HIGH SCHOOL OF DUNDEE

Real World Ready



# P1



“I love going on the climbing frame with my friends at playtime.”





# A very warm welcome to L1

Here at The High School of Dundee our Primary 1 (referred to as L1) is a happy, safe and nurturing environment.

Our bright and colourful classrooms provide the very best start for the children as they transition from nursery, or home, into school. We have small classes to ensure the best support for every child. Each class is taught by an experienced teacher with the help of a pupil support assistant, learning support staff and specialist teaching staff in Music and PE.

We also have a unique offering in the role of an Early Years Transition Practitioner. To help them get the best possible start, this person will be with the L1 children for the first 6 months in the classroom, out in the playground and in the lunch hall.

# Weekly visits to the library and computing suite

# Small class sizes

# Specialist teaching



# Readiness for School Journey

# L1 Readiness Journey




Our 8 Step Readiness for School Journey paves the way for a successful transition into L1, so that you and your child feel reassured about each step along the way. To ensure the best possible experience for your first visit, we ask you (and your child's current Nursery) to complete a short 'Getting to Know You' questionnaire. The Readiness for School Visit comprises a very gentle set of activities designed to see how your child engages with tasks, interacts, and communicates. They are age and stage appropriate, and we are not expecting children to read, write and count.

The next visit to the school will allow us to see the children interacting with a small group of our current L1s in class. If your child is currently used to a nursery or playgroup environment, they should enjoy being part of this small grouping. During this session the class teacher may read a story, and they will have an opportunity to play and create a small craft to take home. Shortly after the first group visit Mrs Rose will be in touch to share our feedback. If you then accept an offered place into L1 we will arrange a few more transition visits so that the children can build familiarity with the classroom setting, meet their class teacher and have one more orientation visit before their first day in school.

If we feel your child may benefit from additional visits to the school, we can arrange these too. Everything is designed around creating the best experience for your child so that the transition into L1 is a smooth one.

Small class sizes allow teachers to get to know each child and build strong, meaningful relationships. Open and effective communication with home is very important and we pride ourselves on working in close partnership with you. Our aim is to ensure you feel involved in your child's learning journey, every step of the way.

The Home/School Diary enables two-way communication between you and the class teacher. We also ask that you spend around 15 minutes on homework each night. Your child's homework pack includes their reading book and boxes containing words and sounds that are built upon throughout the year. This allows you to share in your child's learning, so you know what your child has been working on.

**Step 1** **Getting to Know Your Child forms sent to parent & nursery**

**Step 2** **Readiness for School Visit**

**Step 3** **Group Visit to L1 class - interacting with a small group in class**

**Step 4** **Readiness Feedback from Mrs Rose**

**Step 5** **Transition Visits - 2 short familiarisation class visits**

**Step 6** **Meet My Teacher Session**

**Step 7** **Orientation Visit**

**Step 8** **First Day in L1**

“I have lots of friends and I like learning with them.”

# Active Learning

Our lessons are structured and planned in a child-friendly manner. The children have fun, but it is not just free play. We teach your child to read and write.

Within the first term, our L1 children become independent learners. They have access to specialist teaching for Music and PE, with subject specialists coming across from the senior school to provide these lessons.



**My daughter is very happy at the school; she has developed so much. The transition practitioner really helped to smooth the move from nursery to school, so much so that she was happily running into class from day one!**

**Sarah P – L1 parent**





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# Some of the benefits of joining us in L1

- An Early Years Transition Practitioner
- Small class sizes – maximum 20 pupils per class
- Specialist teaching, Music and PE
- Comprehensive pastoral support
- A timetable that establishes routine, with opportunities for learning through doing, thinking and exploring
- Weekly visits to the library and computing suite
- Sunrise & Sunset Club from 7.45am – 6pm (no booking required)



We pride ourselves on providing a comfortable and safe learning environment. We very quickly see our L1 children gaining confidence, even in their first few weeks.

It is lovely to know that many of the friendships formed in these early days can last for a lifetime.

**Julie Rose – Deputy Rector, Junior Years**






L1 at HSD is a special year. Our small class sizes allow us to give every child the individual attention they deserve as they build confidently on their nursery foundations. With a strong focus on early literacy and numeracy, our children flourish as they settle into the routines and excitement of school life. We help our children achieve high standards in a fun, friendly and nurturing way. Through a rich curriculum, each child is valued, supported, and encouraged as they take their first steps on their school journey. It is a joy to be part of this.

**Gillian Johnson – L1 Teacher**



Our L1 experience offers a unique blend of early literacy and numeracy teaching and rich opportunities for exploration, problem solving and purposeful play. Together with their teacher, the children learn and discover in a classroom designed to spark curiosity and build confidence.

**Claire Proudfoot – Deputy Head (Early & Junior Years)**





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# Come and join us for L1

## Get in touch today

admissions@highschoolofdundee.org.uk

The Admissions Team



**Mrs Alex McGrory,**
Head of Admissions



**Mr Gregor McIntosh,**
Admissions Coordinator

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