



Buckstone Primary School Handbook

Session 2024/25

Dear Parents/Carers,

This brochure contains a range of information about your child's school which will be of interest to you and your child. It offers an insight into the life and ethos of the school and also offers advice and assistance which you may find helpful in supporting and getting involved in your child's education.

We are committed to working closely with parents and carers as equal partners in your child's education, in the life of your child's school and in city-wide developments in education.

Parental involvement in the decision making process and in performance monitoring are an integral part of school life. We look forward to developing that partnership with your support.

Throughout this handbook the term 'parent' has the meaning attributed in the Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000 and the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006. This includes grandparents, carer or anyone else who has parental responsibility for the child.

I am pleased to introduce this brochure for session 2024 - 25 and hope that it will provide you with the information you need concerning your child's school.

If you have any queries regarding the contents of the brochure please contact the Head Teacher of your child's school in the first instance who will be happy to offer any clarification you may need.

Amanda Hatton

Executive Director of Children, Education & Justice Services

Children and Families Vision

Our vision is for all children and young people in Edinburgh to enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential.

We believe that children and young people do best when:

- they are able to live safely and happily within their own families with the right kind of support as needed
- they attend first class, inclusive schools and early years settings which meet their needs

We will do all we can to strengthen support for families, schools and communities to meet their children's needs.

Our mission is to place children, young people and families at the heart of our service and provide support when it is needed throughout childhood and the transition to adulthood.

In Edinburgh children and young people are at the heart of our vision for the future.

As an inclusive community we work with parents, carers and, where appropriate, partner agencies to support all children and young people.

By working together, we help children and young people to develop understanding about relationships, respect, teamwork, honesty, fairness, patience, and compassion. We do this by offering interesting and relevant learning experiences, by providing our staff with the training and resources they need, and by working with the whole community to accept and care for one another. This isn't always easy, but we believe it is essential so that our children and young people understand the people they meet and learn how to work together to handle setbacks and difficult situations throughout their lives.

When children and young people experience adverse events or as a response to their additional support need, they let us know by reacting in different ways. This presents difficulties for those around them. By working together, by understanding the cause and working out solutions, we can find a way to solve or deal with a problem. If it takes time to get over a problem we will work with a child, young person, and their family to work out the best way forward. This may involve making adaptations and providing additional support or in exceptional circumstances identifying a change of environment.

We recognise that we all experience difficult times, and that everyone deserves the best possible care and support. In Edinburgh we support children and young people to learn in different ways according to their needs. As children and young people learn to read, write, and count some require more support than others do. This need for support arises for a variety of reasons learning difficulties, challenges with emotional regulation and social communication issues. We must meet the needs of all our students in a fair, compassionate, and proportionate way.

In considering how to support all children and young people reach their full potential it may not always be possible to arrive at a resolution all parties agree. However, we will listen to any parent, young person, child or member of staff and work together to resolve difficulties.

We are committed to do all we can to make Edinburgh an inclusive place to live and learn.



Lorna French

Service Director and Chief Education Officer

Welcome from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Buckstone School Handbook for session 2024/25 - we are delighted to share information about our school with you. We look forward to working in close partnership with you and your child over your time here, up to nine years if your child is starting in our nursery.

At Buckstone Primary School we aim to create a secure and happy learning environment in which every child feels safe, confident and valued as an individual and is encouraged to work hard and to achieve their full potential.

This handbook offers an introduction to our school and a general overview of the education your child will be getting at school.

To make our handbook easy to use we have divided the information into five different sections: -

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| ➤ Section One | Practical Information about the School |
| ➤ Section Two | Parental Involvement in the School |
| ➤ Section Three | School Curriculum |
| ➤ Section Four | Support for Pupils |
| ➤ Section Five | School Improvement |

If you have any questions, or would like any further information on any aspect of this handbook or the education of your child, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kind regards,

Caroline Ashbrook
Head Teacher

Section One - Practical Information about the School

This section deals with the practical aspects of your child's attendance at our school. It provides details on such things as:

Communicating with the School

This section provides you with some background information on our school and our nursery. It tells you how our school day and school year are made up and how to contact the school if, for example, your child is ill.

<u>Contact Details</u>	
Head Teacher	Mrs Caroline Ashbrook
Depute Head Teacher/s	Mrs Anna Cullen Mrs Alison Conlin
Principal Teacher/s	Ms Lynne Lippok
Curriculum Leaders	
Business Manager	Mr Graeme Greig
Administrator	Mrs Hannah George
Address	79 Buckstone Loan East EDINBURGH EH10 6UY
Telephone Number	0131 445 4545
Website	www.buckstone.edin.sch.uk
E-mail Address	admin@buckstone.edin.sch.uk
<u>About the School</u>	
Stages of Education provided for	Nursery to Primary 7
Present Roll	420 (40 including nursery)
Denominational status of the school	Non-denominational
Gaelic Medium Education (if relevant)	

Organisation of the School Day		
	Mondays - Thursdays	Fridays
Start Time	8.45am - P3-P7 8.50am - P1 and P2	8.45am - P3-P7 8.50am - P1 and P2
Morning Break	10.25am - P1 and P2 10.30am - P3-P7	10.25am - P3-P7 10.30am - P1 and P2
Lunch Time	12.15pm - P1 and P2 12.25pm - P3-P7	
Afternoon Break		
Finish Time	2.55pm - P1 and P2 3.10pm - P3-P7	12.15pm - P1 and P2 12.25pm - P3-P7
P.E. days for pupils are issued by class teachers at the start of term		
Assembly days for pupils are currently a Friday for all pupils.		

Term dates

Term dates for the coming years can be found at:<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/schools/term-dates>

School Session Dates 2023/24

Staff resume		Monday	12 August *	2024
Staff only		Tuesday	13 August *	2024
Pupils resume		Wednesday	14 August	2024
Autumn Holiday	Schools closed	Monday	16 September	2024
All resume		Tuesday	17 September	2024
Mid-term	All break	Friday	11 October	2024
Staff resume		Monday	21 October*	2024
Pupils resume		Tuesday	22 October	2024
Term ends		Friday	20 December	2024

Staff resume		Monday	6 January*	2025
Pupils resume		Tuesday	7 January	2025
Mid-term	All break	Friday	7 February	2025
All resume		Monday	17 February	2025
Term ends		Friday	4 April	2025

<i>The Easter break incorporates the following two holidays</i>				
Good Friday	Schools closed	Friday	18 April	2025
Easter Monday	Schools closed	Monday	21 April	2025
All Resume		Tuesday	22 April	2025
May Holiday		Monday	5 May	2025
Staff only		Tuesday	6 May*	2025
Pupils resume		Wednesday	7 May	2025
Victoria Day	Schools closed	Monday	19 May	2025
All resume		Tuesday	20 May	2025

* Five In-Service days for all schools.

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Pupils resume		Wednesday	7 May	2025
Victoria Day	Schools closed	Monday	19 May	2025
All resume		Tuesday	20 May	2025
Term ends		Thursday	26 June	2025

* Five In-Service days for all schools

Registration and enrolment

The date for registration of new school entrants is advertised in all local nurseries, in the local press and on the council's website www.edinburgh.gov.uk.

Registration for Primary One and First Year Secondary takes place in November each year. Pupils should be registered in only one school for their catchment area. Parents will be provided with information about the school, when they register their child.

Parents who want to send their child to a school other than the catchment school must make a placing request. Please refer to section four of this handbook for more information on placing requests.

Parents of pupils who have moved into the catchment area or who wish their child to transfer to the school should contact the school office for information.

Attendance and absence

It is the responsibility of parents of a child of school age to make sure that their child is educated.

Absence from school is recorded as

- authorised, that is approved by the Communities and Families department, or as
- unauthorised, that is unexplained by the parent (truancy).

Please let the school know by email if it is a planned absence (e.g. hospital appointment) or phone our absence line on 031 445 4545 by 9.00 a.m. on the day of your child's unplanned absence (e.g. sickness).

You should update the school on each day of your child's absence. We ask families to notify the school office of an absence by 9am on the first and each subsequent day of absence and give a reason for the absence. If we do not receive notification, we will contact parents by text to alert them that their child is not in school. If there is no explanation from a child's parents, the absence will be regarded as unauthorised.

Please make every effort to avoid family holidays during term time as this will disrupt your child's education and reduces learning time.

Headteachers can approve absences **up to** two school weeks (10 days) from school in certain situations. Any requests for extended absence over two school weeks (10 days) will be referred to the Senior Education Officer, who will decide if it will be recorded as authorised or unauthorised leave.

Please discuss your plans with your child's Headteacher before booking the holiday. If they cannot give permission before the holiday, it will be recorded as unauthorised absence. They can authorise a holiday if you can prove that work commitments make a family holiday impossible during school holiday times. Normally, your employer will need to provide evidence of your work commitments. Absence approved by the Headteacher on this basis is regarded as authorised absence.

Parents may request that their children be permitted to be absent from school to celebrate recognised religious events. Absence approved on this basis is regarded as authorised absence. Extended leave can also be granted on request for families returning to their country of origin for cultural or care reasons.

A supportive approach is taken to unexplained absence. However the Communities and Families department has legal powers to write to, interview or prosecute parents, or refer pupils to the Reporter to the Children's Panel, if necessary.

School Uniform

Parents are asked to co-operate with the school in encouraging the wearing of the school uniform.

The school uniform was agreed in consultation with parents, pupils, staff and the Parent Council. It incorporates a range of popular items of dress, e.g. sweatshirts, T-shirts. Wearing school uniform contributes to a positive school ethos and helps avoid discrimination and reduces peer pressure to wear expensive designer clothing.

Uniform

- School sweatshirt or grey/purple jumper, cardigan (Senior Pupil sweatshirt/hoodie for P7 only)
- School polo shirt or plain white/purple polo shirt
- White/grey shirt/blouse and school tie
- Grey/black school trousers/skirt or kilt
- Black shoes or plain black trainers (no prominent brand names)
- Lilac & white gingham dress (optional for summer wear)
- School blazer (optional)
- School Jacket (optional)

At present school sweatshirts, polo shirts, kilts, jackets and fleeces can be purchased from Borders Embroidery. Other items of school uniform (e.g. school skirt/trousers, plain polo shirts) are obtainable from any shop which stocks children's school wear. Although blazers are a tradition in Scotland and especially with the younger pupils it is recognised that, in this climate, anoraks can be more sensible - this is for parents to decide. Current prices can be obtained from <https://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/catalogsearch/result/?q=buckstone>

A school's reputation can also be enhanced in the local community by the wearing of school uniform and school security will be improved as it will be easier to identify intruders.

The appropriate clothing and footwear for PE is a T-shirt, shorts and gym shoes with non-marking soles. These are necessary for health and safety reasons and your co-operation is requested to ensure that pupils are equipped to participate in the PE lessons.

Please ensure that **all items of clothing are clearly labelled**, particularly ties, sweatshirts and PE equipment which are often lost.

A protective apron or an old shirt should be worn for art and craft activities.

Please help us by ensuring that pupils do not bring valuable or expensive items of clothing to school.

In certain circumstances, appropriate clothing will be necessary for school activities for safety reasons, e.g. in games areas, science laboratories, technical workshops; this extends to the wearing of suitable footwear and even, on occasion, to the length of pupils' hair and the wearing of jewellery and earrings. Offensive clothing such as T-shirts or other items painted with obscene language or illustrations are not permitted. Football colours are also inappropriate as they can lead to incidents of rivalry.

If you have any queries regarding the school's dress code, please contact the school office.

School Meals

Menus offer healthy and tasty meal options while reflecting the Scottish Government food and drink legal requirements for school lunches. Our menus are written to balance pupil choice with the most stringent of school standards in the UK.

- All our menus are either Quality Meat Scotland or Red Tractor Assured.
- All our dairy comes from Scottish farms.
- All eggs used are Free Range.
- All fish is MSC certified.
- We believe in sourcing food with provenance and aim to increase our spend with Scottish suppliers each year.

The catering service supplies meals for pupils by following the special diet policy - more information on menus/ special diets and prices can be found here:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/food-clothing/lunch-menus-school>

School Grants

Families on low income can get school grants to help with the cost of lunches and school clothing.

