

UNCRC – Article 29 - Education should develop all talents, personality and abilities to the full.



**INTEGRATED CHILDREN
AND
FAMILY SERVICES**



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Newsletter – September 2019

Now that the P1 children are now in full time I want to say welcome to our new pupils and welcome back to our returning pupils. It is great to see how smart everyone looks in their school uniform. We look forward to working with you all over the next session and sharing the childrens' achievements

School Uniform

We continue the policy of strongly supporting the wearing of school uniform. The pupils are looking so smart and we hope that we can keep this up for the whole year. If you have any queries about uniform please contact the school office. It is also a great help to the staff if all items are clearly marked with the pupils' names.

School Uniform – Swap Shop

We are delighted with our new uniform swap shop that has been set up by a parent. It is located just inside the front door. Please come in and have a look if you need any items of uniform. They are free to take away! To keep this sustainable, if you have any good quality preloved uniform items you could donate for others to use we would be delighted to receive them.

Personal Belongings

I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone that Aberdeen City Council does not hold any insurance to cover the loss of personal belongings. We strongly advise that pupils do not bring items of high value to school. The school will not be able to replace anything that is lost or damaged.

Travel to School

Where pupils have to be brought to school by car we would ask that you are considerate with your parking. Please drive carefully in and around the school and be aware of the children around you. If you are waiting at the school please can I ask that you turn your engines off so that we can keep the air quality near the school as good as possible.

Curriculum Evenings

We will be holding a curriculum evening for the parents of primary 1 pupils on Wednesday 25th September from 6.30-7.30pm. This will give us the chance to share with you the teaching and learning that goes on in a primary 1 classroom. We will also be holding an informal evening for parents of the P2-7 pupils to meet your child's teacher and to share with you what is happening at these stages. This will be on Tuesday 1st October from 6pm-7.30pm

School Term dates

School term dates can be found on the Aberdeen City Council website. This is the best place to find them as you can see the dates for next year as well. Two dates I would like to highlight are an In-service day - Thursday 7 May 2020 and May holiday - Friday 8 May 2020 (VE Day). These have been moved from where they were originally planned.

Security

I want to remind all parents/carers of P1-7 pupils that they must not walk through the school building or go to classrooms without reporting to the school office first. This will help us to maintain the safety and security of everyone.

Communication - Twitter and School website.

In an attempt to maintain our Eco School ambitions and reduce paper we are trying to minimise the information that comes to you on paper. We are trying to do as much as we can electronically. If you have not done so please follow our twitter feed where we post most of our information and you can see what the children are up to. (@FerryhillSchoo1 – note that the last character is the number 1) Our website also holds information that may be of use to you. (Just search for us on Google)

Gym safety

For safety reasons, during PE lessons, we require that all pupils with long hair tie it back and all jewellery is removed. If jewellery cannot be removed it must be covered by tape.

Mobile Phones

We strongly discourage pupils from bringing mobile phones to school. If require you child to carry one we ask that you write a note to the class teacher to confirm that this is the case. Whilst on school premises phones must be kept out of sight and turned off. A reminder that the school does not accept any liability for phones that are lost or damaged while in school.

Staffing

Nursery

A warm welcome to our new Senior Early Years Practitioner Amy Golding. Mrs. Golding will be leading the team of Early Years Practitioners in our nursery. She joins us from Fishermoss Nursery. We are very much looking forward to having her as part of the team.

PSAs

Miss Ellie Turner & Mrs Kim Harrison join our PSA team this session. They will be working with various classes throughout the school to support the children in their learning. We are delighted to have their skills and experience at Ferryhill.

Class Teachers

We also extend a warm welcome to Miss Cameron and Miss Smit to our teaching staff. Miss Cameron comes to us from another school within Aberdeen and Miss Smit is starting her career with us in her probationary year.

We also are sorry to say goodbye to Mr Spicer who was successful at interview and has moved on to a new job in Aberdeenshire. We wish him all the best and thank him for all his hard work with the pupils at Ferryhill.

Nursery

Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare

From August 2020 all 3 and 4-year-olds will be entitled to almost double the number of hours of funded early learning and childcare. Aberdeen City Council is in the process of consulting staff and drafting proposals of how this will look for us, next session. There are flyers in our office area with more information or you can head to parentclub.scot/elc where you can read more about the expansion.

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning is high on our development priorities for the next session. In line with Care Inspectorate recommendations, the staff aim to get the children outside on a daily basis. We are looking to update and develop our outdoor area as well as take the children to various green spaces around our community to broaden their learning experiences. First on the agenda is ensuring that the children are properly clothed. We are hoping to have a supply of waterproof suits and wellies so that there are fewer barriers for children to access the outdoors. To be able to offer this, we are looking for a company to sponsor the purchase of these items. If you would like to be part of this, please speak with a member of our nursery staff.