



# PENICUIK HIGH SCHOOL

Primary Transition 2023-24





# Why Penicuik High School?





# Why Penicuik High School?

- Significant expansion of Student Support Service since August 2020 to provide appropriate support for all young people.
- Active Extra-curricular Programme with opportunities for all
- Range of different subjects taught in school with progression pathways.
- Strong Vocational links eg Edinburgh College, RUTS, FOLA, Glam Candy, Borders College, DofE, CLLE and Foundation Apprenticeships
- Edinburgh College delivering Construction and Sports Leadership in school.



# Why Penicuik High School?

- Student Voice – Working on Gold Level of Rights Respecting Schools
- 8 Green Flags for the School Eco Group
- Malawi Partnership
- Reinstatement of The Big Day
- Queen Margaret University/ELTI tutoring programme for students in the senior phase
- Introduction of Music and Drama Therapy in a new partnership with Queen Margaret University
- Seasons For Growth



# Why Penicuik High School?

- Extensive Transition programme for P7 running from before Christmas until June 2024 (details upcoming)
- Activity Days instead of school camp to allow access for all and to manage costs for parents and carers – all students need equal access and none should be excluded due to financial circumstances.
- Simple, clear and inexpensive uniform policy.
- Chromebooks for all students through the Equipped for Learning Programme
- £68,000 pound replacement programme for new smartboards in all classrooms completed July 2023.



# Why Penicuik High School?

- Exciting times ahead with a fully refurbished school due for completion by December 2026!





# Who are we?



Mr Craig Biddick,  
Headteacher of  
Penicuik High School



Mrs Diane Burgess  
Depute  
Headteacher



Mr Craig Dewar,  
Depute  
Headteacher



Miss Hollie Lyon,  
Depute  
Headteacher



# Who are we?

## Pupil Support

LIDDELL

CLERK MAXWELL



Mrs M  
Brandie



Mr S  
Milligen



Mrs L  
Wood



Miss E  
Campbell



Ms S  
McLennan



Mrs G  
Docherty





# Extra-curricular Activities

Day	Lunchtime
Monday	Junior Vocal Group S1-3, Rm 3, Mrs Murphy
	Senior Vocal Group S4-6, Rm 4, Mrs McIntosh
	Girls Football S1-6, Games Hall, Miss Maden
Tuesday	Duolingo Club S1-6, Rm 11, Mr MacLeod
	Science Club S1-2, Rm 50, Miss Kinmond
	Basketball S1-3, Games Hall, Mr Hunter
	Percussion S1-6 Percussionists, Rm 3, Ms Waddell
	Wind Band S1- Woodwind, Brass and Percussionists, Rm 4, Mr Walker
	Guitar Group S1-6 on the Guitar Timetable, The Music Hub, Mr MacLeod
Wednesday	*Young Carers Group Reading Room (Eng) Mr Milligen
	Foreign Language Film Club S1-6, Rm 16, Mrs McEvoy/Miss Montanes
	LGBTQ+ and Allies S1-6, Rm 28, Miss Graham
	Jazz Band S1-6 Woodwind & Brass Pupils, Rm 4, Mrs MacRae
	MedSoc Club S4-6, Rm 27, Annabelle Proctor
	Racket Sports S1-6, Games Hall, Mr Witton
Thursday	News Club S1-6, Rm 26, Miss Tavakoli
	Rights Respecting Schools Group S1-6, The Music Hub, Mr Murphy
	Knit, Knot & Natter S1-6, Textiles Room, Cal Hind



# Extra-curricular Activities

Day	After School
Monday	Spin S4-6, Spin Studio, Ms McLennan
Tuesday	Homework Club, S1-6, Rm 16, Mrs McEvoy Girls Netball S1-6, Games Hall, Mrs Van Aswegen Rugby S1-6, Rugby Pitches, Mr Witton Art Club S1-2, Art Computer Room, Ms Collop Dance Club S1-6, Old Gym, Miss Tavakoli
Wednesday	Drama Club S1-6, Old Gym, Mr Laydon Junior Boys Football, S1-3, Astro, Miss Dziewulska Senior Boys Football S4-6, Astro, Mr Rathie/Miss MacDonald
Thursday	Hockey S1-6, Astro, Miss Robertson Cricket S1-6, Astro, Mrs Burgess & Cal Hind



# The Transition Process

- To coordinate the Transition process this session a core group has been established. This consists of PHS staff and staff from the four cluster primaries plus a representative from Mauricewood Primary School.
- The group will have regular meetings through the Transition process.