All children in Primary 1 to 5 receive free school meals, regardless of your income or benefit status. However, if you meet any of the following conditions, you will be able to receive:

- Free school meals for your children in P6, P7 and in secondary school
- Payment for lunches during school holidays
- Free milk
- A school clothing grant payment of £120 for each primary child and £150 for each secondary child, paid once a year into your bank account

You must receive one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (where your monthly earned income is not more than £726)
- Income Support

- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, but not Working Tax Credit, and your income is less than 18,725
- Both Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit and an income of up to £8,717

Your child might still get school grants if you're experiencing financial hardship. This could be because:

- your immigration status means you cannot get help from the government
- you're still waiting on your first Universal Credit notice

School grants are valid for one school year. The entitlement ends if your child leaves school before the end of the school year.

Information on school grants and how to apply is available on the website:
<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/schoolgrants>

Travel to and from School

We encourage our pupils to walk to school as the majority of our pupils live in the school catchment. Parents are requested, when dropping off/collecting children from school that they do not park in any location which causes an obstruction and they take care not to restrict the view of the school crossing patrol.

Please leave Disabled Parking free for our families who have a blue badge who require them to get their child to school on time.

General Supervision

Before school begins supervision is parental responsibility, therefore pupils should not arrive at school until as near to the school start time as possible.

Some schools offer Breakfast Clubs which have their own supervision arrangements prior to the start of the school day.

We have a busy and popular Breakfast Club which operates from 7.30am to 8.50am at the school. A charge is made and details are available from SpringOscars@actionforchildren.org.uk

During intervals, support staff supervise the children. There is always access to the building and toilets, and the children are made aware of this.

School Security

The safety and security of pupils and staff when attending or working in a school is very important to us. Schools use a number of security measures including visitors' books, badges and escorts, while visitors are within the school building.

Everybody calling at a school for any reason will be asked to report to the school office. The school staff then can make the necessary arrangements for the visit. We would respectfully ask that

parents do not attempt to enter schools through another entrance, unless supervised by a member of staff.

If you wish to speak to a member of staff then please come to the school office where we shall be happy to arrange this for you.

Wet Weather Arrangements

In very wet weather, pupils are allowed to stay in their classrooms during breaks and at lunchtime. In all other weather children will be outside - please ensure they have adequate wet weather clothing suitable for our Scottish climate. Supervision during these wet weather periods is provided by our Pupil Support Assistants. A team of P7 Buddies also help supervise the P1-5 classes. We encourage the children to be very well behaved during wet breaks. We ask that children who have lunch at home do not return to school until very near the end of lunch on wet days. Please note all children must be signed out at the school office by an adult if they are going home for lunch.

Unexpected Closures

In the event of an emergency, such as a power cut or severe weather, that prevents schools from opening in the morning or results in an early closure a range of communications channels are used to let parents know, including our text alert system to communicate with parents.

In addition, announcements will be made on local radio stations and via the Council's corporate Twitter account [www.twitter.com/Edinburgh_CC](https://twitter.com/Edinburgh_CC) and Facebook page www.facebook.com/edinburghcouncil.

If many schools are affected, or the situation is likely to be prolonged, then the Council's website <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/schoolclosures> will also be used.

We recognise the benefits of mobile phones. Many young people and their parents regard them as an essential means of communication. Pupils' mobile phones should be turned off at the start of the school day and may be switched back on at the end of the day. Staff will store the mobile phones securely for the duration of the school day. Pupils are not permitted to use their phones without the permission of staff and are never permitted to take photographs or videos of other pupils or staff on school premises/grounds. Ultimately parents are responsible for monitoring their child /young person's use of cameras and subsequent use of their images involved.

Complaints, Comments and Suggestions Procedure

We all hope that you will be completely satisfied about your child's education and we encourage feedback on our services from parents and pupils. We are, therefore, interested in feedback of all kinds, whether it be compliments, suggestions or complaints.

If you would like to register a comment of any type about our school, you can do this by writing, e-mailing, telephoning or making an appointment to see someone. All feedback is welcome and keeps us in touch.

If, in particular, you have a complaint about the school, please let us know. It is better that these things are shared openly and resolved fairly, rather than being allowed to damage the relationship

between the family and the school. There will be no negative consequences arising from making a complaint and we will deal with the issue as confidentially as possible.

There are some things which you should take note of in relation to making a complaint:

- Please make any complaints initially to the Headteacher. This makes sure that the school knows what is going on and has an opportunity to respond and resolve the issue.
- We will try to respond as quickly as possible, but often issues are complex and we need time to investigate.
- If you are dissatisfied with the service or/and with our response then you will have the right to take the matter further and contact Advice and Complaints Service (Schools and Lifelong Learning) email: cf.complaints@edinburgh.gov.uk or by telephone: 0131 469 3233.

Further information can be found here:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/contact-us/comments-complaints/3>

If you remain dissatisfied after the further investigation and reply you can take the matter up with the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman; our reply will include the contact details.

Health and Safety

Within the general policy laid down by The City of Edinburgh Council, the Education and Children's Services Department has prepared and has continuing development of, safety policy statements for all areas of its responsibility and accordingly manages health and safety and welfare in a way that complies with health and safety statutory and regulatory requirements, and all relevant approved codes of practice and guidance.

School staff are fully instructed in their responsibilities in this respect, and safety regulations apply to all aspects of school life, both on and off the premises.

It is expected that pupils will behave responsibly and comply with all safety requirements.

The support of parents/carers in promoting good practice in health and safety matters is of great importance to the school.

Information about how we manage pupil data in schools/ELC settings

Buckstone Primary School has a legal responsibility to deliver an effective educational programme to its pupils. In order to do this, we need to collect personal data about our pupils/children and their families so that we can help them learn and keep them safe. The type of personal data we will collect include:

Data about our pupils/children and their families

This will include the name, address and contact details of the pupil/child and relevant family members. It will also include information about relevant medical conditions, any additional supports which are needed, and their family situation. We need this information to ensure we know our pupils/children and their families, and to ensure we are able to educate them appropriately and keep them safe.

We will also collect personal data relating to personal or protected characteristics, such as ethnic group, to enable statistics to be reported. We need this information so the Council can ensure it is delivering education appropriately to all its citizens.

Data about pupils/children at school/within ELC setting

This will include data about progress, assessments, and exam results. It will also include records of attendance, absence, and any exclusions. We need this information to understand how our pupils/children are progressing, and to assess how we can help them to achieve their best.

Data about when and where they go after they leave us

This will include information about their next setting/school, career paths or intended destinations. We need this information to ensure we support our pupils/children in all their transitions and do all that we can to help their future be a success.

There will be times where we also receive information about them from other organisations, such as a pupil's previous school, the previous local authority where that school or ELC setting was based, NHS Lothian, Police Scotland, Social work, Additional Support Services, and sometimes other organisations or groups connected to a pupil's education. We use this data similarly to the above: to support our pupils' learning, monitor and report on their progress, provide appropriate pastoral care; and assess the quality of our services.

When we collect and use personal data within school/ELC setting, and for the reasons detailed above, we will normally be acting in accordance with our public task. Occasionally we are also required to process personal data because the law requires us to do so, or because it is necessary to protect someone's life.

We will also take photographs in school/ELC setting and display them on our walls, and in newsletters and other communications. We do this in order to celebrate and share what we have done, including individual achievements and successes. We consider this use of images to be part of our public task as it helps us build an effective community which supports learning. We will not, however, publish these photographs on social media or in newspapers without permission. Consent for this use will be sought when a pupil/child joins Buckstone Primary School and will be kept on record while they are with us. Consent can be withdrawn at any time, please just let us know.

Sometimes we need to share pupil information with other organisations. We are required, by law, to pass certain information about our pupils to the Scottish Government and the Council. This data is for statistical purposes and will normally be anonymised. It is normally required to enable the Council, and the Government, to understand how education is being delivered and to help them plan for future provision. Further information about what the Scottish Government does with statistical data it receives is provided below.

If a pupil/child moves schools/ELC settings, we have a legal obligation to pass on information to their new school/education authority about their education at Buckstone Primary School.

When we record and use personal data, we will only collect and use what we need. We will keep it securely, and it will only be accessed by those that need to. We will not keep personal data for longer than is necessary and follow the Council's Record Retention Schedule and archival procedures when records are identified to be of historical value and require to be retained in the Edinburgh City Archives.

For more information on how the Council uses personal data, and to know more about your information rights including who to contact if you have a concern, see the [City Of Edinburgh's Privacy Notice](#).

Sharing personal data to support Wellbeing

In addition to the above, Buckstone Primary School has a legal duty to promote, support and safeguard the wellbeing of children in our care.

Wellbeing concerns can cover a range of issues depending on the needs of the child. Staff are trained to identify when Education and Children's Services can be supported and records are kept when it is thought that a child could benefit from help available in the school/ELC setting, community or another professional. You can expect that we will tell you if we are concerned about your child's wellbeing and talk to you about what supports might help in the circumstances. Supports are optional and you will not be required to take them up.

If it would be helpful to share information with someone else, we will discuss this with you and seek your consent before we share it so that you know what is happening and why. The only time we will not seek consent to share information with another organisation is if we believe that a child may be at risk of harm. In these situations, we have a duty to protect children, which means we do not need consent. On these occasions, we will normally tell you that information is being shared, with whom, and why - unless we believe that doing so may put the child at risk of harm.

We will not give information about our pupils to anyone without your consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

Sharing educational data with the Scottish Government

The following information has been provided by the Scottish Government - Education and Training Division to let you know why they collect statistical information from school and what they do with it:

Education authorities and the Scottish Government collected data about pupils on paper forms for many years. We now work together with schools to transfer data electronically through the ScotXed programme. Thus the Scottish Government has two functions: acting as a 'hub' for supporting data exchange within the education system in Scotland and the analysis of data for statistical purposes within the Scottish Government itself.

What pupil data is collected and transferred?

Data on each pupil is collected by schools, local authorities and the Scottish Government.

The data collected and transferred covers areas such as date of birth, Scottish Candidate Number (SCN), postcode, registration for free-school meals, whether a pupil is looked after by his/her local authority, additional support needs including disability and English as an Additional Language (EAL), and attendance, absence and exclusions from school.

The SCN acts as the unique pupil identifier. Pupil names and addresses are not passed to the Scottish Government. Your postcode is the only part of your address that is transferred for statistical purposes, and postcodes are grouped to identify 'localities' rather than specific addresses. Data is held securely and no information on individual pupils can or would be published by the Scottish Government.

Providing national identity and ethnic background data is entirely voluntary. You can choose the 'not disclosed' option if you do not want to provide this data. However, we hope that the explanations contained in this message and on the ScotXed website will help you understand the importance of providing the data.

Why do we need your data?

In order to make the best decisions about how to improve our education service, the Scottish Government, education authorities and other partners such as the Scottish Qualifications Authority and Skills Development Scotland need accurate, up-to-date data about our pupils. We are keen to help all our pupils do well in all aspects of school life and achieve better examination results. Accurate and up-to-date data allows us to:

- plan and deliver better policies for the benefit of all pupils
- plan and deliver better policies for the benefit of specific groups of pupils
- better understand some of the factors which influence pupil attainment and achievement
- share good practice
- target resources better.

Your data protection rights

The collection, transfer, processing and sharing of ScotXed data is done in accordance with the Data Protection Act (2018). We also comply with the National Statistics Code of Practice requirements and other legislation related to safeguarding the confidentiality of data. The Data Protection Act gives you the right to know how we will use your data. This message can give only a brief description of how we use data. Fuller details of the use of pupil data can be found on the ScotXed website (www.scotxed.net).

The Scottish Government works with a range of partners including Education Scotland and the SQA. On occasion, we will make individual data available to partners and also academic institutions to carry out research and statistical analysis. In addition, we will provide our partners with information they need in order to fulfil their official responsibilities. Any sharing of data will be done under the strict control of the Scottish Government, which will ensure that no individual level data will be made public as a result of the data sharing and that these data will not be used to take any actions in respect of an individual. Decisions on the sharing of data will be taken in consultation with colleagues within and outwith the Scottish Government.

Concerns

If you have any concerns about the ScotXed data collections you can email the Senior Statistician, scotxed@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or write to The ScotXed Support Office, Area 1B, Victoria Quay, Leith, EH6 6QQ. Alternative versions of this page are available, on request from the ScotXed Support Office, in other languages, audio tape, braille and large print.

