

LORNSHILL ACADEMY

S1 Transition

2021/22



Twitter: @Lornshill

www.lornshillacademy.org.uk

Headteacher's Welcome



I am very pleased to welcome you to Lornshill Academy's P7 Transition Handbook. We have streamlined our approach to communication using both our website and our school app. Together, they provide the means for us to keep you up to date with the information you need, when you need it. We look forward to engaging more with you as we continue on this journey.

Within our learning community we are fully committed to providing opportunities for every pupil to achieve success, to make friends, to discover new talents and to develop new skills.

We offer opportunities for your child to take part in a wide range of activities including sports, music, drama, and cultural activities in addition to the academic life of the school. In return we ask that your child shows us commitment, works hard, sets high expectations and takes responsibility for supporting our school community.

Our teachers, support staff and many partners are hard-working, caring and devote many hours of their time to providing excellent learning experiences including clubs and activities outside the normal school day. Positive relationships with all our partners are core to our success and you will always be made to feel welcome within our school.

Tom Black

Key members of staff for S1 pupils/parents

DHT Year Head for S1 –

Mr P Arnold



Pupil Support

Our Pupil Support structure is organised around a House system, our three Houses are Devon, Forebraes and Grange. All new S1 pupils will be assigned to one of our three Houses. Following a recent consultation with our pupils, a key message from our pupils is they want to remain part of the same House and retain the same PT Pupil Support from S1 through to S6. Therefore, where possible, all pupils will remain part of the same House throughout their time in Lornshill Academy.

If pupils or parents/carers have any concerns or queries, your first point of contact should be your child's PT Pupil Support for their House. You can identify which House your child is in by their tutorial class. For example, 1D1 (Devon), 1F1 (Forebraes) and 1G1 (Grange).

We have three PT Pupil Support who are the house heads, Miss Dodds (Forebraes), Miss McKay (Devon) and Mr Rennie (Grange). They work alongside our PT Pupil Support for Health and Wellbeing, Mrs Dixon and our PT Pupil Support for Pathways, Miss McEwan.

Pupil Support - Cont

The PT Pupil Support for each House is as follows:

PT Pupil Support – Devon

Miss K McKay



PT Pupil Support – Forebraes

Miss L Dodds



PT Pupil Support – Grange

Mr S Rennie



Tutors

Tutorial teachers are key members of staff within the Personal Support Team at Lornshill Academy. Developing positive relationships between tutors and our young people is central to ensuring all pupils feel happy, safe and included in Lornshill Academy.

The role of the tutor:

Tutors are the first point of contact for all our young people, being available to identify and listen to pupil needs and provide support where appropriate.

Tutors will deliver Personal Development lessons to their tutorial class one period per week. This will cover a range of topics related to health and wellbeing of our young people.

Tutors work closely with the PT Pupil Support to record, monitor and track pupil attendance and timekeeping. Tutors encourage all our young people to reach or maintain the school attendance target of 95% attendance or above.

Support for Learning Faculty – Learning Centre

PT Learning Centre

Mrs Black



The Learning Centre

We have transformed the way we provide targeted support for all of our learners at Lornshill Academy with the creation of our Learning Centre.

The Learning Centre embodies an inclusive, flexible approach to pupil wellbeing. There is a very wide range of support available and we aim to offer support that is pupil-centred and flexible to meet the individual needs of the young people in Lornshill Academy.

At the centre of all that we do, is the young people and we place a high priority on the students' views and feelings about the support that they receive. The targeted support is for literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. For us, therefore, flexible support for every individual is key.

Learning Centre Groups

Literacy and Numeracy Support

The Learning Centre offers enhanced Literacy and Numeracy support for pupils in S1 – S3, the pupils focus on reading, writing, listening, addition, subtraction and multiplication skills on a weekly basis. This is a short term intervention which will either be one to one support or small group working. The targeted support will last 6-8 weeks and the pupils will be assessed on the progress that they have made within this time.

Health and Wellbeing Groups

The Learning Centre staff work very closely with the Pupil Support team and target appropriate support for the young people at Lornshill Academy. This is groups such as social skills, nurture group programmes and bereavement support. Staff communicate with parents or carers at home to ensure that the support is appropriate and at the correct time for the young person.

