining to your child that if they are hurt they should always tell an adult
- clearly labelling all of your child's belongings e.g. blazer, jumper, trousers, skirt, tie, shirt.

Some activities you may enjoy with your child before going to school

- Talk about colours, number and shapes when you are out with your child.
- Reading to your child as often as possible encourages them to sit still and listen carefully. Encourage them to hold the book with you and to turn the pages carefully. Talk about the story and the pictures. Ask them what is going to happen next. They will also like to tell you the story in their own words. 
- Encourage your child's talking and listening skills by repeating nursery rhymes and number songs. Allow your child to complete the end of rhymes. You can give them more opportunities by playing games; matching pictures, spot the difference, taking turns and by sorting items according to colour or size and counting them. 
- Encourage readiness for writing and help develop their fine motor skills. Cutting, threading, puzzles and small construction activities will help your child e.g. play dough modelling, duplo, lego. Many children love to "write" their own little stories and what looks like a scribble to adults can be important "writing" which has meaning to a child. Please do not use capital letters when writing for your child-apart from the beginning of a name. 

Promoting Positive Behaviour and Creating a Welcoming Ethos

In Dalsersf Primary School we have a policy of promoting positive behaviour. Staff in school like to be seen as partners with parents in preparing children with skills for life. Prepare your child to be a good citizen by encouraging them to care about others e.g. helping around the house and being valued for doing so. All children love to know how well they are doing.

At Dalsersf Primary School we value and celebrate pupil achievement in many ways.



Each week at assembly a child from each class is presented with a Curriculum for Excellence, maths, reading or writing award. Their photograph is then shared on Twitter along with other learning in the school. In our entrance hallway a copy of their certificates will also be displayed for everyone to see and share in their success.

Whole school achievement is also celebrated and we are proud of the variety of achievements pupils accrue over the year, from charity involvement to sporting success. These are shared for all pupils, staff, parents/carers and visitors to see. Individual achievement out-of-school is also recognised with pupils being encouraged to share their successes at assembly time. There is a Wider Achievements display in our corridor so these successes do not go unnoticed.

Each term every child records their participation in after school clubs and any other clubs/activities which they attend out-of-school. As a Staff we then try to identify any groups of pupils who are not participating in extra-curricular activities and try to remedy this by offering a club.



Children's Rights and Positive Behaviour

As part of our Health and Wellbeing curriculum we teach all children about their rights as stated in the UNCRC (United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child). There is a School Charter which specifies the most important rights to us in Dalsarf Primary and how pupils and staff will help these rights to be met. Each class also creates their own Class Charter which represents the rights the children of that class feel are the most valuable to them.

Running alongside our School and Class Charters, we have a 'Time to Reflect, Regulate and Reset' sheet to encourage positive behaviour and choices made in class/school. Children will be given reminders to follow our values and expected behaviours. If this does not happen, staff will implement the 'Time to Reflect, Regulate and Reset' step by step process set out below.

Step 1 – First Verbal Warning

Step 2 – Second Verbal Warning

Step 3 – Time to Reflect and Regulate (and staff signature)



I have been given time to **Reflect** and **Regulate** my emotions because...

What would help me to help me to **Reset** my behaviour?

Steps 4 and 5 will be implemented if the inappropriate behaviour continues.

Step 4. Parent/Carer signature: _____

(Please read and discuss with your child before signing and returning to school. Thank you.)

Step 5. Head Teacher signature: _____

(Mrs Gardiner will discuss the matter with each child and telephone home if it is required.)

In class positive rewards such as points charts, break times, regular use of stickers and stampers and class responsibilities all help to motivate and encourage pupils to be the best they can be.

Houses

There are four houses set up in school. These are **Avon**, **Cander**, **Clyde** and **Nethan** – which are the names of local rivers.

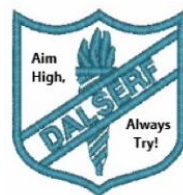
Each child is a member of one of the four 'house' groups with children from the same family being in the same house group. Usually there are events organised by our House Captains and Vice Captains, who are elected by their peers.

House points are awarded for a variety of reasons for example, demonstrating any of our school values (Kindness, Teamwork, Hardwork, Honesty and Respect) and/or being a confident individual, responsible citizen, effective contributor or successful learner.

Throughout the year pupils normally take part in a variety of house events such as House Day where the pupils work within their houses and complete a range of curricular activities. This provides pupils with the opportunity to work with others across the school in a variety of contexts demonstrating their teamwork. Pupils participate in their houses at Sports Day and sponsored events. This enables everyone to feel a sense of pride where they are not just representing/ competing as an individual but as part of a team. Having Houses helps to promote our warm and inclusive ethos that Dalsersf Primary School prides itself on.

I hope this booklet has reassured you as a parent/carer about your child's transition to Primary 1. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the school and we will be more than happy to help.

**Thank you for your support.
We will take good care of your child.**



Honesty Respect Hardwork Kindness Teamwork