



Education Resources



Quarter Primary School and Nursery Class Handbook 2023 - 2024



**Quarter Primary School
Limekilnburn Road
Quarter
Hamilton
ML3 7XA**

**Phone 01698 423345
Email - office@quarter-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk**



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If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

Phone: 0303 123 1023 Email: education@southlanarkshire.gov.uk.

1) Introduction by the Head Teacher

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to Quarter Primary School which is one of 125 primary schools throughout South Lanarkshire Council.

At Quarter Primary we take great pride in ensuring that we offer a warm welcome to all pupils, parents, carers, and members of the local and wider community. We are very proud of our school and the range of learning opportunities and experiences we provide. Our children are at the heart of everything we do, and we aim to develop individual skills and talents.

We work together to provide a caring, positive, and stimulating environment where children actively engage in their learning journey. We encourage all our young people to develop as independent and cooperative learners by providing a breadth of learning experiences which offer appropriate support and challenge, allowing each child to develop to their full potential. Working in partnership with parents, our local and wider community we support our children in developing resilience and skills for learning, life, and work.

South Lanarkshire Council is the fifth largest authority in Scotland. It covers the following main areas; Clydesdale in the south which features extensive rural areas, Cambuslang, Rutherglen, Blantyre and Uddingston to the north as well as the towns of East Kilbride and Hamilton.

The Council's Plan Connect sets out the Council's vision which is, "to improve the quality of life for all within South Lanarkshire".

For Education Resources this means delivering services of the highest quality as well as striving to narrow the gap. It is about continually improving the services for everyone at the same time as giving priority to children, young people, families, and communities in most need. The priorities for schools and services are set out in the Education Resources Plan which confirms the commitment to provide better learning opportunities and outcomes for children and young people.

The priorities for all schools in South Lanarkshire are set out on the back page of the handbook.

Our school values are embedded within our school community and all pupils and staff strive to be hardworking, safe, kind, inclusive and have fun.

I look forward to working in partnership with you to provide your child with the very best primary education.

Kind regards,

Sharon Bokas
Head Teacher



2) About our School

Quarter Primary School
Limekilnburn Road
Quarter
Hamilton
ML3 7XA
Phone: 01698 423345
Email: office@quarterpri.s-lanark.sch.uk
Website address: www.quarter-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk



Quarter Primary is a non-denomination primary school with a current roll of 66 children between the ages of 5 and 12. Our nursery class provides early learning and childcare for children between the ages of 3 and 5. The nursery session is 9.00am until 3.00pm. We currently have 16 children in our nursery class. The nursery has a maximum capacity of 22 children. The school does not provide teaching by means of Gaelic language.

Parents from any area may apply to attend the nursery class. To find out more about our nursery please contact the school office. It should be noted that if you register your child for nursery, it does not mean that they will automatically be enrolled at the school when they are ready to begin primary school. All children who move from early years to primary education must register for school in the month of January.

Primary school hours are:
9.00am – School day begins
10.40am – 10.55am Interval
12.35pm – 1.20pm Lunch
3.00pm - School day ends

Holiday dates for sessions 2023-2024 can be found at the end of this handbook.

Breakfast Club

Quarter Primary School's Breakfast Club is open from 8.15am – 8.45am Monday to Friday. Toast, cereal, milk & water are examples of what is available on the breakfast club menu.

After School Care

We do not operate an after school care facility within the school but there are a number of after care and child minding facilities available within the Hamilton area.

Additional Information

If any parent

- has concerns at any time about any aspect of their child's learning and progress or wishes to make a complaint, they should contact Mrs Sharon Bokas, Head Teacher, in order that the concern raised may be promptly addressed.
- has been offered or is seeking a place for their child at Quarter Primary School, they should also contact Mrs Sharon Bokas, Head Teacher, to arrange to visit the school.

Attendance at School

It is important for the school to work with parents in encouraging all children to attend school. All absences from school are required by law to be recorded. Absences will normally fall under two categories – authorised or unauthorised absence. In cases where your child is unable to attend school parents are asked:

- If you know in advance of any reason why your child is likely to be absent from school, please tell someone at the school, telephone us or let us know in writing. Please also give your child a note on his/her return to school, telling of the reason for absence.
- Notify the school first thing in the morning when your child is going to be absent. Let the school know the likely date of return and keep them informed if the date changes.



