

P1 FAQ's August 2020

1. Where do we go on the first day back?

All the Primary ones line up in the main playground near the football pitch. There will be orange cones with the names of each class (P1T Miss Thompson, P1 C Mrs Cartney and P1/2SB Mrs Shanks and Mrs Bergin). The children will enter the large blue door on the right of the football pitch.

If social distancing is still in place, then the required space between each family is required. Children have been asked to come for 930am. Please do not arrive before 915am which is the last of the rest of the school's staggered starts.

2. What happens if my child doesn't want to go in?

The teacher would encourage your child to come in but if he or she is adamant that they don't want you to go then we would ask you to take them home and perhaps try again the next day. We understand and appreciate, that this will be an anxious time for you and your family. So, it is important to know that we have your child's best interests at heart. The teachers have set up their classrooms for a play-based curriculum and will be spending a lot of time getting to know your children and making them feel safe and secure in school. We also plan to have some of the nursery staff welcome the children into the school for the first few weeks so that they have a friendly face to help settle them.

If your child requires a comforter with them then this is fine if it is washed regularly. E.g. a teddy, blanket. No other toys will be encouraged to come to school due to contamination issues.

If your child has come to school upset, we will contact you during the day to let you know how they are getting on.

3. What are the best type of shoes to get my child?

We would like our children to be as independent as possible, so we would encourage you to buy outdoor shoes that have Velcro straps and are easy to put on and take off.

Children should also have trainers or gym shoes to wear inside.

We will be utilising the outdoor spaces as much as we can and therefore, it is important that children are appropriately dressed with waterproofs and wellies.

It is not advisable to buy your child shoes with laces if they are not confident in tying their own laces.

4. What is the school uniform?

Our uniform is a royal blue sweatshirt with a white polo shirt, black or grey skirt/trousers/pinafore.

You have information about how to purchase school jumpers in your pack delivered in August. However, if you want to purchase plain blue sweatshirts from Asda or Tesco etc, that is fine too.

If you need financial support with uniforms please phone the school and speak to Shona, she can direct you to the correct forms.

4. How do lunches work?

Primary 1-3 are entitled to free school lunches as an initiative paid for by the Scottish Government. The children will receive a menu for the 4-week rotation. The menu is refreshed every 6 months so a Summer menu and a Winter menu. As part of their daily routine the children will come in and make the choice from the selection of meals for the day. Each meal is

associated with a colour; Red is the hot choice, yellow is the baked potato, and blue is the sandwich choice.

The teacher will put up pictures of the available menu for each day, but it would be helpful if you discuss what the children would like before they come to school.

The ins and outs of catering are still to be decided upon for when we return in August. We will have to run this slightly differently when we return and when this is confirmed I will put up a post on seesaw and Groupcall.

**Snacks - children should have one snack with them for playtime and something that they can eat relatively quickly as they only have 20 minutes for break. Try not to give too much as we have found that the children aren't as hungry for their lunch.*

5. What does my child need to take to school?

At Inch we encourage our children to be as independent as possible, which means that everything that goes to school should be clearly labelled, so that they can recognise their own items.

*Children should take a water bottle as the water fountain will not be available in the immediate future. We ask that the children have **water only**, as this is in keeping with a health promoting school.*

If, for some other reason your child needs something else, please discuss this with the class teacher.

The children will need a school bag, a snack, a PE kit (t-shirt, shorts and gym shoes) and an apron (which can be an old shirt) every day. The class teacher may ask you to send in plastic tubs for tricky words, but she will let you know when that is necessary via your class Seesaw app. If you can provide your

child with a pencil case with pencils for writing, a rubber, a sharpener and colouring pencils.

Children should also be prepared for the weather as we will be utilising the outdoors during the week. This means they will need a waterproof jacket, possibly wellies, hat, gloves and scarves. It is important that these are also labelled with the children's name as you can imagine trying to find gloves in a school of 350+ without a name in them.

Children will also need their reading folders with them every day, which will be given to you by school. This will have a reading diary and anything they need for homework. You can also use the diary as informal communication between home and school.

6. How can I communicate with my child's teacher?

At Inch School we have an open-door policy, however, if social distancing is required, we will ensure other means of communications are available too.

Every teacher will have a Class Seesaw page which you will get a new code for at the beginning of the term.

You can phone school to ask the class teacher to phone you back - 01464 635110.

You can email the school and Mrs Simpson will pass it on:

insch.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

We will be having parents' nights very early on to discuss Literacy and Numeracy tasks which are part of the P1 programme of work. Dates are yet to be decided, but, as soon as we know, we will inform you.

If there are any questions that are not here, please do not hesitate to contact me via the above.

Mrs Mhairi Stirling