



Respect *for* Oneself, Others, Learning *and* Opportunity'



Welcome to Pentland Primary School



**PENTLAND
LEARNER**
ENGAGED, ASPIRATIONAL, REFLECTIVE AND SUPPORTIVE

Pentland is a strong school community, striving to deliver learning that is real, fun and inspiring for all.



Whole School information

Smart Start

Pupils can come into school from 8.45am and self-register for 'Smart Start'. Pupils can come into the school building and go into their classroom to self-register and read quietly. They will be supervised by Pupil Support Assistants (P.S.As) at this time.

ParentPay

We use ParentPay (online payment system) within Pentland Primary School to pay for school trips, milk, breakfast club and order/pay for school lunches. You should have received an activation letter when your child started and we would ask you, if you have not already done so, to register with ParentPay as soon as possible. We also use ParentPay to communicate with parents.

Breakfast Club

Your child can attend the Breakfast Club, run by Oscars. The Breakfast Club aims to provide an opportunity for children to begin the day with a healthy, nourishing and appetising breakfast. If you would like your child to attend Breakfast Club, you will require to book and pay through 'Oscar's.' There is information available on our website and leaflet available from our school office for you to complete and return if you wish to use the breakfast club. **The Club is open from 7.30am daily and pupils using the club should enter via the dining room.**

School milk

Milk will be available to purchase in advance via ParentPay (see above). Children may bring unflavoured water in a plastic bottle instead if they wish. Juice may be brought as part of their packed lunch.

School Lunches

Your child can have a school lunch, bring a packed lunch or go home for lunch. School lunches must be ordered via ParentPay (see above). As there is no charge for Primary 1-3 lunches, we recommend that you order all of your child's lunches for Term 1 in advance.

Packed lunches

If your child is going to bring a packed lunch, please write their name on the lunch box. We would strongly encourage all parents/carers to avoid sweets or fizzy drinks in the packed lunch.

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Home lunches

Children who go home for lunch should be brought back to school as near to the bell as possible, joining their friends in the playground area. If the other children have been kept in because of bad weather, please bring your child to the main entrance at 1.05pm, where a member of staff will guide your child back to their class.

Playtime

The Primary 1 and 2 pupils will play in an allocated playground zone at morning break and lunchtime. All pupils will have access to our large school field on specific days. There will be Pupil Support Assistants and Playground supervisors supporting the children during these times. The children may bring a snack item with them for playtime. We hope that you will encourage your child to have a healthy snack to eat at morning break.

Buddies

Our P7 pupils are buddies to our younger pupils. They will help the children to make friends and have fun in the P1 and 2 playground areas at break and lunch. P7 buddies will also take visitors on tours of our school to show the wonderful learning spaces and grounds.

End of the day

All pupils will be brought to the door by a teacher at the end of the day and told to stay with the teacher until they have been collected. Some of the older pupils like to walk home by themselves or with friends. Please let us know if this is the case. If there is any change of arrangement, please ensure that we know by letter or telephone so that we can reassure your child. The school's telephone number is 0131 445 1510.

Drinking Water

Please encourage your child to bring drinking water to school. You can supply a plastic water bottle labelled clearly with their name and class. **Please do not fill bottles with anything other than water for drinking in class.**

PE kit

At Pentland, we are lucky to have wonderful grounds that allow us to take our P.E outside, regularly. Please supply your child with shorts, a polo shirt and gym shoes that they can wear indoors as well as an outdoor kit of trainers, jogging bottoms and a jumper. You may wish to put these in two separate bags.

Please let us know if you need support with any of the above.

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Indoor and Outdoor Shoes

Pupils at Pentland Primary take off their outdoor shoes before entering the classroom areas each morning, after break and after lunch. Pupils should have an appropriate pair of indoor shoes left in school which they can change into by themselves. This helps us to look after our building and allows pupils to play outdoors in all weathers. The indoor shoes can be the same shoes that they will use for indoor P.E lessons.

Supporting the Curriculum

Information about ways in which you can help your child will be given at our 'Meet the Teacher' session on Wednesday 4th September 2019. During this evening your child's class teacher will talk to you about the approaches to learning and teaching your child will experience.