Please inform the school of any change to the following:

- home telephone number
- mobile number
- emergency contact details

If there is a need to take children out of school for any other reason other than sickness, a letter should be sent to the Head Teacher for authorisation.

3) School Ethos

We promote positive behaviour throughout the school, and teach our pupils not only the basic skills, but prepare them for life and to make a worthwhile contribution to the life and work of their community. We strive to ensure that all children, staff, and parents are involved in the creation of a positive school ethos which encourages good learning habits, provides high quality learning experiences, and celebrates personal achievement. This ethos is evident in our welcoming environment and our commitment to the establishment of positive relationships with our parents and the wider community.

School community links:
 Quarter Parish Church of Scotland
 Hamilton Drop In Centre
 Asda
 Hamilton Grammar
 Strathaven Academy
 Hamilton learning Community Primary Schools



Our pupils are offered a range of opportunities to lead initiatives, such as enterprise and eco events, and are given responsibility as house captains and junior house captains. We celebrate success under the four capacities of A Curriculum for Excellence – Responsible Citizens, Effective Contributors, Successful Learners, and Confident Individuals – at weekly assemblies through presentation of certificates and by displaying personal achievements. Our school values of safe, kind, hardworking, inclusive and fun are embedded in our school community. Some children have commented: 'I love Friday reward time and finding out who our class Quarter Code Cracker is.' 'I like learning – we learn in a fun way with lots of games. We like the playground games and making up our own games in the playground too.'

4) Staff List

Our current staffing complement is:

Head Teacher	Mrs Sharon Bokas
Acting Principal Teacher of Equity	Miss Laura McKissock
P1/2 Class Teachers	Miss Laura McKissock/Mrs Fiona McKillop
P3/4/5 Class Teachers	Mrs Morven Lander/Ms Louise Marko
P5/6/7 Class Teacher	Miss Ameera Sharif/Mrs Fiona McKillop
Early Years Team Leader	Miss Donna Pritchard/Miss Pauline Brylka
Early Years Worker	Miss Jamie-Lee Thomas
Early Years Worker	Mrs Karen McCrimmond (currently on mat leave)
Early Years Worker	Mrs Lilibeth Hays
Early Years Worker	Ms Jill Carswell (covering Mrs McCrimmond)
Early Years Support Worker	Mrs Laura McGuinness
Specialist Support Teacher	Mrs Sandra Kelly
Educational Psychologist	Ms Kirsty Frost
School Office (Team Leader)	Mrs Denise Hart
School Support Assistants	Mrs Margaret Adam, Miss Alison Lowden, Mrs Linda Barr
Janitor	Mr Tom Leckenby
Cook in Charge	Mrs Helen Gallagher
Cleaning Assistant /Catering Assistant	Ms Jade Blythe
Cleaner	Ms Michelle McCord / Ms Laura Whiteman
Active Schools Coordinator	Miss Megan Glancy
Attendance Officer	Mrs Jill Lang
Music Tutor	Mr Paul Devlin

5) Attendance

Every effort should be made to ensure that your child attends school during term time. Please contact the school as soon as possible if your child is unable to attend school. It is important for the school to work with parents/carers in encouraging children to attend school. All absences are required by law to be recorded. Absences will normally fall under two categories – authorised or unauthorised absence. In cases where your child is unable to attend school parents are asked to:

If your child is unable to attend school, you are asked to let us know by 8.30am on the first day of absence. Please contact the school office on 01698 423345

If you know your child has a hospital/dental appointment, please let us know in advance.

Requests for your child to be absent from school to make an extended visit to relatives either in the UK or overseas must be made in writing to the head teacher, detailing the reason, destination and duration of absence and arrangements for their continuing education. On these occasions the pupil will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

Parents may request that their children be permitted to be absent to celebrate recognised religious events. Advance notice should be provided to the school when children will be absent. Appropriate requests will be granted, and the pupil noted as an authorised absentee in the register. (See section 7).