# The Transition Process - Allocated Link Staff

## **Cornbank Primary School: Mr Andrew Drysdale**

Mrs Leigh Wood, PT SAID

Mr Stephen Milligen, PT Guidance

## **Cuiken Primary School: Ms Kimberley Hughes**

Ms Alison Colquhoun, SFL Teacher

Miss Ellie Campbell, Acting PT Guidance

## **Sacred Heart Primary School: Miss Alison Hardie**

Ms Alison Colquhoun, SFL Teacher

Mrs Margaret Brandie, PT Guidance





# The Transition Process - Allocated Link Staff

## **Strathesk Primary School: Ms Emily Reynolds**

Mrs Leigh Wood, PT SAID

Ms Suzy McLennan, PT Guidance/ Ms Gen Docherty, Acting PT Guidance

## **Mauricewood Primary: Ms Jennifer Mouat**

### **Care Experienced Young People**

Mr Stephen Milligen, PT Guidance

## **Enhanced Transition Leads**

Mrs Leigh Wood, PT SAID

Miss Kat Brack, Teacher of Inclusion (The Learning Centre)





# WHAT IS HAPPENING FOR TRANSITION THIS YEAR?

- Parent Information Evening Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023
- P7 Open Afternoon Tours – Intro tour of the school with Q & A. Info will be shared via primaries and will be on website and Twitter page.
- The tours are on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 4.00pm-5pm 2023 and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 1-2pm 2023



# WHAT IS HAPPENING FOR TRANSITION THIS YEAR?

- Enhanced Transition will begin in December 2023 and will be tailored to the needs of students. There will be a programme for students who have been identified by their primary schools as requiring a greater level of additional support to help them move from primary to secondary school.
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- There will then be Enhanced Transition covering ASD, Anxiety, SEBN/Behaviour, Literacy, Numeracy and Complex Needs.



# WHAT IS HAPPENING FOR TRANSITION THIS YEAR?

- P7 Activity Days to replace the ASG Cluster Camp.
- Thursday 18th April 2024 at PHS
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 at Broomlee Outdoor Centre. Approximately £40 per person covering activities and transport. Primaries will send a letter to families with full details this week.
- There will be a wet weather alternative for outside activities in the event of inclement weather.
- P7 Visit Parents Information Evening – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024
- P7 Visit – 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024.





# PHS Additional Inputs

- Additional Visits into PHS for students. These will take place through January to March 2024. Dates have to take into account Senior Prelims and the February break so are spread out and will be communicated to families by the primary schools.
- Guidance staff to visit primaries to meet students but also to deliver initial Personal and Social Education Inserts.
- Enhanced Transition inputs will be individual to students needs. These **may** include additional visits, class shadowing, additional time with guidance staff, literacy support, anxiety management support etc but this will be decided on a case by case basis in discussion with the primary schools.



# P7 Transition Days 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023

- We have been notified that the P7 3 Day Visit will be on 12<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> June 2024.
- On these days all P7's will attend PHS and will follow their S1 timetable (the school timetable changes at the beginning of May). This will allow students to properly experience their subjects and meet their new classmates.
- Students will be allocated to their S1 Guidance and Practical Classes for the visit



# P7 Transition Days 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024

- **Class construction:**

- It is **VITAL** that PHS staff are aware of any issues that may impact on the class placements for S1 students. We aim to make the process as smooth as possible.





# P7 Transition Days

Primaries are asked to give information on any “keep with/keep away from” situations among students.

If there is information that has **NOT** been shared with primaries or **particular requests or concerns** please email these directly to [Transition.Penicuik@midlothian.education](mailto:Transition.Penicuik@midlothian.education) and they will be recorded for action. **This can be done until Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April.**

**Once classes are constructed it is unlikely that changes can be made due to numbers and capacity.**



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **What happens about Music Tuition?**
- Music instructors from primary regularly work with students in PHS. If you have any queries please contact us and we will pass your enquiry on to the Music Department for clarification



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **How will you get to know the children?**
- PHS Staff are visiting the primaries for Question and answer sessions with P7 students. Guidance and SFL staff are liaising with primary colleagues and are getting a really clear picture of all of our new students.
- The Enhanced Transition Programme, school visits with in school activities and the Activity Days help us get to know our young people.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **What about uniform?**
- Please **do not** buy uniform until nearer to the return time in August. It is not required for the 3 day visit and on these days students should attend in their primary uniform. Young people tend to grow like weeds over the holidays and can quickly outgrow items bought early!
- For August students will be expected to wear a white shirt, black trousers or skirt, black shoes (no white/coloured logos) and a black jumper or cardigan. **The PHS school tie is available to buy from the school office for all students when they start in August. (Currently £5 but cost to be confirmed for 2024).** There will be the opportunity to buy this during the summer break if that helps parents.



# If you have Queries or concerns

We are aware Transition can be a stressful time. **All parents are encouraged to contact us directly to discuss any concerns queries regarding P7 Transition.**

Please contact us at [Transition.Penicuik@Midlothian.education](mailto:Transition.Penicuik@Midlothian.education) and we can reply individually