Additional Support for Learning (ASL)

At Pentland, we have an ASL team that provides additional support for pupils who require it. This support is inclusive and comes in many different forms. A range of adults will provide this support, for example Pupil Support Assistants (P.S.As), parental volunteers, Nurture teacher, ASL lead teachers, or Senior Leadership Team (SLT). We all work together as a team to ensure that we are Getting it Right for Every Child.

Home Learning

Further information on home learning and how you can support your child will be given at the 'Meet the Teacher' evening on 4th September 2019. Home learning activities are shared monthly on our school website and offer ideas of things you can practise regularly to support your child's development. Paper copies are also available.

Reporting and Communication

You will be invited to parents' consultations and receive a copy of 'learning conversations' between your child and the teacher twice in the school year. A summary report will be sent home at the end of each school year. If you ever need to speak to the class teacher or a member of the senior leadership team, do not hesitate to get in touch, via the school office.

Shared Learning

During the school year, you will be offered the opportunity to come into the classroom for parts of the day to see your child working on a variety of activities. We hope this will help you to gain an increased understanding of how your child learns at school and become more involved in the classroom. More information about this will be sent home via parentpay or letter.

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School Uniform

Children are encouraged to wear the school uniform. The school colours are navy and white. We would encourage you to dress your child in black, navy or grey trousers, shorts or skirts. Sweatshirts and polo shirts can be ordered online and further information on how to do this is included in this pack.

School shoes are the most practical form of footwear. Shoes that your child can fasten without the help of an adult would be greatly appreciated.

Sickness

If your child has had vomiting or diarrhoea, they should stay at home for **48 hours** after the symptoms have stopped and are well enough to return to school. This advice comes from the NHS and can be found at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/diarrhoea-and-vomiting/>

Absence

Please phone the school on 0131 445 1510, before 9.15 a.m., if your child will be absent from school. Please choose Option 1 (Absence Line) where you can leave a message. Please state your child's name, class and reason for absence. You will be sent a text message by the school if your child has not appeared at school as expected and no phone call has been received. Where an absence starts in the afternoon, a similar procedure will apply.

Parents/carers also have a responsibility to ensure that the contact information held by the school is accurate and up to date. Please let us know of any changes. We seek your continued support in operating this policy to ensure that all of our children are safe and their whereabouts known.

Trips and Excursions

Throughout the school year, your child will go on a number of excursions linked to the curriculum. These help to enhance the experiences for the children and make their learning even more meaningful, engaging and fun.

Have a look out for letters about school trips. These will be sent via parentpay and some of them have a small cost attached. For a lot of our school trips, we require parent volunteers. If you are able to help, please let the school office know.

Please ensure we have up to date information about your child's medical needs and emergency contact information, should it be required.

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Library Visits

Your child will visit Oxfangs Library, our local one in our community, every three weeks. This allows them to access more books of their choosing to bring home and read independently or with someone.

Transitions

In June of each year, your child will experience activities to ensure a smooth transition to the next year of their school life. Their current teacher will be preparing them for this change in a positive way. The children will meet their new teacher and visit their new classroom and cloakroom area before the end of the school year. All pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a lesson with their new classmates and teacher.

All teachers liaise closely with each other to ensure all necessary information is passed on.

Home/school partnership

It is fundamental that we work together in a positive partnership to effectively support your child. We welcome and depend on your support. Please do not hesitate to contact the school with any queries or information which you feel would be of help to your child or his/her teacher. We welcome parent volunteers throughout the school - please get in touch if you would like to get involved.

Further information about school matters will be sent home to you in our newsletters and letters. You can opt to receive paper copies of letters but ParentPay is the most efficient way of getting information.

If you have any concerns or questions about your child starting school at Pentland, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the senior leadership team.

Daily Timings

P1 - P2

Monday - Thursday 8:50am - 3:05pm

Friday 8:50am - 12:15pm

P3 - P7

Monday - Thursday 8:50am - 3:15pm

Friday 8:50am - 12.25pm

We look forward to welcoming you to Pentland Primary School!

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