Information on Emergencies

We make every effort to ensure the school remains open during term-time for pupils. However, on occasions circumstances may arise which can affect the school. Schools may be affected by, for example, severe weather, power failures or through any other circumstances that may impact on the school day. In such cases we shall do all we can to let you know as soon as possible. We shall keep in touch by the most appropriate method at the time normally through text message, and via our social media channels. In cases of severe weather in the morning such as snow and a heavy frost and if there is a reason the school cannot open in the morning at the normal time, we will adopt the protocol for a delayed start until 10am.

If this is the case a message via social media and on the council's website will be posted.

The Council's website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk will be used to let you know if the school is closed or has a delayed start. Further information will be provided later in the day as to whether the school will be open as normal the next day.

Things we need you to do:

It is important for parents/carers to let the school know of any change to your mobile/home telephone number and change of address.

If for any reason, you are unsure if the school is open visit the website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk or email education@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

a. Your commitments

We ask that you:

- support and encourage your child's learning – ask them what they have been doing.
- respect and adhere to the school's policies and guidance.
- accept your responsibility to respect staff who work in the school and for the school to be proactive in taking forward its commitment to care for and educate your child.

Family holidays during term time

Every effort should be made to ensure that your child attends school during term time. Please contact the school as soon as possible if your child is unable to attend school.

Family holidays should be avoided during term time as this both disrupts the child's education and reduces learning time. If holidays are taken during times when the school is open parents should inform the school in advance by letter.

If your child is taken on a family holiday during term time, then in line with Scottish Government advice this will be classified as an unauthorised absence. However, in exceptional circumstances schools may register a family holiday during term time as an authorised absence when for example, parents are able to demonstrate they have been unable to obtain leave during the school holiday period.

Clearly, absence with no explanation from parents will mean that the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

In our approach to raising attainment and achievement it is recognised that attendance at school is something that should be continuously encouraged. Parents/carers, children and the school all have a part to play in encouraging and stressing the importance of attendance at school.

The school holiday dates, and in-service dates are available from the website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

6) Parental Involvement/Parent Council

South Lanarkshire Council recognises the importance of parents as partners in the education of their child and has published a strategy entitled, 'Making a difference – working together to support children's learning'. This is available from the Council's website: www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/13457/parents_as_partners_-_strategy_2019

Parents, carers, and family members are by far the most important influences on children's lives. Children between the ages of 5 and 16 children spend only 15% of their time in school! Research shows that when parents are involved in their child's learning, children do better at school and throughout life. Parental involvement can take different forms, but we hope you share the same aims and agree that by working together we can be partners in supporting children's learning.

As a parents/carers we want you to be:

- Welcomed and given an opportunity to be involved in the life of the school.
- Fully informed about your child's learning.
- Encouraged to make an active contribution to your child's learning.
- Able to support learning at home.
- Encouraged to express your views and involved in forums and discussions on education related issues.

Every parent with a child at school is automatically a member of our parent forum. The Parent Council is a formal group, with a constitution, and acts as the Parent Voice of the school.

To find out more on how to be a parent helper, or a member of the Parent Council and/or the Parent Teacher Association contact the school or visit our website. We have also produced a guide on the role of a Parent Council which was produced by parents for parents,

Parentzone Scotland is a unique website for parents and carers in Scotland, from early years to beyond school. The website provides up-to-date information about learning in Scotland, and practical advice and ideas to support children's learning at home in literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing and science. Information is also available on Parentzone Scotland regarding additional support needs, how parents can get involved in their child's school and education.

Parentzone Scotland also has details about schools, including performance data for school leavers from S4-S6 and links to the national, local authority and school level data on the achievement of Curriculum for Excellence levels.

7) The Curriculum



Curriculum for Excellence is the name given to the curriculum in Scotland for all children and young people aged 3-18. It is forward looking, coherent, flexible and an enriched curriculum that provides young people with opportunities to engage with the knowledge, skills, and attributes they will need to flourish in life, learning and work.



The curriculum places learners at the heart of education and at its centre are four fundamental capacities - successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens, and effective contributors. It includes all of the experiences that are planned for children and young people to support the development of their skills, wherever they are being educated, for example in the family and community, pre-school centre, nursery, and school.

