



Parents Information Sheet

2026 Gala Day - 13th June 2026

The annual Kirkliston Children's Gala will take place on Saturday 13th June 2026 in Allison Park.

A LITTLE ABOUT THE GALA

The annual Kirkliston Children's Gala will take place on Saturday 13th June 2026. It is a fantastic community celebration that traditionally takes place on the second Saturday in June. Kirkliston's Gala day was started in 1924 and has taken place every year since (with a few exceptions including the war years).

The Gala day starts with the judging of the decorated houses (traditionally children in the Gala court decorate their house or make an arch) and our parade entries. Then our parade takes place, which allows our children as well as local community groups, bands and other acts to participate. The parade makes its way along Main Street and heads back to Allison Park for our crowning ceremony. The people of Kirkliston come out to line the street and cheer on the parade participants.

The ceremony invites all Primary 1 and 7 children who reside in Kirkliston or who attend Kirkliston Primary School to participate and our Queen elect is crowned by our publicly nominated crowner. The purpose of the ceremony is to celebrate the end of the primary school years for our P7s and to celebrate the start of school life for our Primary 1s. In Primary 1 all the girls are Fairies and the boys are Highland Laddies, with the exception of the youngest. The 2 youngest P1 girls taking part are Bouquet Lassies and the 2 youngest boys taking part are Braw Lads. The Primary 7 children have various different roles, including Queen, Lady-in-waiting, Herald and Champion. The P7 roles were allocated in January (and announced on the Facebook page)

After our crowning, the fun begins with an afternoon of celebrations for the whole community. This usually includes a number of side shows, inflatables, traditional stalls and food trucks set up in Allison Park. We also have an arena filled with entertainment from local groups to entertain the crowds.

DRESS CODE

GIRLS

All P7 girls will be required to wear a white / off white outfit. Traditionally, this has been a LONG / FULL LENGTH dress, and P1 girls a KNEE LENGTH dress with white shoes or sandals but, we are happy if they would prefer to wear an alternative outfit. If desired a small tiara can be worn.



P1 girls will be loaned fairy wings and wands. These will be handed out on the day of the Gala.



BOYS

Traditionally all boys wear a kilt (with the exception of the Champion, who wears tartan trousers) Kilt hire can be arranged through Caledonia Scotia Kiltmakers, 6 Newhalls Road, South Queensferry. Kilt hire costs will be £40-£45.

THIS YEAR, IT IS YOUR OWN RESPONSIBILITY TO ARRANGE KILT HIRE.



Boys can otherwise wear smart school trousers or shorts with a white shirt or polo shirt.

IMPORTANT DATES

We will endeavour to update the website with important dates and further information, and, we'll use the Kirkliston Gala Facebook page, and the two groups (P1 and P7 groups have been created - please search for these and request access if you have a child in either of these year groups for information also)

GALA REGISTRATION

Thanks so much for registering for the Gala via the sign-up form. If you need to amend any details (update contact information) please feel free to pop details into a new form via the website, or, email us directly at kirkliston.gala@aol.co.uk

<https://www.kirklistongala.co.uk/signup>

Rehearsals and More

We will announce dates and details of rehearsals and kilt fittings (for boys) via the WhatsApp groups and via the Facebook groups also. Whilst we endeavour to offer as much notice as possible, and try to offer dates that suit all, we are a small gala team and, we will be unable to accommodate individual requests.

ALL P7s and P1s are expected to attend the final rehearsal in Allison Park on Friday 13th June - timings will be confirmed, in previous years this has been at 4pm.

PROGRAMMES



Each year we add the names of all children taking part in the Gala into the Gala programme. There is also an opportunity to add a special “Gala Day Greeting” message for your child in the programme.

To do this, we ask that messages are paid for using the shop page on the website, and that you check spelling carefully! The cut-off will be clear on the website - please book your message in early to avoid disappointment!

Programmes will be available to pre-order and this will be delivered to you. You can do this by ordering online <https://www.kirklistongala.co.uk/shop> - we will announce when this is available on the website.

BEST DRESSED ARCH / HOUSE

It is now a well established tradition that members of the Court decorate their house frontages on Gala Day. Over the years we have seen more traditional arches while others decorate their whole house front. As these two styles differ greatly, we have split the category and can enter either a best dressed arch or a best dressed house.

Judging of the entries will commence at 8.30 am with the results being announced at the Crowning Ceremony. An application form needs to be submitted to take part. These will be handed out during rehearsals.

PARENT HELPERS

CALL FOR HELPERS!

Each year, we greatly depend on the support of parent volunteers. Without assistance at Gala events, on Gala Day, and during fundraising activities, we truly need your help! Please reach out to the Gala committee to sign up as a volunteer. While joining the committee is not required, being part of the parent helper pool would be immensely beneficial.