School Nursing Team

The School Nursing team is made up of the:

- **School Nurse** (Specialist Qualified 3rd part Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) registrant - now masters level 11 post graduate degree)
- **Community Staff Nurses** (Registered Nurse on Part 1 of NMC - undergraduate degree)
- **Community Health Assistants** (not a nurse, may have SVQ qualifications in care related field)

Services provided

Universal Services for All School Age Children:

Child Health Surveillance Programme

- P1 eye tests by Health Assistant - (only for those who did not receive this preschool in nursery)
- Growth Measurements by Health Assistant- currently at Primary 1 and Parent health Questionnaire (this may change in the future dependant on Scottish Government obesity strategy and the Health Visitor assessment at 4-5 years preschool)
- Primary 7 health questionnaire - growth measurement may be added in the future linked to Scottish Government obesity prevention work
- Drop in Services - a drop in health zone for High School Pupils (either in school or community facility) who are seeking advice or support on sexual health and health related issues

- Staff training - CPD in-service days on health actions plans, anaphylaxis etc - will be usually be delivered by the staff nurse
- Healthcare Plans for pupils - education staff will be supported by staff nurses on the planning and education

Healthcare Needs of Children with Moderate to Complex Physical Nursing Needs:

- For children in Complex Needs Schools, nursing care needs will be delivered by the nursing team who are based in these designated schools

School Nurse Services for Children/Young People with Increased Needs:

10 key areas specialist school nurses will focus on:

- Emotional Health and Wellbeing
- Substance Misuse
- Child Protection
- Domestic Abuse
- Looked After Children
- Homelessness
- Youth Justice
- Young Carers
- Sexual Health
- Transitions

How to Refer

Children can be referred to the School Nurse by their school or their GP or other health care professional. Children and young people can also self-refer. They can do this by discussing this at drop ins or asking their teacher/ guidance teacher to refer them. Parents can refer by discussing with their GP or child's teacher/ guidance teacher.

Further information

Our NHS Lothian School Nursing Service web pages:

<https://services.nhslothian.scot/SchoolNursing>

Who Does What

- **GP** - all regular family health care
- **CAMHS** - Child and Adolescent Mental Health - Specialist service - Mental Health Specialists
- **Hospital Paediatric** - medical/surgical and other specialist services
- **Community Paediatrician** - doctors in community child health
- **CCN Team** - Community Children's Nurses - specialist paediatric trained nurses
- **AHPs** - Allied Health Professionals - speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, dietetics, orthoptics - referral based service
- **CVT** - Community Vaccination Team - nurses who deliver vaccination services to all age groups
- **Learning Disability Services** - where there is LD diagnosis
- **Oral Health - Dental** - prevention and treatment service
- **LAC - Looked After Children** - nurses who work only with looked after children. When notified by Social Work that a child has become looked after, the LAC nurses will undertake

a health assessment. They may refer to school nursing for ongoing reviews and wider support.

Head Lice

Head lice continue to be a community issue – they are spread through head to head contact at home, while playing or in school. Health policy dictates that children's heads are not examined in school for head lice. This is a parental responsibility. It is therefore very important that you regularly check and treat your child for head lice or eggs. Regular wet combing of your child's hair using a head lice detection comb is the best protection as it allows you to detect the condition and treat it speedily. The only way to be sure that your child has head lice is to find a live louse. If you find live lice, get the correct lotion from your doctor, health visitor or pharmacist. Shampoos and other treatments are not effective. Advise family members and close friends that your child has lice and that they should check their own hair. Only treat if live lice are found.

Medicine Administration

Some pupils have occasional health care needs that require the administration of medication in school. If a child requires medication during the school day, parents should hand this in to the school office and complete the appropriate consent form detailing dosage, timings and any other specific requirements. School staff are unable to administer medication without completion of the necessary forms. Long term medication requires the completion of a School Health Care Plan. This is for all pupils who may need emergency medication or who have a complex, chronic condition that requires more in depth planning and support. The Plan is discussed and finalised with relevant health care staff and the school's management team. Necessary medication is kept in the school office and classroom, administered by staff when needed.

Use of social media

Buckstone Primary School understands the benefits of using social media; however if misused, our school community can be negatively affected, such as by damaging the school's reputation. We advise parents, and carers to conduct themselves on social media using the following three commons approach to online behaviour:

- Common courtesy
- Common decency
- Common sense

Parental Requests for class lists

Information about your child is held securely and appropriate safeguards are in place. Due to these safeguards we are unable to provide parents and carers with the list of names your child is classmates with.

Other School Policies

Our school website will provide you with details of school policies which may be of interest to you.

Section Two – Parental Involvement in the School

Parental involvement is very important as we know it helps children do better in school.

This section contains information about how parents can be involved in supporting learning at home as part of a home – school partnership.

You can also find out more about the ethos of our school, what our values are and our aspirations for our pupils including how we celebrate pupil success, and links we have with partner organisations and the wider local, national and international community.

Lastly, it includes information on our Parent Teacher Association/Parent Association and Parent Council, how to contact them and how parents can get involved in the life and work of the school.

Equality

City of Edinburgh Council is committed to improving the quality of life for those who face inequality, harassment, discrimination and prejudice and to harness the talent and celebrate the difference of all who live in the city. This commitment is set out in the Equality, Diversity and Rights Framework which can be viewed on the council's website. As a school, we are committed to fulfilling our obligation of equity and excellence for all learners, with particular reference to protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 (race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion/belief, age, marriage or civil partnership, transgender status or pregnancy/maternity) and

Children's Rights

The rights of children and young people are at the heart of our code of practice. They are laid out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The UNCRC ensures that children and young people grow up healthy and safe and that their views are taken into consideration in decisions that affect them.

Ethos

The ethos of Buckstone Primary School is central to successful learning and teaching. If children have a sense of belonging, they feel happy and secure and learn more effectively. We work hard to create a positive environment where everyone is valued and equipped with the tools to achieve their full potential.

Celebrating Success

At Buckstone Primary School we are proud of our children and want to celebrate their achievements and successes as this is essential for building self-esteem. We have many ways to encourage achievement at Buckstone Primary School and opportunities for children to gain points for their House by demonstrating kindness and manners among other things. We want to celebrate success out of school as well and children are encouraged to share their successes with us at assemblies and through the Golden Book. The children are encouraged to add achievements to the

Golden Book (found near the office door).

Vision

'An inspirational challenging and creative learning community where everyone is welcoming, supportive and encouraging'.

Values

We are committed to supporting the development of the whole pupil and as a result, wish to encourage their development in spiritual, moral, social and cultural terms.

These key human aspects of learning are supported through the following arrangements by:-

- Creating a school ethos which, in every way possible, gives value to these aspects of development, especially by providing an overall atmosphere that is both caring and challenging and which provides opportunities for the development of personal responsibility.
- Promoting social and moral learning through the way in which disciplinary issues are handled.
- Ensuring that staff and adults within the school provide positive models for pupils.
- Arranging regular gatherings of the school as a community and using such occasions to encourage and reinforce the values on which the school is based.
- Enriching the curriculum in all appropriate areas with an emphasis on spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Providing opportunities within the curriculum to advance personal and social development.
- Providing a programme of religious education in which consideration will be given to responses to basic questions relating to the meaning, value and purpose of human life.
- Providing a programme of moral education.
- Taking every appropriate opportunity to acknowledge, value and appreciate the various cultures and heritage of the pupils and to encourage them to appreciate and value the cultures and heritage of others.

Promoting Positive Behaviour

Every child and young person has the right to a high quality education. Positive relationships are fundamental to enable effective teaching and learning to take place. All staff focus on positive relationships by looking for opportunities to encourage learner skills, recognise effort and build on strengths. Positive relationships form a foundation that minimises difficulties occurring.

We have adopted the following key principles to create a caring, supportive, learning environment:

- an ethos that values positive, restorative and respectful relationships and promotes shared values
- an inclusive and safe learning environment which supports children and develops their skills and resilience enabling them to become responsible for their own behaviour
- recognising that all behaviour is communication and that understanding what is being communicated and the underlying needs is crucial for assessing and meeting children's needs and finding solutions.

The school uses approaches and strategies which are designed to help prevent and de-escalate difficult situations and identify and support individual support needs.

We understand that everyone learns best when they feel good about themselves. Punishments can make children feel bad about themselves. This can hinder their ability to engage in their learning, including their behaviour. Positive approaches to support behaviour focusses on relationships, skills building, restoration and when appropriate logical or natural consequences appropriate to the child, rather than the implementation of punishments.

We explore and establish "what's happened" with children. To do this we listen to their response whether that is given verbally or expressed non-verbally and act appropriately. Once the reason and purpose for the child's behaviour is known we explore how we can develop appropriate support or adaptations to address the issue by promoting well-being, offering coping strategies and agreeing constructive solutions.

These form the basis of all our conversations in relation to behavioural expectations. It is helpful if parents can also discuss these rules / values with their children if there has been an incident in school. The purpose of these conversations is to find solutions and develop skills that will prevent problems in the future.

We want to engage directly with parents to foster and develop our positive ethos. We want to work together to maintain and support shared learning community values and excellent home/school communication. We want to work together to address, prevent and resolve any difficulties should they arise and to build on our strengths together.

We have a small number of easily remembered rules / values which everyone in our learning community knows. These are summarised in three words / short phrases:

1. Ready
2. Respectful
3. Safe

These form the basis of all our conversations in relation to behavioural expectations. It is helpful if parents can also discuss these rules / values with their children if there has been an incident in school. The purpose of these conversations is to find solutions and develop skills that will prevent problems in the future.

Our values / rules and ethos are summarised in our Learning Together at Buckstone Primary School leaflet.

Preventing and Responding to Bullying and Prejudice Behaviour Among Children and Young People
City of Edinburgh Council have recently updated their anti-bullying guidance.

The guidance for schools supports our commitment to equalities and the wellbeing and protection of children and young people from bullying and prejudice by other children and young people and aims to prevent bullying and prejudicial behaviours and attitudes. It aims to develop positive relationships with all members of school communities and partnerships as part of our approach to

getting it right for every child, creating communities that allow children to be Safe, Healthy, Active, Nurtured, Achieving, Respected, Responsible and Included.

To support and further improve the positive relationship within schools, equalities groups, which have a wide representation of all stakeholders and reflect the diversity of the school community, will work to take forward the key messages that are included in the guidelines and to ensure that all children have access to support, have their views listened and responded to and are involved in the decisions that will continue to make their school a place to feel safe, happy and nurturing.

We are committed to equalities and the wellbeing and protection of children and young people from bullying and prejudice by other children and young people. All schools have a procedure which is informed by the overarching 'Preventing and Responding to Bullying amongst Children and Young People' procedure. We recognise that policy and procedures alone will not address the prevention of bullying; through our core practices (Relationships, Rights Respecting, Resilience, Restorative) we aim to build positive relationships and a culture and ethos which ensure respect, equality and inclusion. We promote anti-bullying and anti-discriminatory attitudes and behaviours through preventative, pro-active and responsive approaches.

Bullying and discriminatory behaviours are not tolerated. The school will put in place appropriate support for all children and young people involved in a bullying incident. Children who display bullying behaviour will be supported to identify the feelings and views that have caused them to act in this way and challenged, through education and learning, to develop alternative ways of behaving. Partnership with parents is instrumental to our approach to preventing and responding to bullying and in cases of bullying it is important that all parents involved work with the school to resolve the problems in the best interests of their child.

Learning Together Framework



Parental involvement describes ways in which parents can get involved in the life and work of their child's school. Parental engagement is about parents' interaction with their children's learning. Schools and partners can play a vital role in supporting families to do this effectively by:

- enabling ongoing two-way communication between home and school
- supporting parents to contribute to school improvement and making decisions that affect the school
- using the skills of parents to enrich the curriculum where appropriate
- providing opportunities for families to come together and engage with learning

Aims and Rationale

The purpose of our strategy is to ensure excellence and equity in parental involvement and engagement within our schools. It will ensure:

- we have the capacity and skills to support parental involvement and engagement
- involvement and engagement is monitored and evaluated
- effective communication is in place between home and school
- parents can see how their involvement is influencing school improvement
- we provide appropriate opportunities to involve all parents, whatever their ability, background or interest, to participate in the design, delivery and evaluation of the services and facilities that impact on their children
- all staff who work with children and young people see the importance of engaging and working with parents

Parental Involvement

'Parental involvement is about supporting pupils and their learning. It is about parents and teachers working together in partnership to help children become more confident learners'.

