



Welcome to Lesmahagow High School



Information for Primary 7 Parents





P7 Transition Programme 2018-19

September	P7/S1 Parent Open Afternoon.
October/November	Science Transition events begin with visits to associated primaries.
January - March	Pupil Support staff visit primary schools to collect information about each individual learner. Support for Learning visit primary schools to observe classes.
March	PE Transition events on 8 th and 22 nd March, 9.30am to 11.30am. Catherine Wheels Theatre Company Performance on 18 th March.
April	Arrangements are made for P7 Induction days.
April – May	Lesmahagow High Depute Head Teacher will be available at P7 Parent's Evenings to discuss individual questions and queries.
May	PE Transition event at Lesmahagow High School on Monday 20 th May from 9.30am until 11.30am (all schools).
June	P7 induction days are Tuesday 4 th and Wednesday 5 th June 2019. P7 Parental Information Evening Wednesday 5 th June in Lesmahagow High School at 7pm.
September	P7/S1 Parent Open Afternoon. Support for Learning Open Evening.
October	S1 Interim Reports.

Further information can be found on the school website www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk, on Twitter [@LesmahagowHigh](https://twitter.com/LesmahagowHigh) or by downloading the Lesmahagow High School App from the App Store or Google Play.

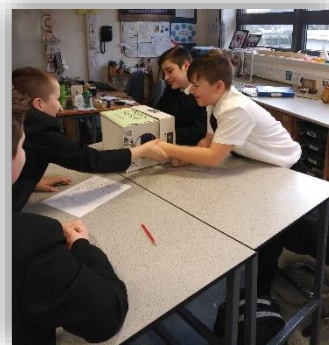


Transition

Any change can be challenging for young people, whether it is a move from nursery to primary, primary to secondary or to a post-school destination. Therefore, it is vital that we make these transitions as smooth as possible for our young people. The transition programme from primary school to secondary school is designed to increase pupil confidence and excitement in making the move, allowing them getting to know the school, the curriculum and members of staff well in advance of August when they will start in S1. We appreciate that parents may also have concerns about the move to secondary and we look to actively engage our prospective parents with events that allow them to experience the everyday life of the school and the opportunity to ask any questions that they may have. We hope this will allay any fears or anxieties that the young people and their parents may have about transition, ensuring a confident, happy start can be made to the next phase of their education.

P7/S1 Open Afternoon

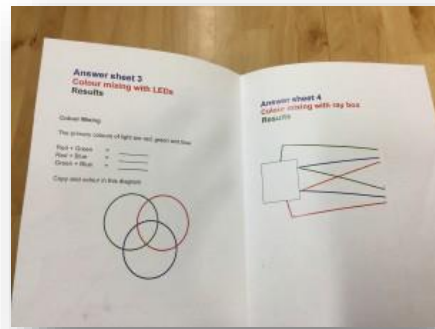
In September of the new school year there is an opportunity for all prospective P7 parents and new S1 parents to join us for the afternoon to capture the atmosphere of the school and see what education is like for young people at Lesmahagow High School. You will be given a tour of the building, which will allow you to visit a variety of departments, meet staff, experience the delivery of the curriculum, see some of our pupils at work with their teachers and witness the high standards expected of every young person.



Science Transition

Primary Visit

Science transition begins early, in October and November, when Lesmahagow High School Science teachers visit each of the associated primaries to deliver some fun, engaging and interactive lessons about colour.



Lesmahagow High School Visit

In January, P7 pupils come to the High School to visit the labs and carry out some experiments making their own dyes. This helps them familiarise themselves with and utilise some of the equipment they will use when they start in S1.



PE Transition

PE Transition events will take place from 9.30am to 11.30am on 8^h March for Bent and Woodpark Primaries, and 22nd March for Blackwood and Coalburn Primaries. There will also be an event for all schools on Monday 20th May from 9.30am until 11.30am. This will give the young people the opportunity to meet potential new classmates from an early stage in a fun and healthy environment.



