



# Midlothian



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Dear Parents/Carers

We had a discussion about lunches at a recent Parent Council meeting and it was agreed that it would be helpful for parents/carers to know how the lunch system operates in Bonnyrigg.

Children in P1 and P2 come along for lunch at 12 noon. This includes all children who have either packed lunches or school dinners. The children in P3 join them at 12.15pm and again this includes both school dinners and packed lunches.

Children in P4-7, who have a school dinner, are called in on a rota basis from 12.15pm. The rota ensures that all children have a turn of being first in.

As we have large numbers of children choosing to have school dinners, it is very busy in the hall and there is not space for packed lunches at this time. Children who bring a packed lunch have the option to eat their lunch in the playground from 12.15pm or, alternatively, they can come inside around 12.40pm. In reality most children with a packed lunch eat outside most of the time.

We have been donated some picnic benches by the council and the Parent Council has secured funding from local councillors to ensure that there is more seating in the playground. Children in P4-7 make their own choice regarding whether to eat their lunch inside or outside. If however, you would prefer your child to eat inside, please make sure that he/she is aware of this.

On occasions when the weather is wet or, if the ground is wet, then children eat their packed lunches in the classrooms.

The Parent Council also thought parents/carers would like to know about the allocation of playground space to different classes. We have three main playground areas used at break time; one for P1 and P2, another for P3 and P4 and a final one for P5-7. P1-4 also use these playgrounds at lunchtime. In addition, we have 4 alternative places for P5-7 children to play/be at lunchtime; the muga, the field, the dinner hall playground and a quiet area/garden for children who don't want to run around. These additional spaces are accessed on a rota basis with two classes using the upper playground, one using the dinner hall playground, one using the muga, two using the field and two being allowed to access the quiet area/garden if they don't wish to use their play area for that day.

I hope that clarifies the situation for you but should you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Allison  
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