School Uniform

Lornshill Academy expects all pupils to wear school uniform at all times. Our school uniform has been agreed by and is supported by our parents. Clackmannanshire Council also supports pupils wearing school uniforms in all schools across the authority.

At Lornshill Academy, we believe there are significant benefits in asking all pupils to wear school uniform.

School uniform levels the playing field and reduces any peer pressure to wear expensive, brand fashion clothes which many families could struggle to buy for their children. School uniform is a less expensive option when providing clothes for your child to wear to school.

Wearing a school uniform increases pupils' self-esteem, feeling of belonging and sense of pride in their school. Displaying the school logo and wearing the school tie helps pupils identify with their school.

Putting on the school uniform in the morning helps pupils get into the right frame of mind and prepare them to learn.



School Uniform

Black Blazer – with school badge (can be ordered from school office or Scotcrest in Alva)

School tie - see above

White Shirt – **Not polo shirt**

Plain black jumper or cardigan

Black Trouser or skirt - **leggings not permitted**

Black footwear – all black, no white or coloured logos.

PE Uniform

White polo shirt

Black/navy joggers or leggings

Suitable trainers for activity

No football colours

Information regarding School Clothing Grants, which can help families meet the costs of providing school uniform, can be found on Clackmannanshire Council website at

<https://www.clacks.gov.uk/learning/schoolclothinggrants/>.

Paper applications are available from the school office.

First Day in Lornshill Academy

We would ask all P7 pupils and parents to access the Virtual Tour of Lornshill Academy on the P7 Transition Website. This will give pupils and parents a look around the school, introduce key members of staff and help pupils to have an idea of the school layout. The website also contains lots of other useful pieces of information and new content will be added regularly.

But what will my first day in Lornshill Academy look like?

- All pupils, whether they arrive by school bus or walk to school, will be welcomed by staff.
- Mr Black (HT), Mr Arnold (DHT Year Head for S1) and the Pupil Support team will welcome our new S1 pupils and explain our expectations of them and outline what their first day will look like. All pupils will be escorted to classes by either staff or senior pupils.
- All new S1 pupils will be organised into their tutorial class and meet their Tutor teacher. During tutorial class, all pupils will receive a copy of their timetable and will have the opportunity to discuss this with their tutorial teacher.
- Pupil Support PTs will visit each S1 class throughout the first day to introduce themselves and ensure every pupil has everything they need to start their first day.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE - During S1 pupils will engage in a broad range of learning experiences within Physical Education including Games activities, Aesthetic activities as well as Athletics and Team Building. In addition to improving physical fitness and movement competencies within these contexts, pupils will learn to apply thinking skills throughout the year and develop their personal qualities such as respect and tolerance, leadership and confidence.



Design & Technology – this faculty includes Graphic Communication, Design & Manufacture, and Engineering Science.

Graphic Communication: Free hand sketching, Rendering, Using Drawing boards to create accurate drawings. Producing computer graphics using CAD/CAG software. Producing promotional graphic work manually and using Desktop Publishing software

Design and Manufacture/Practical: Use of hand tools and machines within the workshop. Safe working practices. Designing a toothbrush product considering the restrictions of a design brief. Knowledge of wood (trinket box project), metals (candle holder project) & plastics (ice scraper project) and manufacturing processes.

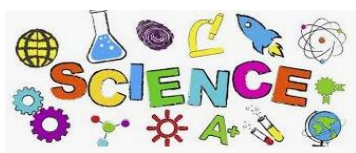
Engineering Science: Pneumatics - How compressed air is used in control systems such as air brakes on buses. Mechanisms - how force and motion act in simple mechanisms like gears and levers on a bicycle.



Creative Arts – this faculty includes Music and Art

Music - Pupils have the opportunity to perform at musical concerts throughout the year, experience instruments such as keyboard, guitar, ukulele and drum-kit. They study music from 80s - present day as well as a broad range of world famous and contemporary artist.

Art – Pupils have opportunity to explore a range of design and expressive materials such as pencil, paint, pastel, chalk and clay in Art, as well as have their work displayed around the school and local community to celebrate success.