Drama Transition

New to our transition programme this year, Catherine Wheels Theatre Company ([@cwheeletheatre](https://www.cwheeletheatre.com)) will be performing their play, "Pondlife", in the school on Monday 18th March. "Pondlife" explores the challenges and opportunities afforded to young people when they move school and meet new people. Catherine Wheels are part of Theatre in Schools Scotland, a new initiative to support and develop the provision of theatre and dance in Scotland's schools and as such, this performance presents a wonderful opportunity for our young people to develop their knowledge of drama.

Furthermore, there will be some additional drama workshops, alongside literacy and numeracy events running after the performance.



P7 Transition Days - June

We are looking forward to Primary 7 pupils joining us for the two-day induction programme on **Tuesday 4th June** and **Wednesday 5th June**, where they will closely follow their new S1 timetable in August. This will give them the opportunity to meet many of their new teachers, familiarise themselves with the school building and sample some of the subjects they will be studying throughout their Broad General Education. They will be in the classes that they will be in when they start in August which will give them the opportunity to spend time with pupils from all of our associated primaries and establish new friendships.

Current S3 pupils will act as guides and escort pupils between classes. The pupils will be looked after **in the school** during lunch break and will be able to use the school canteen or alternatively bring a packed lunch with them.

P7 Parents Info Evening

An information evening has been arranged for **7pm on Wednesday 5th June** in Lesmahagow High School.

The purpose of this evening is to provide you with information and advice on important issues at this time in your child's school career, to give you a flavour of Lesmahagow High School and also give you an opportunity to ask any questions that you may have. In addition, you will have the opportunity to meet with the Head Teacher, the Depute Head Teacher for your child's house group, as well as the Principal Teachers of Pupil Support, who will be your main contact with the school.

There will be an opportunity to purchase school uniform at the information evening in June. Alternatively, uniform can be purchased from our stockists, Scotcrest, online or in their Hamilton store.



**P7 Parents' Information Evening
5th June 2019**

Senior Management Team

The Lesmahagow High School Senior Management Team (SMT) consists of the Head Teacher, Mr McGowan, and three Depute Head Teachers, Miss Lee (Kerse House), Mr Gray (Logan House) and Mr Parry (Milton House).

Head Teacher



Mr Richard McGowan

Head Teacher

Depute Head Teachers



Miss Barbara Lee



Mr Alastair Gray



Mr Graham Parry

Pupil Support

All members of the school staff are here to help and support young people in Lesmahagow High School to ensure they learn in a safe, secure, healthy and happy environment. Partnership with parents/carers is essential in ensuring that all pupils receive the appropriate support to reach their potential. All young people should have an adult that knows them well and is the main contact between school and home. In Lesmahagow High School this is the Principal Teacher Pupil Support.

In the school we have a vertical system for pupil support, which means that each young person will be helped throughout their time at school by the same PT Pupil Support. Usually, children from the same family will all have the same PT Pupil Support, who is attached to a House group (Kerse, Logan and Milton). Each depute Head Teacher is also attached to a House and has overall responsibility for discipline within that house. The DHTs and PT Pupil Support work closely together to ensure the welfare of the young people in our care.

Our Pupil Support Team are:



Mr Jim Mallaghan

Kerse House



Mrs Linda Wright

Logan House



Mr Fergie Robson

Milton House

Each Principal Teacher Pupil Support will:

- Help young people settle into school
- Be available to speak to young people when they need someone to talk to
- Be the main point of contact between school and home
- Check attendance and time keeping
- Check progress in all of subject classes
- Help young throughout their school career e.g. with options choices and planning for life after school

Support for Learning

Transition planning from primary to secondary will take place throughout P7. Staff from the primary school and Lesmahagow High School will meet to discuss the young persons' needs and prepare a plan to help support make their move as smooth as possible while also ensuring that there is a continuity of support when they move in August. All of the people involved with the young persons' education including parents/carers and the young person will meet to further discuss and plan how needs can be best met at secondary and if any additional resources will be required.

