



Starting P1 at Cornbank

Who else will be in my child's class?

Emma in our Nursery is gathering together pictures of each class to display on our closed Twitter account.

Which P7 buddies will my child have?

When we return to school we will not be able to have children mixing beyond their own class group. As restrictions hopefully ease, we will then allocate P7 chums. Our P7s have written welcome letters to our P1s and we will share these next week.

What is the class size for P1?

We are expecting 46 children in P1. This will make up two classes of 23, but there will be a smaller number of children in each room when we return to school. As restrictions hopefully ease, we will be able to have all pupils in. We will adhere to Midlothian and Scottish Government advice regarding this.

Please note that class composition is reviewed each year and it may be necessary to composite classes, with children from 2 stages in the one class, as children move through the school. A composite class would be made up from the oldest children in the younger year group and the youngest children in the older year group. The maximum class size for composite classes is 25. P2-3 classes can be up to 30 and P4-7 up to 33.

Is there an app for the school?

We do not have an app for the school. We use email through our Groupcall system and Twitter (@CornbankPS) to communicate with families. Paper copies of any letters are sent home on a Thursday. We also have a website: cornbank.mgfl.net

What colour is the uniform?

Our uniform is blue and can be ordered via our school website.

Will they be put into friendship groups for classes?

We have been in touch with Partnership Nurseries to get more information about children and have ensured an even number of children and male/female balance in each class. We also considered a balance of ages within each class. This year we are welcoming children from 11 different settings and will spend some time over the first weeks and months giving pupils the opportunity to build relationships with each other and the staff working with them.

How much PE will P1 do?

Each class normally has 2 hours of PE each week. This may be different when we return to school, but we will adjust this as restrictions change.

Do you know yet if after-school clubs will be running?

Active Schools cannot guarantee this at present - we will let you know when we have more information.

What will you do to help children make friends, taking into account physical distancing?

We will follow all advice issued by Midlothian Council. Pupils will be able to mix with small groups within their own class. A lot of time will be spent in class looking at building relationships with each other, in addition to helping children familiarise themselves with routines in school.

How does the House system work?

Children are allocated to one of 4 houses - Eagles, Falcons, Kites and Ospreys. During a normal school year, pupils work together in their houses at different points (e.g. Science Week and during our Pupil Conference). Pupils can also earn house points for going 'above and beyond' with effort for different activities, supporting peers, demonstrating particularly good manners. These house points contribute to our House Competition. On a weekly basis the house with the most points earns an extra 5 minutes at break. Each term, the house with the most points has a short activity together.

What are the school times going to be?

Our normal times are Monday-Thursday 8:50-3:15 and Friday 8:50-12:25. We are awaiting guidance about whether or not we will need to make changes to this at the beginning of the new session.

Will the children continue to learn to ride a bike, like in Nursery?

Unfortunately we do not have balance bikes for P1, but encourage children to bike/cycle to school safely, wearing helmets.

Will the children take part in Nature Play sessions?

Classes will aim to take part in outdoor learning at different points in the year.

Do you have a place to lock up children's bikes?

Yes, we have bike/scooter shelters beside the gate to the infant playground. Children need to provide their own locks.