



Penicuik High School

P7 Transition Information 2021-2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope that this letter finds you all safe and well during these incredibly difficult times. We would also like to thank you for your patience while we have been working with our primary colleagues and other agencies to begin to re-shape our Primary Transition activities in order to provide the best support possible to our new S1 students as they move from P7 to join us.

Despite the announcement from First Minister Nicola Sturgeon on the return of some senior students to complete practical coursework, we still do not have a definite timeline for the return of other students or of when we could invite P7 students into school to visit us. Under the guidance of Midlothian Council all primary and secondary schools are preparing to deliver positive outcomes for P7 to S1 Transition and initially this will again inevitably be a 'virtual' Transition. As a result having access to a device will be important for your child. Should you require access to a device, you can request to borrow a device to support distant learning by calling the Midlothian Digital Learning Team on 0131 271 4900 or completing the following form

<https://sites.google.com/mc.glow.scot/distancelearning-parentcarer/chromebookloan>

To help make the Transition accessible we have taken the following steps:

Communication

Communication channels during the Transition period will be through a number of formats:

- Penicuik High School website
- Penicuik High School Twitter
- School text messaging service (Primary)
- Direct emails to P7 parents from Penicuik High School – once email addresses are received from your primary school.
- Transition.Penicuik@mgfl.net . This email address is to allow P7 parents to contact us directly with any questions, queries or concerns.
- **Parental Contact**

All letters and information will be sent via your primary school in the first instance but will also be posted on our Transition section of the PHS website. We will also Tweet notification of when something new has been added.

All P7 parents will receive contact from Penicuik High School once we have received email addresses from your primary school. We will ask the primary schools to notify you when this first has been sent. If you do not receive an email after the notification from your primary school, please contact us at the Transition email address shown below so that we can ensure we have the correct contact details.

We are happy to answer any questions and queries as fully as we can, bearing in mind the evolving situation in schools, via the Transition Email address Transition.Penicuik@mgfl.net

Transition Information:

The following information will be sent electronically to parents in May:

- School uniform
- School lunches
- School transport service
- School Handbook

Free School Meals and Clothing Grants

If you would like to apply for free school meals for session 2021-2022 please visit the Midlothian Council webpage below:

https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/855/school_meals/117/free_school_meals_and_clothing_grants .

Any queries related to this addressed to FSMAwards@midlothian.gov.uk

Virtual Transition Arrangements:

- **P7 Transition section of the Penicuik High School website**

[P7 Transition - Penicuik High School Penicuik High School \(mgfl.net\)](#) – this page has been re-built this year and will include the following:

1. Welcome to Penicuik High – Mr Biddick – (To be added)
 2. Meet the team – Pupil Support – (To be added)
 3. Virtual Tour of Penicuik High School
 4. Important Transition Information
 5. P7 Transition learning Activities for student to try at home. These are all activities that would normally be done on the P7 Visit in June.
- We will be having “Meet the link staff” sessions – Guidance and Support for Learning staff are allocated to each cluster primary school. They will join students in their link school for a Q&A session using Google Meet. The Questions and Answers will be sent to parents after the session. Dates will be notified shortly.
 - A separate Google Classroom will operate for non-cluster students and information on this will be sent to your primary schools.

- P7 Transition Project – as part of Transition a paper work booklet has been prepared to allow students to complete Transition related activities at home. The booklet will be completed once students have joined us at Penicuik High School in August
- Transition activity slot during the “Transition Week” 14th – 18th June 2021 with Guidance Link staff (Personal and Social Education taster). Time to be advised.
- A separate Google Classroom will operate on the Transition Days for non-cluster students and information on this will be sent to your primary schools.

Enhanced Transition:

Penicuik High School Support for Learning will continue to liaise with primaries and parents of students who require Enhanced Transition and provide activities that fall within the guidance currently in place to ensure student and staff safety.

We are keen to ensure that the Transition process, while very different to what we had hoped for, supports our students as they move to join us in August and look forward to working with families and primary colleagues to make this happen.

Best wishes,

Diane Burgess

Depute Headteacher

Penicuik High School

[@PenicuikHS](#)