Parental Involvement Act, 2006

Getting involved in the life and work of your child's school can include:

- ✓ Establishing and reviewing the Vision, aims, rationale of setting/school
- ✓ Improvement planning
- ✓ Decision-making on education matters affecting child's learning
- ✓ Developing/reviewing policies
- ✓ Organising events for families
- ✓ Using parents' skills to enhance/enrich the curriculum
- ✓ Short-life working groups
- ✓ Volunteering
- ✓ Developing the young workforce
- ✓ Parent Council/Parent Teacher Association

- ✓ Parental representation at school, local authority and national levels

Parental Engagement

Parental engagement can be considered as active involvement in learning.

Parental engagement represents a greater 'commitment, ownership of action' than parental involvement within educational settings such as early learning and childcare or schools.

Goodall and Montgomery, 2014

Your child's school will actively involve you in their child's learning. This can include

- ✓ discussions between parents/practitioners and children
- ✓ Focusing on how families can build on what they already do to help child's learning and to provide a supportive learning environment at home
- ✓ Providing clear and regular communication from school to home
- ✓ Making good use of information technology and the school website

We welcome parental involvement and engagement, as research has shown that when parents are involved children do better in school.

All parents are welcomed and encouraged to:

- be involved with their child's education and learning.
- be active participants in the life of the school.
- express their views on school education generally and work in partnership with their children's schools.

Family Learning

Family learning is a powerful method of engagement and learning which can foster positive attitudes towards life-long learning, promote socio-economic resilience and challenge educational disadvantage.

Family Learning Network, 2016

Family Learning encourages family members to learn together as and within a family, with a focus on intergenerational learning.

Family learning activities can also be specifically designed to enable parents to learn how to support their children's learning.

Learning at Home

Learning at home recognises the vital role that parents, family members, peers and practitioners play in children's learning and development.

Review of Learning at Home 2018

The learning which happens in the home, outdoors and/or in the community, including organised or active learning opportunities

Everyday activities that families already do can be learning at home. These can include

- play
- leisure activities
- fun events
- sports
- trips
- cultural or volunteering experiences
- school related activities such as homework, reading and sharing books.

Communication with Parents

We use an electronic system called GroupCall to communicate with our parents via email and text message. This covers letters, weekly Friday updates, Homelink newsletters and general information which are sent directly to your email addresses or phone.

The school sends an updated weekly calendar and fortnightly newsletters to all parents, along with class termly overviews. Letters and information will be sent to parents during the week as appropriate to the year group. To ensure your contact details are up-to-date, please inform the school office of any changes at admin@buckstone.edin.sch.uk. If you prefer, you can obtain paper copies of newsletters and documents from the school office.

We have an online Compliments and Suggestions box; you can find details of this on our Homelink and Friday Flyers. We seek parents' views via our Parent Council reps and online parents/carers surveys.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, you don't need to wait for the next Parents' Evening: you can arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher by calling the school office on 0131 445 4545.

Every year, each school publishes a Standards and Quality report which highlights the school's major achievements. This can be found on our school website along with our School Improvement Plan. These documents detail the significant progress we have made to improve standards, the achievements made in key areas and give an outline of our next steps.

We have two 'Drop In' times when parents are invited into the school to see our learning in action.

Parental Consultation/Reporting to Parents Throughout the Year

We hold formal meetings with parents twice per year, October and March. These meetings are an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss progress, behaviour, attendance and anything else you'd like to raise. Children are invited to attend these consultations and share their learning. The dates and times of forthcoming Parents' Evenings will be published on our website and Homelink newsletters.

Parents will get regular information about their child's strengths, progress and achievements and be informed about any gaps in their child's progress and ways that they can help. Across the school year, we feel it is important that different reporting activities take place. Some approaches will involve individual learners while some will involve groups of learners. Listed below are examples of reporting activities for individual learners and groups of learners. The key message is that reporting opportunities are regular, meaningful, purposeful and ongoing throughout the academic year.

- Sharing our Learning event - once per year;
- Learning Stories - 2 per year;
- Assemblies - once per year;
- Homelink - fortnightly;
- Class Drop Ins - twice per year;
- Learning Blogs - weekly updates;
- Meet the Teacher - August;
- Parent Consultations - October and March;
- E-Journal for nursery and P1;
- Reflective Friday - weekly;

End of year reports, looking back, looking forward will focus on how well the child is progressing in terms of learning and achieving a level.

Parent Forum and Parent Councils

All parents/carers are automatically members of the Parent Forum at their child's school. As a member of the Parent Forum all parents can expect to -

- receive information about the school and its activities;
- hear about what partnership with parents means in our school;
- be invited to be involved in ways and times that suit you;
- identify issues you want the parent council, to work on with the school;
- be asked your opinion by the parent council on issues relating to the school and the education it provides;
- work in partnership with staff;
- enjoy taking part in the life of the school in whatever way possible.

The Parent Forum decides how their representatives on the Parent Council are chosen and how the Parent Council operates. It is important to us that our Parent Council represents the rich diversity of our school community. We warmly invite all parents to volunteer or put themselves forward as representatives on the Parent Council.

Parent Councils are the formal representative body for parents/carers with children attending school. Parent Councils are different in each school to enable them to meet the needs of parents/carers locally.

The main aims of the Parent Council are:

- To support the school in its work with pupils
- To represent the views of parents
- To promote contact between the school, parents, pupils, providers of nursery education and the community
- To report to the Parent Forum
- To be involved in the appointment of senior promoted staff
- To raise funds for the school for the benefit of pupils (in some schools the PSA/PTA/PA fulfils this role).

The Parent Council can be contacted at:

Buckstoneschoolassociation@outlook.com

For more information on parental involvement or to find out about parents as partners in their children's learning, please contact the school or visit the Parentzone website at www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk.

Locality groups and the citywide Special Schools Group Locality groups and the citywide Special Schools Group enables Parent Councils members to get together to discuss common issues and have their views on local and citywide issues heard.

The above groups meet four times a year. There are four locality groups: north west, north east, south west and south east. There is also one citywide special schools group.

The Consultative Committee with Parents

The Consultative Committee with Parents (CCwP) is a forum that gives parents and carers the chance to discuss citywide and national issues with members of our staff and other groups.

The CCwP meets four times a year. Parent members are chosen at the meetings of the locality groups and citywide special schools group. Two parents from the CCwP are put forward to take part in the Education, Children and Families Committee. This post lasts up to two years

Education Children's and Families Committee

The committee has two parent representatives who speaks on the behalf of parents, taking their views from their work in a school, locality group and the Consultative Committee with Parents (CCwP).

Who to ask

All questions/ requests for information can be sent to

parental.engagement@edinburgh.gov.uk

Your email will be forwarded onto the right person/department to provide the answer/support you need.

Connect

Connect is a charity which supports Parent Councils and works with local authorities. The City of Edinburgh Council pays for all Edinburgh Parent Councils to have a membership of Connect. Connect are committed to making family engagement in children's learning and school lives as good as it can be. They work with parents and educators, providing information, advice and training.

<https://connect.scot>

Pupil Voice Groups

In school we have a number of pupil groups who take on additional responsibilities and take forward initiatives to make our school even better. These groups include a Pupil Parliament, an Equalities Group and an Eco Group,. We also have a Buddy System and House System to support children and classes in the school. Every child attending Buckstone Primary School is allocated a house when starting school.

Section Three - School Curriculum

This section describes how the curriculum is planned and delivered in our school including the range of subjects and curricular areas your child will be learning. It also includes information on how pupils develop skills for learning, life and work, including literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing in and out of the classroom.

As well as giving you information about the statutory curriculum requirements we have included details on sports and outdoor activities available to pupils and the range of facilities available within the school.

Details of how parents will be informed about sensitive aspects of learning e.g. relationships, sexual health, parenthood and drugs awareness are included as well as information about religious instruction and observance and arrangements for parents who wish to exercise their right to withdraw their child.

Curriculum for Excellence: Bringing learning to life and life to learning

Curriculum for Excellence is the curriculum across Scotland for all 3-18 year olds - wherever they learn. It aims to raise standards; preparing our children for a future they do not yet know and equip them for the jobs of tomorrow in an ever-changing world.

Teachers and practitioners will share information to plan a child's 'learning journey' from 3-18, helping their progression from nursery to primary, primary to secondary and beyond, ensuring each transition is smooth. They'll ensure children continue to work at a pace they can cope with and with challenge they can thrive on.

Curriculum for Excellence balances the importance of knowledge and skills. Every child is entitled to a broad general education, whatever their level and ability. Every teacher and practitioner will be responsible for the development of literacy and numeracy from Early Level through to Senior Phase.

It develops skills for learning, life and work, bringing real life into the classroom, making learning relevant and helping young people apply learning to their life beyond the classroom. It links knowledge in one subject area to another helping pupils to make connections in their learning. It develops skills which can enable children to think for themselves, make sound judgements, challenge, enquire and find solutions.

There is an entitlement to personal support to help young people fulfil their potential and make the most of their opportunities with additional support wherever that's needed. There is an emphasis by all staff on looking after our children's health and wellbeing using the Wellbeing Indicators.

Ultimately, Curriculum for Excellence aims to improve our children's life chances, to nurture successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens, building on Scotland's reputation for great education.

Literacy and Language

Literacy has been defined within Curriculum for Excellence as 'the set of skills which allows an individual to engage fully in society and in learning, through the different forms of language, and the range of texts, which society values and finds useful' (Principles and practice: Literacy across learning, 2009).

Literacy permeates the whole curriculum and is central to children's learning. Being literate increases opportunities for a child in all aspects of life, lays the foundations for lifelong learning and work, and contributes strongly to the development of all four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence.

Staff will build on the foundation which has been started at home and help them to use language effectively for a variety of purposes. The literacy framework has three elements:

- listening and talking
- reading
- writing

Literacy skills will be developed in all subjects and across the eight curricular areas.

Reading

When children are learning to read, they need to be taught how to use a vast number of strategies and skills. At Buckstone Primary School, we plan carefully to ensure that these skills are acquired, practised and developed using a wide variety of resource material e.g. reading schemes, library books, eBooks etc.

Writing

Writing involves a set of complex skills that will not develop without structured teaching and practice. At Buckstone Primary School, we use the 'Big Writing' approach which is based on child centred, interactive learning with a focus on four core targets of Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation (V.C.O.P). We teach writing in a structured way to ensure progression, continuity and consistency. Throughout the school the children use a variety of texts to gain more knowledge about how to improve their own writing. Children read to write and write to read.

Listening and Talking

There are many opportunities for children to develop Listening and Talking skills. During their primary experience, the children will develop skills in conveying information through personal talks, they will be involved in group discussions and will share their experiences, feelings and opinions with others. They will also be given regular opportunities to share their learning through presentations and at Assembly time.

They will be taught to listen effectively and respond appropriately. As the children progress from P1-P7, the tasks set and the expected responses become more complex and demanding.

Numeracy and Mathematics

Numeracy is a vital skill that is important in everyday life. It is about being confident when solving problems, making decisions and analysing situations that involve number. Numeracy is key to lifelong learning, e.g. it enables a young person to understand scientific concepts, interpret figures and understand cause and effect.

At Buckstone Primary School, children are taught core maths facts and they use these to develop maths skills and concepts and apply these to real life situations.

In numeracy, the children will learn through active learning and purposeful play. They will develop problem-solving capabilities through:

- calculating mentally;
- explaining their strategies and thinking;
- using relevant contexts and experiences;
- using technology in appropriate and effective ways;
- collaborating and learning independently.

In teaching Numeracy and Mathematics, we encourage children to think and reason for themselves and also enjoy the challenges and creativity of maths. There are opportunities for children to develop their maths knowledge, skills and understanding in other curricular areas.

Health and Wellbeing

Health and Wellbeing promotes positive attitudes to healthy living and ensures pupils develop the skills they need for good mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing now and in the future. Part of Health and Wellbeing is Physical Education with the class teachers who teach weekly lessons to meet the 2 hour entitlement. Pupils in P4 also have swimming lessons for planned blocks in the year.

Part of the Health and Wellbeing curriculum is Personal and Social Development which includes positive behaviour, self esteem, sex education, drug education, personal safety and anti-bullying. Parents will be informed when any 'sensitive' topics are to be covered. Our residential experiences are a valuable part of the children's development. P5 have an extended one day Epic Adventure visit to Bonaly Outdoor Centre, P6 attend a two night Epic Adventure Residential also at Bonaly Outdoor Centre while P7 spend five days on a residential visit at Lagganlia Outdoor Centre in Kingussie.

