



Dear Parents/Carers and Children

As we move into June, families inevitably start thinking ahead...next session, next teacher, next class.

We want to reassure you that we have been thinking about these for a long time! Nationally, there is a strong focus to get the transition process right for our P7 and new P1 pupils (and more details will be provided when we have them) but want you to know that we feel this to be true for all our learners. Moving teacher, classroom and stage are important milestones whichever area of learning you are at. Usually, our learners would meet a new teacher in their new classroom and spend some time introducing themselves to each other and although this cannot happen face to face this year, we are finding ways around this! Although it may seem simple for teachers to keep their current classes, in a school of our size this will not be possible for everyone as we adapt to a new P1 intake, see our P7s move on and adapt to changes in staffing.

At Mauricewood, we have robust transition processes and ensure all important information is carefully handed over from one teacher to the next. This year will be no different, and arguably, even more important. Parents will play an essential role in supporting transition activities as there may be emerging concerns you have as we come out of lockdown. Children will have changed, attitudes to school may have changed and all of these pieces of information will be important in the move into August. Keep an eye out for transition activities in the Google classrooms and help your child to complete them with you.

Much as we would like to give you more information on what August will look like, we are not in the position to be able to do so at the moment as we wait to be guided by Midlothian, who will also communicate directly with you.

What we do know is that blended learning will be our “new normal” in August. This means that your child will experience a combination of in-school learning and home learning. Our online learning journeys will continue and parts of the curriculum will be taught by our Mauricewood teachers and other parts of the curriculum supported at home. Please remember that if you have a device which is making this type of learning difficult, you can request a device from Midlothian Council. To do this please click the link and complete the form: <https://sites.google.com/mc.glow.scot/distancelearning-parentcarer/chromebookloan>

Please remember that the Bounceback strategies are useful to keep your child reassured at this time of change. These are listed again on the following page if you wish them. Please do get in touch if you have any worries, our school email is checked daily.

Please keep checking the app and school website for further information as we receive it. Specific information for your family may also come through our Groupcall text and email service. If you think we have the wrong details, please use the school email to provide us with the up to date details.

Kind regards,

The Mauricewood Team

BOUNCEBACK

Bad times don't last. Things always get better. Stay optimistic.

Other people can help if you talk to them. Get a reality check.

Unhelpful thinking makes you feel more upset. Think again.

Nobody is perfect - not you and not others.

Concentrate on the positives (no matter how small) and use laughter.

Everybody experiences sadness, hurt, failure, rejection and setbacks sometimes, not just you. They are a part of life. Try not to personalise them.

Blame fairly. How much of what happened was due to you, others and to bad luck or circumstance?

Accept what can't be changed (but try to change what you can change first).

Catastrophising exaggerates your worries. Don't believe the worst possible picture.

Keep things in perspective. It's only part of your life.