



# Primary 1 Virtual Transition 2021

## Please get to know us!

- Please take some time to view our **school website**: <https://tynewater.mgfl.net> which provides a wealth of information about our school. An updated A to Z of Information for Parents will be uploaded in June.
- Follow us on **Twitter** @TynewaterPS to view and engage with our learning community.
- Join the Tynewater Parent Council **Facebook page** to get to know some of the wider school community.

## Welcome Pack

We will issue a **Welcome Pack by late May**. This pack will contain basic information about our school uniform, school lunches, milk, and information on how to participate in our virtual transition classroom activities using the Seesaw Class app.

Please take some time to read your pack and familiarise yourself with our school procedures. We will endeavor to answer any questions by emailing the school or by telephone call.

## Social Story

Please use the **Social Story** enclosed in your Welcome Pack to begin to talk to your child about starting Primary 1 at Tynewater Primary School. This will help to reassure your child and simplify some of the key information for them.

## Download Seesaw Family and Class Apps

Within your **Welcome Pack** you will also receive information on our Seesaw online learning and communications platform. If you are new to our Tynewater PS Community you will receive a leaflet detailing how to download two Seesaw Apps, one as a parent (Seesaw Family App) and one for your child (Seesaw Class App). Pupils who already attend our Nursery Class will have another class added to their existing profile so that you can toggle between their current nursery class or their new P1 Transition Class.

Regular activities will be posted on Seesaw from late May to help support transition and pupils will be able to share their learning together online.

## Virtual Tour

Please take a **Virtual Tour** of Tynewater Primary School. This will be available on our school website and a link will be posted via our Seesaw Primary 1 Transition Class. It will give your child the opportunity to familiarise themselves with our school layout and visualise what a Primary 1 classroom looks like.

## Mid Mouse Project

As part of our transition programme, we will be participating in a Midlothian wide project. Volunteers from our local community have been knitting mice which will be gifted to our Early learners before they start Primary 1. The mouse represents hope and resilience with our learners at the centre of everything we do. Suggested stories and activities will be shared in Early Learning settings throughout Midlothian as well as featuring in our online Seesaw transition class. The stories and activities will focus on developing important skills such as independence, determination, inclusion and connection. In particular we will be sharing "The Lion Inside" by Rachel Bright and Jim Field as a particular transitional focus.

## Communication with Early Learning Centre Settings

Mrs McCabe (Principal Teacher) will liaise with all learners' respective Early Learning Centre Settings including Tynewater Early Years Staff to transfer information about your child; their progress; achievements and next steps. This information will include their Learning Profiles and Transition Records all of which will be communicated with Primary 1 Class Teacher(s) when staffing is confirmed.

## Preparing at home for starting Primary 1 – A Helpful Checklist

If you are already part of our Tynewater Early Learning setting, please continue to share your child's achievements from home on Seesaw Class, eg: learning to ride a bike between now and August.

Please begin to review the checklist that will be part of your Welcome Pack to help your child to prepare for Primary 1. Please try to find a little time each day to focus on any skills your child requires some support with, for example: fastening their coat / jacket or changing their shoes / for gym. Please take photos / videos of your child's progress and upload this on to their P1 Transition Class on Seesaw for staff to give feedback.

## Enhanced Transition

Moving from one setting to another is a big change! Your child may need additional support to manage this transition. If you have concerns about how your child will settle into his / her new environment or consider that your child needs additional support, please contact us by email on [tynewater.ps@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:tynewater.ps@midlothian.gov.uk)

Early Learning Centre staff may suggest that your child would benefit from an enhanced transition. If this is the case, we will speak with you directly. We will work with you and our partner agencies to plan for their transition to Primary 1 in the most appropriate and effective way.

## Feedback

As a school we always welcome any feedback that you may have relating to what we do for you and our pupils. Please feel free to email the school on [tynewater.ps@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:tynewater.ps@midlothian.gov.uk) with any questions that you might have relating to our P1 Transition.

Thanking you, Mrs Tracey McCabe (Principal Teacher), Ms Emma Beattie (Senior Early Years Practitioner - maternity cover), Ms Mharie Cook (EYP) and Mr Douglas Lawson (Head Teacher).