Expressive Arts

Expressive Arts encompasses the areas of Art, Drama, Dance and Music. In each area children will be given the opportunity to use materials, techniques, skills and media; express feelings, ideas, thoughts and solutions; and evaluate and appreciate their own and others' work. We welcome visitors in school who can share their talents with the children and we also visit the theatre, concert halls and art galleries to promote diversity. Children may also have tuition in brass or cello. Selection is carried out in accordance with the City of Edinburgh guidelines and takes place in P4 for cello and P6 for brass.

Religious and Moral Education

We follow a programme of themes to develop the children's understanding of the major world faiths and moral issues.

Children are encouraged to think for themselves and develop tolerance through finding out about other people's beliefs. Assemblies aim to increase pupils' understanding of themselves by reflecting on their own lives, those of others and the world in which we all live.

Parents and religious leaders make up our religious observance team. A list of topics for assemblies can be found on our fortnightly Homelink newsletter.

Sciences

Sciences include experiences and outcomes in biological, chemical, physical and environmental contexts. The most important goal for science education is to stimulate, nurture and sustain the curiosity, wonder and questioning of children. Young children have a natural sense of wonder and curiosity and are active and eager learners endeavouring to make sense of the world. They develop ideas through play, investigation, first-hand experience and discussion. As they grow older, children ask searching questions based on their everyday observations and experiences of living things, the environment and the materials, objects and devices they interact with. Learning through the sciences enables children to: investigate their environment by observing, exploring, investigating and recording; demonstrate a secure understanding of the big ideas and concepts of science; make sense of evidence collected and presented in a scientific manner; recognise the impact science makes on their lives, on the lives of others, on the environment and on culture; and express opinions and make decisions on social, moral, ethical, economic and environmental issues informed by their knowledge and understanding of science.

Social Studies

Through social studies, children and young people develop their understanding of the world by learning about other people and their values. They usually involve a project-based approach to learning. As well as developing skills and knowledge, children will develop informed attitudes about respecting the world around them and promoting active citizenship. The children will learn to develop their skills to investigate, interpret, record and present their findings. Throughout these studies, it is hoped that informed attitudes to the environment will be engendered.

When appropriate, classes will go on educational excursions to enrich the learning experience. Some studies may last several weeks, others have a shorter focus.

Technologies

The Technologies curriculum area relates particularly to contexts that provide scope for developing technological skills, knowledge, understanding and attributes through creative, practical and work related activities. In the wider world these skills can be applied in business, computing science, food, textiles, craft, design, engineering, graphics and applied technologies. Children will develop their creativity and entrepreneurial skills and be encouraged to become innovative and critical designers of the future.

Modern Languages

1 + 2 Modern Languages is the Scottish Government Initiative which encourages schools to teach an additional language from Nursery, then a second additional language from P5. Boroughmuir, our cluster High School, has chosen French and German as our 2 languages, with French being taught from Nursery and German being taught more intensively from P6. We are also extremely fortunate to be part of a cluster project learning Mandarin in P5. Children then have the option to continue this in S1. The initiative happens in all three cluster primary schools.

French will be taught from Nursery to P7. P5 will be taught Mandarin. P6 and 7 will be taught French and German. Pupils practise listening, talking, reading and writing, learning to use personal language through discussion, the use of computer software and other teaching resources.

ICT to enhance learning

Information and Communications Technology plays an important part in our curriculum; children have opportunities for learning through ICT and in ICT. Significant emphasis will be placed on learning through ICT, using ICT to improve pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills in a range of curricular areas and subjects. We have a wide range of equipment to engage and enhance the children's learning experiences - these include iPads, laptops, video cameras, digital cameras and animation equipment. Every classroom has an interactive smartboard.

Buckstone Primary will share information regarding how the curriculum is delivered in the school. You can find out more about our Curriculum in our Learning Together at Buckstone Primary School leaflet and on our website.

Gaelic-Medium Education

Gaelic-Medium Education (GME), is available at nursery, primary and secondary levels. There are Gaelic parent and toddler groups at various locations in the city. For more information visit their Facebook page [here](https://www.facebook.com/croileagan/). <https://www.facebook.com/croileagan/>

Edinburgh's first dedicated Gaelic nursery and primary school, [Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pairce](#), opened in Aug. 2013 in the Leith area of the city. The school attracts a wide range of families from across the city and the wider Lothian area. Although pupils attending the school do not need to have prior knowledge of Gaelic, it is strongly recommended that they attend a Gaelic-medium setting for their pre-school years. So that our pupils are able to develop the language skills needed to gain full benefit from our rich curriculum, Gaelic is the main language of the classroom and the school, from the earliest stages. To allow for the best outcomes for all our learners, we would usually only admit pupils later than Primary One if their skill and confidence in Gaelic language are demonstrably at a level that would allow them fully to access the curriculum and take part in school life with confidence. To be best placed to support pupils thrive in a GME environment, all parents are strongly encouraged to committing to engage with learning the language themselves. School staff are happy to advise and support families with their Gaelic learning.

Pupils should register for a nursery or school place in the usual way. Taobh na Pàirce runs regular open afternoons for prospective nursery parents, where all families will receive a very warm welcome.

Please contact the school for further information.

Currently, pupils who have studied at [Bun Sgoil Taobh na Pairce](#) transfer to [James Gillespie's High School](#), at the end of P7, to continue with GME. In response to increasing demand, the City of Edinburgh plans to further develop it's secondary GME provision by opening a dedicated GME

Secondary. Details relating to specific location, timescales, etc. will emerge after further consultation.

Additionally, pupils from across the Lothians entering S5 or S6, who wish to study Gaelic at secondary level, can, depending on space and availability of courses, enrol at James Gillespie's High School to study at National 4, National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses.

For general enquiries about GME provision in Edinburgh you can contact us via our dedicated mailbox at gme@edinburgh.gov.uk

Active Learning

Curriculum for Excellence emphasises the value of an active learning approach. In the early years, children will have a range of learning experiences that include planned and purposeful play and stimulating learning which engages and challenges children's thinking using real life and imaginary situations. As children progress through school they continue to be involved in active learning experiences which are engaging and give them ownership of their own learning.

Learning Through Play

Research shows play-based learning has a positive and lasting impact on children's learning, teaching them skills relevant to the 21st century. Integrating learning and outdoor experiences, whether through play in the immediate grounds or adventures further afield, provides relevance and depth to the curriculum. Early Years Practitioners and teaching staff use a play-based approach that involves both child-initiated and teacher-supported learning which encourages children's inquiry through interactions that aim to stretch their thinking to higher levels.

Planning Children's and Young People's Learning

Teachers in nursery, primary and secondary schools share their learning intentions with pupils, parents and carers. This takes place on a day-to-day basis, by agreeing the aims of an individual piece of work.

Longer-term planning also takes place in a variety of forms.

Staff at each stage work collaboratively to complete longer term plans to ensure a parity of experience across each stage. Targets are set with the children in their learning stories over the course of the year and these are shared with parents. Children are involved in reviewing the weekly plan on a Friday and planning for the next week.

Assessment

As pupils progress through our school, teachers use a range of assessment strategies, including Assessment for Learning strategies as well as summative tests. Pupils are also involved in assessing their own progress and developing their next steps.

Pupils in P1, P4, P7 and S3 complete online standardised assessments in literacy and numeracy as part of everyday teaching and learning. The assessments help to identify children's progress, providing diagnostic information that support teachers' professional judgement. The information

provided by the assessments helps teachers to assess children's progress and to plan next steps in learning.

The senior phase (S4-S6) builds on the broad general education by continuing to develop learners' knowledge, understanding and skills. National Qualifications are designed to be flexible. Discussions are held with young people and parents on the most appropriate learning pathways.

We recognise that all pupils do not develop and progress at the same rate and, therefore, we use both group and individual methods to ensure that all pupils are given appropriate instruction and the opportunity to succeed. Please contact the school as soon as possible if you have any concerns about your child's progress. We assess in order to inform next steps, check that learning has been retained, to report on progress, to impact on outcomes for learners and to raise attainment.

At Buckstone Primary School, we utilise the four main types of assessment to build a clear picture of every child and their learning:

- Holistic approach- setting of individual targets for learning stories;
- Formative Assessment - a range of formal and informal procedures during the learning;
- Summative Assessment - summarises the development of learners at a particular time after a period of work;
- Standardised assessments - required by the Scottish Government and to check attainment at the end of a level.

Used together, these assessments give a clear picture of where a learner is in their learning and help teachers to understand the preferred learning styles of each child and offer opportunities for the child to work in a way that will optimise their learning.

It is our belief, in Buckstone Primary School, that every child should be meaningfully involved in assessing their own learning, recognising their progress and identifying next steps. They are entitled to regular feedback from their teachers, and support to ensure they become increasingly skilled in these areas to allow them to become "Lifelong Learners". We also acknowledge that parents play a key role as educators and are also entitled to regular feedback about their child's progress.

At Buckstone Primary School, the children are at the centre of all we do. This includes the planning, evaluating and assessment process. It is important for the pupils to know themselves as learners. One strategy for doing this is through Learning Stories which are used in P1 - P7, with Learning ejournals in Nursery. In addition, the Learning Stories are a way of promoting partnerships between school and home, enabling you to be more involved in your child's learning.

What is in a Learning Story? The Learning Story consists of the following sections:

- Termly Overview - this is the document created by the class teacher at the beginning of each term. It outlines what the class are planning to cover that term;
- Targets/Learning Intentions and Star Steps - this outlines the pupil's targets for the term. These are discussed by the teacher and the pupil together;
- Evidence - work gathered by the teacher and the pupil to show progress in their learning;

- Reflections - classes will use different formats to suit the age of the pupils;
- Termly Evaluations - completed at the end of term to outline what has been covered - may be an annotated Termly Overview;
- Literacy and Numeracy Comments are completed twice a year by the class teacher to inform the pupil and parent/carer of progress in these areas;
- Personal Achievements - a place for the pupil to insert any achievements they are proud of and would like to share.

What can you do?

The Learning Story is very much a working document for the pupil. In order to understand where your child is in their learning, what strengths they have and their areas for development, we would very much appreciate your support when they come home. Discussions with your child about their learning will allow the pupil to share their learning.

Literacy and Numeracy comments are completed twice a year. There is space for the pupil and a parent to write a comment. We would really appreciate your comments and feedback, and we would ask that all parents sign the sheet to confirm that they have seen the learning story before returning it to school.

Reporting

Parents will get regular information about their child's strengths, progress and achievements and be informed about any gaps in their child's progress and ways that they can help. Across the school year, we feel it is important that different reporting activities take place. Some approaches will involve individual learners while some will involve groups of learners. Reporting opportunities are regular, meaningful, purposeful and ongoing throughout the academic year. Please see page 27 for further details.

Homework

Home learning is provided at Buckstone Primary School for a number of reasons:

- to provide more practice with a concept introduced in school
- to encourage children to become independent learners
- to provide parents with an opportunity to share in their child's learning at home.

Pupils are regularly given home learning to support their learning in school and to encourage them to become more organised and independent. Home learning tasks will be given where a teacher feels a particular child, or group of children, may benefit from it. Any home learning given should not involve any unfamiliar skills and should not take a long time - if your child is struggling with home learning or never seems to have any, please contact the school.

We have a clearly defined policy which is explained in the Parents' booklet in the document section of the website. Pupils' home learning is detailed on the Home Learning Zone of the website.

Parents are encouraged to help pupils with their home learning as a means of keeping them up to date with the work of the class and the child's progress and to promote partnership between the school and parents. Home learning provides an opportunity to consolidate what has been learned in class and makes you aware of what your child is learning and provides you with a useful discussion

starter. Home Learning is also an integral part of school work. Parental interest and co-operation in ensuring home learning is undertaken is appreciated.

Health and Wellbeing

Curriculum for Excellence acknowledges that learning for and about health and wellbeing is central to the educational experience of every child and young person in Scotland. When our curriculum breaks down what we need learners to explore, there is a recognition that learning about relationships, sexual health and parenthood is part of our national approach.

Learning about relationships, sexual health and parenthood has never been more important or necessary. If we present factual views of the world, based on respect and building the capacity of children and young people to understand what they see so they can decide for themselves to reject negative messages, then educators and parents and carers can help build resilience and positive values.

The new national resource called RSHP - Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood, was launched in 2019. All staff are trained before delivery of the programme which spans all age groups from nursery to P7 and beyond. Parents will be invited to attend an information session to find out more about the resource. Parents can also view the resource online at <https://rshp.scot/>

Religious Instruction and Observance

Parents who wish to exercise their right to withdraw their child from religious instruction and / or observance should contact the head teacher, in writing, and alternative arrangements will be made for your child.