Enhanced transitions are tailored to the individual needs of the young person and (in addition to all other transition activities) may include:

- Extra visits to Lesmahagow High School during the P7 year to get to know the school and staff
- Creating a photographic diary and visual aids to help the young person get used to what things and people in the school look like
- PT Support for Learning observing in the primary class
- Any requirement for adaptations to the classroom layout or to the physical environment will be identified
- After school walk round for identified pupils and families
- Additional activities for small groups

The Support for Learning department is run by our Principal Teacher Support for Learning, Miss Dickie (Mon-Tue) and Mrs Laird (Wed-Fri):



Mrs Morag Storry

PT SfL (Mon-Tue)



Mrs Hazel Laird

PT SfL (Wed-Fri)

There are four School Support Assistants, Mrs Abercrombie, Mrs McCallum, Mrs McLeod and Mrs White who support pupils in classes.

Buddy Programme

From the start of the session in August, a dedicated group of senior pupils support an identified group of the new S1 through the buddy programme. The seniors meet with a small group of S1 pupils every Friday for twenty minutes to offer advice and discuss any issues or concerns in relation to starting a new school. The senior pupils are also able to offer advice about studying, planning homework, organising schoolbags and how to get the best out of school life. It is hoped that this type of peer support will help all our new pupils to settle to the new daily routine of life in Lesmahagow High School. In addition to this it provides the pupils with another friendly face around the school and in the community!



Literacy and Numeracy Groups

For the majority of young people their additional support needs will be met within the day to day work of the classroom. Some young people will need additional support outwith the classroom in order to support their learning. For new S1 pupils, these needs are discussed and identified throughout the transition process and updated following monitoring reports and settling in reviews to ensure that supports in place are carefully considered and continue to be appropriate.

As young people need to be literate and numerate in order to access all aspects of the curriculum, some young people are extracted from class for approximately twenty minutes per week to work with members of the Support for Learning department on improving their literacy and numeracy in a small group setting.



Uniform

In Lesmahagow High School we take pride in our appearance and wear our uniform as a part of our school identity. All pupils are required to wear full uniform when attending or representing the school.

There are many reasons why it is important to wear school including increased security within the school and in the community, preparing young people for the world of work where most jobs will have a dress code, removing the need to think about what to wear and promoting a positive image of our school.

Our school uniform policy is designed to be clear, fair and reasonable to both the parents/carers and young people of the school community.

The Lesmahagow High School uniform is as follows:

School Blazer:	Black with school badge
Skirts and trousers:	Plain black trousers or skirt
Blouses and shirts:	Plain white collared shirt or blouse with sleeves
Jumper and cardigan:	Plain black V-neck jumper or cardigan without logos
School tie:	A school tie should be worn at all times. Junior ties are available for S1-3 pupils and a Senior tie for S4-6 pupils
Footwear:	All footwear should be plain black
P.E. kit:	White, red or black t-shirt with black shorts, leggings, or track suit bottoms and trainers)

Blazers are compulsory for all pupils from S1 through to S6. Our blazer supplier is Scotcrest, who are based in Hamilton (www.scotcrestschoools.co.uk). More details about our uniform can be located on the letters section of our website.



The School Day

The school day varies from Primary School with pupils moving class (and subject) every 50 minutes. Following an extensive consultation period, the school day will be changing from August 2019, beginning with tutor time before moving on to formal lessons. Tutor time begins promptly at 8.40am, finishing at 3.35pm Monday to Thursday and 12.30pm on Friday:

Monday - Thursday	
Period	Time
Tutor Time	08.40-08.50am
1	08.50-09.40am
2	09.40-10.30am
3	10.30-11.20am
Interval	11.20-11.35am
4	11.35-12.25pm
5	12.25-13.15pm
Lunch	13.15-13.55pm
6	13.55-14.45pm
7	14.45-15.35pm

Friday	
Period	Time
Tutor Time	08.40-08.50am
1	08.50-09.40am
2	09.40-10.30am
Interval	10.30-10.50am
4	10.50-11.40pm
5	11.40-12.30pm

School Clubs and Activities

There are a wide range of school clubs and activities that run during interval, lunch and after school, including netball, rugby, science and craft clubs. The activities on offer change each year and pupils have the opportunity to get more information and sign up for any clubs that interest them, at the start of the year.