Science – S1 study all 3 sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics in an interdisciplinary way. We focus on developing key skills such as predicting, selecting, analysing and processing through the use of experiments in which we collect data. S1 topics include Body Systems, Electromagnetic Spectrum and Chemical Reactions. For experiments they will use microscopes to look at cells, look at the signs of a chemical reaction and investigate light using glass shapes.



Enterprise – this faculty includes ICT and Home Economics

ICT - will be in the Enterprise Faculty - pupils will learn how to use the packages within Microsoft Office and apply to real life settings.

Home Economics, within the Enterprise Faculty - pupils will learn about Health and Safety in the kitchen and will cook various items, applying the knowledge they have learned.

PSE (Personal and Social Education) – Pupils will have the opportunity to study a variety of topics, including Readiness for learning, Cyberbullying, Diversity and work together in peer groups to develop a presentation which tackles the issue of young people's mental health.



Extra Curricular Activities – S1 pupils will have the opportunity to join a wide variety of extra-curricular activities which take place at lunchtime and after school. Details will be provided by tutor teachers.

Settling In Parents Evening

We will arrange a parents evening towards the end of September, when S1 pupils have had six weeks at Lornshill Academy. Parents have the opportunity to make an appointment with their child's tutorial teachers to hear how their child has settled into Lornshill Academy. The Pupil Support PTs, Support for Learning staff and the Senior Leadership team are all available to discuss any questions or concerns parents may have during this evening. This is an additional Parents Evening and we arrange a full S1 Parents Evening later in the year so you can discuss your child's learning progress with their subject specific teachers. More information to follow.

Elective Programme

At Lornshill Academy we understand that every child is different and as such their pathways through school may also be different. We try to allow pupils to personalise part of their curriculum to suit their interests and strengths. There is an opportunity for all pupils in S1 to select an area of curricular interest for them from the offered Elective programme where they will be timetabled for extra time to explore deeper learning of the curricular area.

Pupils will access their chosen Elective at specific times throughout the school week, this class is not linked to a pupil's tutorial class. For example, pupils who are in the Science Elective may all be in different tutorial classes.

School Day

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

Tutorial / Entry to School: 08.55am - 09.00am

Period 1: 09.00am - 09.55am

Period 2: 09.55am – 10.45am

Interval: 10.45am – 11.00am

Period 3: 11.00am – 11.50am

Period 4: 11.50am – 12.40pm

Lunch: 12.40pm – 13.15pm

Period 5: 13.15pm – 14.05pm

Period 6: 14.05pm – 14.55pm (**Fri only:** 15.00pm)

Period 7 (Mon Only): 14.55pm – 15.45pm

Wednesday

Period 1: 08.55am - 09.45am

Period 2: 09.45am – 10.35am

Interval: 10.35am – 10.50am

Period 3: 10.50am – 11.40am

Period 4: 11.40am – 12.30pm

Lunch: 12.30pm – 13.00pm

Period 5: 13.00pm – 13.50pm

Period 6: 13.50pm – 14.40pm

School Transport

Pupils who live in Clackmannan, Fishcross and Sauchie will travel to school on the school bus. Hunters bus company provides the transport for Lornshill and bus passes will be provided from the transport department of the council. The bus passes and exact timetable, pick up points etc are normally sent to pupils during the summer holidays prior to starting school.

Pupils will be allocated a bus to travel on based on their address and it is important that they travel on the correct bus so that the bus company can safely manage the correct numbers on each bus.

Eating

Our daily lunch menu can be found on our website or via the school app.

ParentPay

An activation letter will be given to your child during their first week at Lornshill Academy.

ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security available.

Making a payment is straightforward and ParentPay holds a payment history for you to view at a later date; no card details are stored in any part of the system. Once you have activated your account you can make online payments straight away.

For further information on ParentPay please visit www.parentpay.com

Cashless Catering System

At Lornshill your child will be able to benefit from cashless catering. Essentially the system lets you pay for school meals in advance, and pupils pay for their meal by swiping their finger over a reader at the till point. This speeds up the dinner queues and reduces the need for pupils to carry cash during the school day.