Read, Write, Count

The Read, Write, Count programme aims to support parental engagement in literacy and numeracy. Gift bags are distributed annually to all P2 and P3 pupils in Scotland by Scottish Book Trust. The gift bags contain essential literacy and numeracy materials to support children's learning, as well as advice and support to parents.

Studies show a direct link between a strong family learning environment and progress in reading, writing and counting. In addition to the parent guide included in the gift bags, the Parent Club website (<https://www.parentclub.scot/>) offers a range of hints, tips and advice to help parents engage in their child's learning.

First Minister's Reading Challenge

The First Minister's Reading Challenge is an inclusive, exciting programme for all children - fostering a love of reading for pleasure. Research shows that reading for pleasure is crucially important for children's development.

The Challenge is open to all local authority and independent primary and secondary schools across Scotland, as well as, libraries and community groups. You can find out more information on the Challenge and also how schools can register to take part here:

<https://www.readingchallenge.scot/>

A reading app called Bookzilla, aimed at S1-S3 pupils, helps them find and recommend books and to set themselves reading challenges.

Extra Curricular Activities

We offer a wide range of sporting and cultural activities, such as choir, football and skiing. In addition to in-school activities, classes also make regular and educational visits and field studies. These visits can be linked to pupils' class work.

Active Schools

The fundamental aim of Active Schools is to give school-aged children the tools, motivation and the opportunities to be more active throughout their school years and into adulthood. These opportunities are available before, during and after school, as well as in the wider community. For further information contact Tony Segall, our Active Schools Coordinator. Email: Tony.Segall@ea.edin.sch.uk Tel: 07884 244362

Progression Pathways in the Senior Phase (S4-S6)

We are committed to supporting all children and young people into positive and sustained leaver destinations. By curriculum pathway we mean: "the totality of all that is planned for children and young people throughout their education" (Building the Curriculum 3, 2008) - where all learners are on the right route to the right job, through the right course via the right information.

Career Information, Advice and Personal Support

Through personal support we must build the confidence of our children and young people that they are making the right decisions about their learning pathways in line with their aspirations and abilities.

www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk is developing as a 'one-stop shop approach' to better signpost all qualifications, pathways and support for learners in Scotland. Each school has a dedicated *Skills Development Scotland* Careers Adviser who can support young people and parents at times of choice and change.

For information and support with career conversations go to: www.mykidscareer.com
My World of Work provides an online learner account that enables young people to develop their career management skills and record their attributes, skills, achievements and successes to help them plan their learner journey into work.

<https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/secondary-school-pupils>

The Scottish Credit & Qualifications Framework (SCQF) helps people of all ages and circumstances to access the education and training that is appropriate to them over their lifetime. It can help you plan your learning and develop progression routes to follow, whatever your situation may be.

The SCQF helps you make sense of qualifications and plan the next stage of your learning journey. You can also compare vocational and more traditional qualifications and see that, although they can be different types of learning, in many cases they sit at the same SCQF Level.

Scottish qualifications are delivered at SCQF level 1-12, schools deliver qualifications up to SCQF 7 which is Advanced Higher. Course awards include National Progress Awards (NPA), Skills for Work Awards (SfW) as well as National Certificates (NC) and Higher National Certificates (HNC).

The following is a helpful guide to the SCQF for secondary school pupils:

<https://scqf.org.uk/media/1408/connecting-your-learning-journey-final-web-may-2018.pdf>

Parents and Carers can access further support on the SCQF here:

<https://scqf.org.uk/support/support-for-learners-parents/support-for-parentscarers/>

Your child may still be at school and about to make a transition to the next stage of their education or may already be at college or university. Wherever they are in their learning journey the SCQF is here to help you make sense of the range of Scottish qualifications, so you can support them to plan their next move.

Sometimes we know where we're going next and what we want to do. For example, your child might study Nationals, then Highers at school and be sure they're going to university next. However, they might prefer to undertake a Foundation Apprenticeship (SCQF Level 6) in S5-6 instead of a Higher or go to college and do some vocational training or learn whilst working through a Modern Apprenticeship (SCQF Levels 5-7). The SCQF can help young people work out their next move and the various pathways to employment.

The **Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)** website provides detailed information on all courses from National 3 - Advanced Higher:

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45625.3728.html>

The **National Parent Forum of Scotland** has produced a range of leaflets providing useful summaries of qualifications and progression in the Senior phase:

<https://www.npfs.org.uk/downloads/senior-phase-in-a-nutshell/>

The Nutshell Series gives the key facts about National Qualifications (National 1-5 and Higher) including details of course assessment:

<https://www.npfs.org.uk/downloads/category/in-a-nutshell-series/nationals-in-a-nutshell-series/national-5/>

<https://www.npfs.org.uk/downloads/category/revision-guides/higher/>

Senior Phase School-College Partnership (SCP): The City of Edinburgh Council and Edinburgh College

The Senior Phase SCP can bridge the gap between young people's education and their employment opportunities through improved vocational and technical learning opportunities. Vocational pathways complement academic studies. They are also vital to helping young people develop skills that are crucial to Scotland's economy while exposing them to the more independent and self-reliant environment of college education.

Pooling resources and expertise between schools and colleges maximises what can be offered to young people.

How are the courses delivered?

Most courses run for an academic year, with some Foundation Apprenticeships running for two academic years. The majority of courses will be delivered over two school afternoons, usually Tuesday and Thursday, however some courses have a different attendance pattern so please check course duration and attendance patterns carefully.

Colleges use the same Scottish Candidate Numbers (SCN) as schools so young people should expect to see their college results alongside other school-based qualifications. Edinburgh College, like school, can provide additional support if required.

<http://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk/Schools/Are-You-Still-At-School/SCP-Programme>

What is a Foundation Apprenticeship (SCQF Level 6)?

A Foundation Apprenticeship (FA) is a nationally recognised SCQF Level 6 qualification (same level as Higher) offering a combined classroom and work-based learning opportunity for senior phase pupils. It is delivered in partnership with employers, Edinburgh College and specialist learning providers, such as Edinburgh Early Learning Childcare Academy (EELCA).

The FA has been developed with Skills Development Scotland to provide learners with the knowledge, skills and work-based experience, relevant to occupations in growth industry sectors. The City of Edinburgh Council and Edinburgh College offer Foundation Apprenticeships in the following areas:

- Children and Young People
- Engineering, Civil Engineering
- Social Services and Health care
- Creative Design and Media
- Financial Services, Accountancy and Business Skills
- Scientific Technologies
- ICT Software Development
- Food and Drink technologies

What qualification does the FA provide?

Most FA programmes last two years, with learners beginning their FA in S5. There are some one-year FA programmes available for S6 learners. The FA is offered through the School-College Partnership, so learners will spend part of the school week at Edinburgh College or with a local employer and complete the FA alongside other senior phase courses.

Attainment is measured by ongoing assessment in college and in the workplace - there is no final exam. On successful completion of the course, learners will achieve a Joint Qualification Certificate for the Foundation Apprenticeship comprising a National Progression Award (NPA) and a Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ) at Level 6.

Several progression pathways will be open to learners including accelerated entry onto a Modern Apprenticeship or continued study at college or university, dependent on meeting entry requirements. The FA will support entry requirements to courses at University and College, and Modern and Graduate Apprenticeships.

By giving earlier exposure to the world of work and undertaking work-based projects, the Foundation Apprenticeship will help young people develop the necessary skills, experience and knowledge employers seek, all while still at school.

More details can be found at:

<https://www.apprenticeships.scot/become-an-apprentice/foundation-apprenticeships/>

Section Four – Support for Pupils

This section gives information about how pupils' additional support needs will be identified and addressed and the types of specialist services provided within our school.

Getting It Right for Every Child

Taking care of our children's well-being and making sure they are alright - even before they are born - helps us ensure the most positive outcomes for them later in life. It gives them the potential to grow up ready to succeed and play their part in society. Our school adopts the Getting it right for every child in Edinburgh approach to give the right help to children, young people and families, when they need it from a joined up multi agency team.

Getting it right for every child aims to improve outcomes for all children and young people. It promotes a shared approach that:

- builds solutions with and around Education, and Children's Services
- enables children to get the help they need when they need it
- supports a positive shift in culture, systems and practice
- involves working together to make things better

Getting it right for every child is the foundation for work with all children and young people, including adult services where parents are involved. It builds on universal health and education services, and is embedded in the developing early years and youth frameworks. Developments in the universal services of health and education, such as Better Health Better Care and Curriculum for Excellence, are identifying what needs to be done in those particular areas to improve outcomes for children.

Protecting Children and Young People

We place a high priority on the well-being and safety of our pupils. To this end we have in place a personal safety programme to give pupils knowledge and life skills to keep them safe from all form of abuse. Where we have concerns that a child about the possible abuse of pupils we are required to follow the Edinburgh and the Lothian's Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures which set out the specific duties and responsibilities towards the child and their parents/carers.

Support for Learning

Support for learning means giving children extra help or support so they can get the most out of their education. A child or young person is said to have 'additional support needs' if they need more or different support to what is normally provided in schools or pre-schools to children of the same age.

Support for Learning doesn't just apply to children who have long-term learning difficulties or disabilities. Children can need support for many reasons. Some may need a lot of support all the way through school. Others will only need a small amount for a short time.

The terms "additional support for learning" and "additional support needs" can be confusing. Many people think they only apply to children with long-term learning difficulties or disabilities, but children can need support for many other reasons. These include:

- Difficulty in controlling behaviour
- Missing school because of an illness or long-term condition
- Having a physical disability
- Being a young carer
- Communication difficulties
- Being particularly able
- Changing school frequently
- Being looked after or in care
- Having a difficult family situation
- Suffering a bereavement
- Being bullied.

Some children need only a small amount of support for a short time. Other children may need a lot of support for a longer period of time.

How is additional support provided?

There is no one way to support children. How support is provided in the class and wider school will depend on an individual child's needs. Support is usually provided through the normal learning and teaching that takes place in class however additional support might include:

- Short bursts of intensive work, 1 to 1 or in a group, with either a teacher or pupil support assistant
- Working with a child on a specific learning programme
- Adapting the classroom environment to suit a child's needs
- Providing coping strategies or a quiet space to help children with their behaviour
- A teacher adapting how he or she teaches a lesson
- Adapting learning materials to a child's needs
- Using special equipment or IT
- Sometimes different types of support, particularly behaviour support, must be tried and tested to see which ones work best for the child.

For information regarding your child's needs, please contact the Support for Learning Team at Buckstone.

We work with other agencies and professionals - for example, Social Work Services, Educational Psychology Service, National Health Service and you, the parent, to make decisions with regards

to the best possible education to meet the needs of your child within the resources available. Parents, carers and children with additional support needs can also seek independent advice and support through:

- Enquire: www.enquire.org.uk Telephone 0845 123 2303
- Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance, www.siaa.org.uk Telephone 0131 260 5380 Take

Note: (National Advocacy Service for Additional Support Needs) (Barnados in association with the Scottish Child Law Centre) www.scllc.org.uk Telephone 0131 667 6633

Additional Support Needs

As with all local authority schools in Scotland, this school operates under the terms of the Additional Support for Learning Act (2009) and its accompanying Code of Practice:

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/additional-support/the-additional-support-for-learning-act/>

It provides the following information:

- (a) the authority's policy in relation to provision for additional support needs,
- (b) the arrangements made by the authority in making appropriate arrangement for keeping under consideration the additional support needs of each such child and young person and the particular additional support needs of the children and young persons so identified.
- c) the other opportunities available under this Act for the identification of children and young persons who -
 - 1. have additional support needs,
 - 2. require, or would require, a co-ordinated support plan,
 - 3. the role of parents, children and young persons in the arrangements referred to in paragraph (b),
- d) the mediation services provided
- e) the officer or officers of the authority from whom parents of children having additional support needs, and young persons having such needs, can obtain advice and further information about provision for such needs.

Further details of the policies and procedures can be found on Edinburgh Council website.

The Act requires each Education Authority to publish information about the Act. In on the Act, was produced by the City of Edinburgh Council:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/22136/in-on-the-act>

Literacy Difficulties/ Dyslexia

Dyslexia is evident when accurate and fluent word reading and/or spelling develops incompletely or with great difficulty. This focuses on literacy learning at the 'word level' and implies that the problem is severe and persistent despite appropriate learning opportunities.