Pupils can also provide the catering staff with their name and the payment will be taken from their account.

The main method of identification is the biometric fingerprint scan. This method has the advantage of being very fast. In addition, it cannot be lost or forgotten like a card and means that pupils do not need to be charged for replacement cards. The system works by storing a code based on the pupil's fingerprint. When the pupil wishes to pay for a meal at the till point, he/she swipes the scanned forefinger through a reader which then identifies the pupil and deducts the appropriate amount from his/her account.

We are conscious that some parents may have reservations about having their child's "fingerprints taken", the scanner scans your child's finger which the software turns into a string of letters and numbers. These are then stored on the computer at the till. This data is encrypted to keep it secure and, importantly, the data cannot be used to create an image of the fingerprint. Please note that the information from the finger scan will be used only for cashless catering and will not be used for any other purposes. Nor will it ever be given to anyone else.

The school is governed in the storage of this information by the requirements of the Data Protection Act, as it is for all other information held about pupils.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can I bring my mobile phone to Lornshill Academy?

Although we discourage pupils from bringing valuable items such as mobile phones/devices to school, we understand many pupils and parents wish their children to have mobile devices with them in school. However, pupils can only use mobile devices in designated areas, such as the Hub dining area during interval and lunchtime. Pupils can only use mobile devices in class with the specific permission of the class teacher to aid learning. **All mobile phones and earphones should not be visible at any time in corridors and should be switched off at all times outwith interval and lunchtime so they do not disrupt learning.**

This will be discussed in more detail with all new S1 pupils to ensure understanding when they start Lornshill Academy.

2. Are S1 pupils allowed off campus during lunchtime?

No pupils are permitted to leave school during interval and S1 pupils can only leave campus at lunchtime if they are having a home lunch and the parent has informed the school of this arrangement. Lunchtime is only 40 minutes and leaving campus increases the likelihood a pupil will return late for afternoon classes. Due to the position of the school, we do not have nearby alternatives to buy lunch. Our dining Hub is staffed by members of the SLT and ensure a calm environment, if pupils leave campus there no teacher supervision.

3. Can I bring a packed lunch to Lornshill Academy?

Absolutely and indeed many of our current pupils bring their own lunch. They sit in the dining Hub with other pupils who choose to buy their lunch in school.

4. My child has dietary requirements, can they still get food in dining hall? (i.e. gluten intolerance)

We can provide food for children with specific dietary requirements, such as gluten free products. The parents should contact their child's PT Pupil Support who can make the catering team aware and discuss our menu with the child.

Views from some of our S1 pupils

"You might feel a bit nervous about starting high school, but that's normal and you will soon settle in and make new friends. Everyone adjusts at their own pace though, so it doesn't matter if it doesn't happen straight away, because you will be absolutely fine!"

"One of the best ways to settle in is to make friends and to get to know the people you spend most of your day with - so talk to people, even if it's just discussing what you are doing in class. I have made a few friends like this!"

"Don't worry about the huge dinner hall, everyone is friendly!"

"Don't worry about how to fit in, in my experience you should just be yourself."

"In S1 I have enjoyed learning new things in different subjects that I didn't do before and enjoy having different teachers every day."

"One of my worries was if would I make friends or not - and as it turned out I have made loads of new friends who were all at different primary schools."

"Hey P7s. I hope you are getting excited for S1. I suspect some of you guys are really nervous, but you don't need to be. You won't be getting your heads flushed down the toilets! You won't get lost as the prefects take you to your classes. Be nice to everyone and don't muck about in class."

"The first time entering the school doors was very exciting and different, it felt like we were the little ones again when I was used to being the older ones. Our tutorial class had a senior showing us around the school for the first week. It was confusing at first, but you get used to it!"

"You'll be fine going up to high school. All of our transition days were cancelled, we got one day and we were fine. You might be scared that you'll never remember how to get to classes, but I thought the same and I know my way around the school. I learned it in about two weeks max!"

"The work isn't that hard. It's always made so it's at your level."

"There isn't anything to be worried about, because there are lots of people there to help you."

Keep In Touch

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