The Authority also recognises that there may be **associated difficulties**

- Reading comprehension

- Phonological awareness
- Processing: auditory and/or visual processing of language-based information
- Short-term and working memory
- Organisational skills and motor skills
- Maths
- Emotional and behavioural difficulties

Support and assessment begin in the classroom. Class teachers and Support for Learning teachers have resources and training to identify this learning difference and to put appropriate support strategies in place.

If you have concerns please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

English as an Additional Language

The Education and Children's Services Department provides English as an Additional Language (EAL) support for schools. Specialist EAL Teachers work with schools to support developing bilingual learners' English language skills and access to all areas of the curriculum, to enable them to achieve their potential

Pastoral Support

We value highly the pastoral support which we offer and invite parents to meet with the Head Teacher, Depute Head Teachers or class teacher to discuss any aspect of their child's needs. We will work with you to find and offer the best support.

Transitions - Moving to a New School or Leaving School

This section gives information about transition.

There are also details about making a placing request to another school.

Nursery Class Provision

The school's nursery class provides 40 places for children aged 3 - 5 years.

Nursery class provision is non-denominational. This means that all nurseries are open to children and parents of all religions and beliefs. Placement in the nursery class does not guarantee a place in the primary school.

Transfer from Nursery to Primary

Before leaving nursery, a transfer of information record for each child will be prepared by nursery staff to ensure a smooth transition and continuity of education for the child transferring to primary.

Primary School Admissions

Starting school is a very important milestone both for children and their parents. The vast majority of our parents choose their local, catchment school and we plan our education provision to ensure we can provide places for new pupils at their catchment school.

In the run-up to November's registration week for the new Primary 1 intake, each school will offer an opportunity for you to visit them. You can speak to staff to find out more about the school first-hand. You can see how the school runs, discuss the curriculum and their priorities as well as seeing recent examples of pupils' work on display. In many cases, you may also have the chance to meet other parents who already have children there. All of this will help you understand the school's unique character and give you an insight into the learning environment that your child could enjoy there.

All our schools offer a high quality educational experiences and hope to work with parents and carers to support their children.

Primary to Secondary Transfer

Visits to our local secondary school are organised before the summer holidays and children from other catchment schools who will be attending the same secondary school will have the opportunity to meet and get to know each other and their teachers. While the children are participating in classroom activities and meeting their class teacher, parents will have an opportunity to view the school and are given a brief explanation of school life.

If you wish your child to attend a secondary school other than the catchment denominational or non-denominational secondary school for your home address, you will be required to make a Placing Request as detailed in the Placing Request section below.

You do not need to submit a Placing Request if you want your child to transfer from a non-denominational secondary school or vice-versa at the primary to secondary transfer stage, as long as the intended secondary school is still the catchment school for your home address.

Parents of children who are planning to change from denominational to non-denominational or vice-versa between primary and secondary school should ensure that both the primary school and the intended secondary school know what is to happen by the end of September in the year preceding the move.

The Boroughmuir Cluster has a very full transition programme in place which includes Cluster Sports, Science visits and P6 Maths Challenges. Parents are also invited to meetings at Boroughmuir High School during the P7 year. Children with additional support needs will have a transition meeting with staff from primary and secondary school. Information will be shared and a transition plan made to ensure a successful transition.

Catchment Secondary School

Boroughmuir High School
36 Viewforth
Edinburgh
EH10 4LR
0131 229 9703
admin@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk

Placing Requests

As a parent, if you don't want your child(ren) to be educated in your local catchment school, you have the right to make a Placing Request for your child(ren) to attend another school.

If you would like your child to start P1 or S1 at a school outside your catchment area, you must make a Placing Request. You can get a Placing Request application form at any nursery or primary school in Edinburgh from mid-November and must return it by **24 December** to:

e-mail: school.placements@edinburgh.gov.uk

post: School Transactions
P1/S1 Placements,
PO Box 12331,
EDINBURGH
EH7 9DN

If we receive your application form after 24 December, your request will be considered but if we receive your application form after 24 December places in your chosen school may no longer be available.

The Council must grant Placing Requests where possible. If there are more places available in a school than there are placing requests, all placing requests are usually granted.

If the school you choose has more placing requests than available places, each case is looked at individually. Please include all relevant details on your Placing Request application form so this can be taken into account.

As school rolls have increased there has been a decrease in the number of places available for children living outside the catchment area. This has resulted in high numbers of placing requests being refused.

If a Placing Request is successful for one child, this does not guarantee a successful Placing Request for another child. This could mean parent(s) / guardian(s) have children attending different schools.

Transport for Placing Requests

If a Placing Request is successful, parents will be responsible for the safety and transportation costs of their child to and from their chosen school.

Further information Further information on school placing requests can be found on our website at: http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20256/school_places/1375/school_placing_requests

Section Five – School Improvement

The section gives you an overview of the main achievements of the school within the last 12 months and performance information relating to literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

Raising Attainment

Monitoring performance and using relevant information to secure improvement is an important part of the work of head teachers, school staff and officers within Children and Families.

Standards and Quality Report

Every year each school publishes a Standards and Quality report which highlights the school's major achievements.

Please see our website to read our Standards and Quality report from session 2022/23.

School Improvement Plan

Please see our school website for a copy of our School Improvement plan for session 2023/24. Parents are involved in the planning of developments through online surveys in May/June. Our improvements are also discussed at Parent Council meetings and we regularly set up parent focus groups to take forward improvements.

Websites

You may find the following websites useful:

- www.edinburgh.gov.uk - contains information for parents and information on Edinburgh schools.
- <https://education.gov.scot/parentzone> - parents can find out about everything from school term dates to exam results. This site also offers information for pre-5 and post school. It also lists relevant publications for parents and provides hyper-links to other useful organisations.
- <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports> - parents can access school and local authority inspection reports and find out more about the work of Education Scotland.
- <http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline-index-asp/> - parents can find out about individual schools. They can choose a school and select what type of information they need such as Education Scotland reports, exam results, stay on rates and free school meal entitlement.
- <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/> - contains information for parents and children on varying forms of bullying and provides help for parents and children who are affected by bullying.
- <https://respectme.org.uk/> - Scotland's anti-bullying service. Contains information for parents and children on varying forms of bullying and provides help for parents and children who are affected by bullying
- <https://education.gov.scot/> - provides information and advice for parents as well as support and resources for education in Scotland
- <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en> - contains information for everyone on equality laws within the government and local authorities.



Glossary/Acronyms

1+2	Mother tongue plus two additional languages	The policy to expand and improve learning so that by 2021 every child will learn a first additional language from Primary 1 and a second by Primary 5.
ACP	Anticipatory Care Plan	A document detailing how a patient would like their medical care to progress if they become unwell. For pupils with an ACP it should travel with them on school outings.
ADES	Association of Directors of Education in Scotland	The national organisation which represents directors and senior managers from Scottish local authorities.
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	ADHD is a condition that affects people's behaviour. People with ADHD can seem restless, may have trouble concentrating and may act on impulse.
AHDS	Association of Head Teachers and Deputies in Scotland	AHDS is a union for promoted teachers in primary, nursery and ASN schools.
AHPs	Allied Health Professionals	An umbrella term for a range of professional practitioners and support staff including Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Speech and Language Therapist and Orthotists.
ASDAN	Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network	A British education charity and awarding organisation. Provides programmes and qualifications for learners with special educational needs and disabilities.
ASD	Autism Spectrum Disorder	Autism is a lifelong, developmental condition that affects the way a person communicates, interacts and processes information.
ASL	Additional Support for Learning	Additional support for learning means giving children extra help or support so they can get the most out of their education.
ASN	Additional Support Needs	A child or young person is said to have additional support needs if they need more, or different, support to what is normally provided in schools or pre-schools to children of the same age.
BGE	Broad General Education	The broad general education begins in early learning and childcare and continues to the end of S3 (the third year of secondary school).

BNN	Bilingual Nursery Nurse	Nursery Nurse who works in English and another language, to support Early Years settings and schools (P1) in their work with children and families who have English as an Additional Language. This includes joint assessment of children with other additional support needs.
BSA	Bilingual Support Assistant	Bilingual Support Assistants support early stage EAL learners to access the curriculum using their home language and English; support home-school-home communication; and advise on cultural issues. In Edinburgh, we have BSAs for Arabic, Cantonese, Kurdish, Mandarin, Polish, Punjabi/Urdu.
CA	Classroom Assistant	Classroom assistants provide support to teachers.
CfE	Curriculum for Excellence	Curriculum for Excellence is the Scottish curriculum for pupils aged 3 - 18. It helps our children and young people gain the knowledge, skills and attributes needed for life in the 21st century.
CL	Curriculum Leader	A promoted teacher who typically works in a secondary school and has a specific remit to take a lead role in managing their curriculum area. They typically manage and lead a team of teaching staff within their subject area.
CLD	Community Learning and Development	Teams who work with and support communities in areas such as adult and family learning and youth work.
CLPL	Career-long Professional Learning	Ongoing learning throughout a professional's career.
COSLA	Convention of Scottish Local Authorities	A membership organisation for councillors in Scottish local authorities.
CPD	Continuing Professional Development	Each teacher in Scotland is required to undertake a certain amount of CPD each year to maintain or upgrade skills and knowledge (see PRD and PU).
CPM	Child's Planning Meeting	<p>A meeting to implement or review a child's plan. A personalised child's plan will be available when a child needs a range of extra support planned, delivered and co-ordinated.</p> <p>This will explain what should improve for the child, the actions to be taken and why the plan has been created.</p> <p>The child's plan is managed by a 'lead professional': someone with the right skills and experience to make sure the plan is managed properly. Depending on the situation</p>

		<p>and the child's needs, the lead professional may also be their named person.</p> <p>The child and parent(s) will know what information is being shared, with whom and for what purpose, and their views will be taken into account. This may not happen in exceptional cases, such as where there is a concern for the safety of a child or someone else.</p>
CSP	Co-ordinated Support Plan	A child/ young person is eligible for a CSP when they need support at school from services other than education services, on an ongoing basis. A CSP document gathers together reports and plans from all the professionals who will support a child with additional support needs in school, for example Speech and Language Therapists, Social Workers. A CSP should be reviewed every year and parents have a key role in this process.
CT	Class Teacher	Teacher who is assigned to a specific class. In secondary specialist provision they may also be known as the base class teacher.
CYPADM	Children and Young People Acute Deterioration Management	A document detailing how a patient would like their medical care to progress if they become very unwell. For pupils with a CYPADM it should be with them at all times.
DHT	Depute Head Teacher	The role of DHT will vary from school to school but generally they will stand in for the headteacher as necessary and will have responsibility for leadership and management of colleagues.
DO	Development officer	Development Officers are appointed, often on a temporary basis, to undertake specific development work at school or authority level.
D of E	Duke of Edinburgh Award	A youth awards programme founded in the UK in 1956 by Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, that has since expanded to 144 nations. The award recognises wider achievement
EAL	English as an Additional Language	<p>A learner of English as an Additional Language is a pupil whose first language* is other than English.</p> <p>This includes children and young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - who arrive in Scotland from another country during their schooling - who have always lived in Scotland / UK and use a language other than English at home

		<p>* The first language is the language the child was initially exposed to in childhood and continues to be the language used at home and in the community.</p>
EE	Enhanced enrolment	<p>Enrolment meeting with a new arrival whose first language is not English and their and parents-carers (supported by an interpreter, if needed). This meeting enables school to gather full information about the child or young person's language skills (in all languages they speak/read/write), prior education and attainment, strengths and interests, additional support needs; and to share key information about school with the learner and family. Through effective use of information gathered at an enrolment meeting, the school can fully support the learner's transition into education in Scotland.</p>
EIS	Educational Institute of Scotland	<p>The largest teaching union in Scotland</p>
ELC	Early Learning and Childcare	<p>This term is meant to emphasise that care and education of very young children are not two separate things as babies and young children are learning all the time. ELC settings include family centres, nursery schools, nursery classes attached to primary schools and childminders. These places may be run by local authorities, private businesses, voluntary sector organisations and self-employed individuals.</p>
EP	Educational Psychologist	<p>Educational psychologists support schools and the local authority to improve all children's experiences of learning. They use their training in psychology and knowledge of child development to assess difficulties children may be having with their learning.</p>
EPG	Education Placement Group	<p>A City of Edinburgh Council group that considers which specialist provisions to place pupils in.</p>
ESOL	English for Speakers of Other Languages	<p>ESOL is studied by those whose first language is not English.</p> <p>SQA ESOL qualifications for young people (S3-S6) are delivered through the Schools College Partnership and by some secondary schools.</p> <p>ESOL courses and classes for adults are delivered by different providers, e.g. local authorities, colleges, third sector organisations.</p>

EYO/EYP	Early Years Officer/ Early Years Practitioner	EYOs and EYPs make up most of the staff who work in nurseries and pre-school settings in Scotland.
FE	Further Education	This is post-compulsory education which is different from that offered in universities. It is mainly taught in colleges as well as work-based learning or in adult and community learning.
FEF	Finance for Equity Funding	Funding for schools to address the poverty related attainment gap.
FLO	Family Learning Officer	This person may develop and run courses and activities for families so they can help or support their child's learning.
FSM	Free School Meals	
FTE	Full-time Equivalent	This is a way to measure how much time a member of school staff works in school. For example, FTE 1.0 means the person works full time, FTE 0.5 means the person is half-time.
GIRFEC	Getting it Right for Every Child	<p>A Scottish Government policy which aims to make sure all Scotland's children, young people and their families have support across public services such as health, education and social work.</p> <p>The GIRFEC approach supports children and young people so that they can grow up feeling loved, safe and respected and can realise their full potential.</p>
GRT	Gypsy Roma Traveller	<p>The term Gypsy, Roma and Traveller is used to describe a range of ethnic groups or people with nomadic ways of life, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gypsy Travellers (English, Welsh, Scottish, Irish Romany people) • Roma (more recent migrants in the UK from Central and Eastern Europe) <p>The term Traveller can also refer to groups that travel (e.g. New Travellers, Boaters, Bargees and Showpeople) however these are not ethnic groups.</p>
GTCS	General Teaching Council for Scotland	The professional body that maintains the register of teachers and ensures teachers' professional standards. In Scotland children must be taught by qualified and GTCS registered teachers.

GUS	Growing Up in Scotland	Growing Up in Scotland is a long-term study tracking the lives of thousands of children and their families from the early years through childhood and beyond. The main aim of the study is to provide new information to support policy-making in Scotland but it is also intended to provide a resource for practitioners, academics, the voluntary sector and parents.
HE	Higher Education	This is post-compulsory education which usually takes place in universities.
HESS	Health Education Support Service	1:1 support service to meet the complex care needs of pupils that meet specific health care criteria.
HGIOS 4	How Good Is Our School (version 4)	A self-evaluation tool kit for schools.
HNC/ HND	Higher National Certificate/ Higher National Diploma	Higher National Certificate (HNC) and Higher National Diploma (HND) are advanced qualifications equivalent to the first two years of study at university. They are offered by colleges, some universities and many training centres. HNCs take 1 year to complete and HNDs take 2 years.
HT	Head Teacher	Also known as a rector, the headteacher is the leader and manager of a school.
ICT	Information and Communications Technology	ICT in education can be found in the following ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - as a subject, e.g. computer studies - as a tool to support teaching and learning, e.g. the use of whiteboards - as an administrative tool.
IEP	Individual Education Plan	An IEP is a document which sets out the goals and achievements of each school pupil. Every child should have an IEP and should also have an input to its content. It should be reviewed regularly.
ITE	Initial Teacher Education	This describes the courses taken by people who want to become teachers. Courses are available at universities across Scotland through a four year undergraduate course leading to a BEd degree or a one year Post Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE).
ITS	Interpretation and Translation Service	
JASS	Junior Award Scheme for Schools	A progressive learning programme for young people which has been designed to recognise wider achievement.
LA	Local Authority	There are 32 local authorities in Scotland.

LAC	Looked After Child	<p>Under the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, 'looked after children' are defined as those in the care of their local authority – sometimes referred to as a 'corporate parent'.</p> <p>There are many reasons children may become looked after, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they face abuse or neglect at home • they have disabilities that require special care • they are unaccompanied minors seeking asylum, or who have been illegally trafficked into the UK • they have been involved in the youth justice system
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender	
LNCT	Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers	See SNCT. Some matters are devolved to LNCTs for local agreement. LNCTs are required to have constitutions setting out the recognition and procedures arrangements. In addition to a negotiating function LNCTs also provide a consultative mechanism.
MSP	Member of the Scottish Parliament	
NAS/UWT	National Association of Schoolmasters/ Union of Women Teachers	A teaching union.
NAT 1/2/3/4/5	National 1/2/3/4/5 qualification	<p>National courses have seven different levels; National 1 to 5 then Higher and Advanced Higher, but the buzz words that you will hear the most are Nat 4/5s and Highers as these are most likely to gain your child access to college and university.</p> <p>In fourth year pupils will study for Nat 1 - 5s depending on what their attainment level in each subject is.</p> <p>In most schools a fourth year pupil would tend to sit Nat 4 or 5s. If they decide to stay on for a fifth year, they can sit more Nat 4 or 5s and progress to Highers.</p>
NIF	National Improvement Framework	A Scottish Government framework focused on measuring and evaluating performance in schools. It includes parents and carers as part of the process.

NPFS	National Parent Forum for Scotland	Supported by the Scottish Government, NPFS provides a parental perspective for local and national policies and issues and helps support parental involvement.
NQ	National Qualifications	NQs are taken by young people in secondary schools, colleges and some training centres.
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification	Work based qualifications.
OSCR	Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator	OSCR decides whether to grant an organisation charitable status and to enter it on the Scottish Charity Register. They monitor charities to ensure they comply with the law.
OT	Occupational Therapist	<p>Occupational Therapists can help people with practical tasks if they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - physically disabled - recovering from an illness or operation - have learning disabilities - Have mental health problems <p>They can look at aspects of daily life at home or in school. They look at activities that a person finds difficult to see if there is another way to do them.</p>
PEEP	Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan	A plan for a person who may need assistance, for instance, a person with impaired mobility, to evacuate a building or reach a place of safety in the event of an emergency.
PEF	Pupil Equity Funding	<p>Pupil Equity Funding is money that is given to schools to help them provide the best possible opportunities for children's learning. In particular, it is there to help the school support children who experience barriers to learning and who might be falling behind or not getting the same chances in their education because their family is experiencing poverty or other financial difficulties. This money is given to schools as part of the Scottish Government's Scottish Attainment Challenge.</p> <p>Pupil Equity Funding is designed to support children in Primary 1 to S3 who are eligible and registered for free school meals. However, Headteachers can use their judgement to support other children in their school who are affected by poverty.</p> <p>For every child that is registered, the school will receive £1,200 in addition to their normal budget.</p> <p>The Headteacher decides how the money is spent and has to demonstrate the impact the funding has had on children affected by poverty.</p>

PLP	Personal Learning Plan	A document/folder where a pupil can keep a record of their goals and achievements alongside examples of their work.
PPP/ PFI	Public Private Partnership/ Public Finance Initiative	A collaboration between a local authority and private companies, often used in the building and management of schools.
PPR	Pupil Progress Record	A key record relating to a child/ young person's education that follows them through education.
PRD	Professional Review and Development	PRD is an essential part of the GTCS's Professional Update and professional learning. It provides teachers with ongoing opportunities to reflect on their practice and personal learning through professional learning conversations supported by an annual review meeting.
PSA	Pupil Support Assistant	Supports pupils with a wide variety of tasks in school. Also called Learning Support Assistant or Classroom Assistant.
PSE	Personal and Social Education	PSE addresses the learning outcomes within the Health and Wellbeing indicators in Curriculum for Excellence relating to mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing, planning for choices and change, substance misuse and relationships, sexual health and parenthood.
PT	Principal Teacher	In primary and special schools this is usually a classroom teacher who also takes on some managerial roles within the school. In a secondary school this is typically a head of department or guidance position.
PU	Professional Update	This supports teachers to develop their skills and work. Teachers are asked to keep a record of their learning throughout their careers. This is logged on their GTCS profile and signed off by their line manager every 5 years.
PVG	Protection of Vulnerable Groups	The Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) membership scheme is managed and delivered by Disclosure Scotland. It helps ensure people who work with children and protected adults
QIEO	Quality Education Improvement Officer	Usually a local authority officer who has a specific job around improving the performance of schools.
RA	Risk Assessment	A systematic process that involves identifying, analysing and controlling hazards and risks.
RME	Religious and Moral Education	
RSHP	Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood	

SAC	Scottish Attainment Challenge	<p>The Scottish Attainment Challenge aims to raise attainment of children and young people living in deprived areas, in order to close the attainment gap.</p> <p>It will drive forward improvements in educational outcomes to ensure that everyone is encouraged to be the best they can be.</p>
SALT/SaLT/SLT	Speech and Language Therapist	Speech and language therapists provide life-treatment, support and care for children and adults who have difficulties with communication, eating, drinking and swallowing.
SCCYP	Scottish Commissioner for Children and Young People	The Commissioner aims to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Scotland.
SCEL	Scottish College for Educational Leadership	SCEL supports teaching staff by providing access to high quality leadership programmes of training.
SCQF	Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework	This organisation promotes lifelong learning in Scotland. The Framework can help parents and young people to plan learning and develop routes through different types of learning.
SDO	Senior Development Officer	Senior Development Officers are appointed, often on a temporary basis, to undertake specific development work at school or authority level.
SEIC	South East Improvement Collaborative	A collaboration between City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Fife, Midlothian and Scottish Borders councils to improve schools, early learning settings and other services for children and young people.
SEYO	Senior Early Years Officer	Work in pre-school and nurseries.
SHANARRI	Safe, Health, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, Included	<p>GIRFEC wellbeing indicators which help make it easier for children and families and the people working with them to discuss how a child or young person is doing at a point in time and if there is a need for support.</p> <p>At home, in school or the wider community, every child and young person should be safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.</p>
SIF	Summary of Inspection Findings	This document is available on the Education Scotland website following an inspection.

SIP	School Improvement Plan	This document should show improvement targets for a school. This is typically now included in the SQIP.
SLS	School Leaders Scotland	A union for headteachers and depute headteachers.
SLT/SMT	Senior Leadership Team/ School Management Team	Usually includes the headteacher and depute head teachers; may also include the business manager and principal teachers.
SNAG	School Nutrition Action Group	A committee which usually includes school staff, pupils, parents and local people to promote healthy eating within the school community.
SNCT	Scottish Negotiating Committee for Teachers	A tripartite body comprising members from teaching organisations, Local Authorities, and the Scottish Government. The SNCT follows a negotiating framework for teachers' pay and conditions of service.
SORT	School Operations Risk Toolkit	A risk framework to manage all risk assessments and guidance required in association with the response to Covid-19.
SQIP	Standards and Quality and Improvement Plan	<p>The purpose of the annual SQIP is to report on the main achievements over the last school year and to bring about further improvement to the learning experiences and achievements of pupils.</p> <p>Improvement planning involves identifying what is good about a school, deciding how good a school can be and identifying the best way forward.</p>
SSTA	Scottish Secondary Teachers Association	A teaching union.
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths	The name used for this group of subjects.
SVQ	Scottish Vocational Qualification	These qualifications are based on standards drawn up by industry, commerce and education.
TALC	Team Around the Learning Community	A collaborative approach with Educational Settings and Partners to support and maximise learning, attainment and achievement

UCAS	University and Colleges Admissions Service	UCAS process most applications for entry to higher education throughout the UK.
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child	This is an international human rights treaty that grants all children and young people (aged 17 and under) a set of rights.
VOICE		A teaching union
VSDS	Volunteer Scotland - Disclosure Services	VSDS is funded by the Scottish Government to support some charities with processing disclosure checks.
VSE	Validated Self-Evaluation	This aims to support and challenge the work of education authorities to improve the quality of education and outcomes for learners.
YAD	Young Adult Disability Social Work Team	SW team that support families of young adults with complex disabilities as they transition from children and families into adult services.
YPPM	Young Person Planning Meeting	See CPM

The information in this school handbook is considered to be correct at the time of publication (**September 2024**), however, it is possible that there may be some inaccuracy as the school year progresses.

Tell us what you think

Please take a few minutes to fill in the online questionnaire [here](#). Your feedback will help us improve the handbook next year. Your views are appreciated.

Throughout this handbook the term 'parent' has the meaning attributed in the Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000 and the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006. This includes grandparents, carer or anyone else who has parental responsibility for the child.

I hope you find all of the above information helpful and self-explanatory. If you have any queries about any of the information contained in this handbook, or indeed about any aspect of our school, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Susan Imrie
Head Teacher