In taking this forward our school will work closely with South Lanarkshire Education Resources and other services to enrich the curriculum, to provide the best possible education for all children and young people. We wish you to feel confident that your child is encouraged and supported to develop their literacy, numeracy and other skills whilst they attend our school. The curricular areas are as follows:

- Expressive arts
- Languages and literacy
- Health and wellbeing
- Mathematics and numeracy
- Religious and moral education
- Science
- Social studies
- Technologies



If you want to know more about Curriculum for Excellence, please visit [Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence \(scotlandscurriculum.scot\)](http://scotlandscurriculum.scot)

Our learning and teaching activities are based on the outcomes and experiences in the guidelines that all schools have for Curriculum for Excellence.



Level	Stage
Early	The pre-school years and Primary 1 or later for some.
First	To the end of Primary 4, but earlier or later for some.
Second	To the end of Primary 7, but earlier or later for some.

Spiritual, social, moral, and cultural values (religious observance)

- contributes greatly to the Quarter ethos and provides opportunities for the school to come together as a community
- is a valid educational experience potentially involving the whole school and the wider local community

Scottish Government Ministers consider that religious observance complements religious education and is an important contribution to pupils' development. It should also have a role in promoting the ethos of a school by bringing all pupils together and

creating a sense of community. Parents may request that their children be permitted to be absent in order to celebrate recognised religious events. Advance notice should be provided to the school when children will be absent. Appropriate requests will be granted, and the pupil noted as an authorised absentee in the register.

For Roman Catholic Schools

In a letter of guidance issued by the Scottish Government in February 2011, it is acknowledged that Catholic schools take a distinctive approach to the provision of Religious Observance:

Scottish Government Ministers welcome the tradition that, in Roman Catholic denominational schools, Catholic Liturgy will largely shape the nature and frequency of religious observance activities in the classroom and in the wider school community. So, at times, children and young people will be invited to participate in, and sometimes to lead, prayer and reflection in classrooms and at assemblies. At other times, to honour particular occasions or feasts, chaplains will lead school communities in the celebration of Mass and other forms of liturgical celebration.

8) Assessment and tracking progress

Quarter's arrangements and approaches for tracking and assessing pupils' progress and planning their future learning, involves us gathering, reflecting upon, and evaluating both summative and formative evidence of our children's learning. This enables our staff to check on learner's progress and establish and support next steps.

Pupils are regularly encouraged to use Assessment for Learning, to self and peer assess their work, as well as set future targets. Our Headteacher and all staff monitor and regularly track the progress children are making. Individual assessments are also undertaken to help diagnose gaps in learning or to support children with their personal next steps. These can include reading and spelling age assessments and PUMA assessments for numeracy.

Our Primary 1,4 and 7 children all complete the Scottish National Standardised Assessments on aspects of reading, writing and numeracy. The online assessments are specifically designed. If a child is having trouble, the questions will get easier, and if a child is doing well, the questions will become more challenging. There is no pass or fail. The assessments are as short as possible and are age and stage appropriate. There is no time limit, and the children will not need to complete all the assessments at once. Children's progress in literacy and numeracy, are updated and tracked termly.



Our Headteacher will discuss, monitor, and evaluate this information with teaching staff. We want to share with you on how your child's learning is progressing. We do this through, parental phone calls, parental meetings, report cards, 'Class SWAY' and Open Events



9) Reporting

Quarter Primary School recognises that good teamwork between parents, children and school is the key to a successful education for your child. Reporting will be ongoing and comprise of a range of activities that can include children presenting their learning, through newsletters, open mornings, learning journals and ongoing oral discussions. We will provide parents with reports so that you can see what your child is doing and how they are developing. In addition, there will be parents' meetings, which offer you the opportunity to discuss how your child is progressing.

The school will offer you an appointment time so that you can visit in person. Our learner reports will outline your child's strengths, achievements, and areas for development, enabling you to provide encouragement and support. We welcome any comments or additional information from parents to help us provide the best possible education for your child.

10) Enrolment and Transitions

Enrolment – how to register your child for school.

To register your child for school you should complete our online registration form. This can be done using the South Lanarkshire website.

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200186/primary_school_information/392/enrolling_your_child_for_school

If you have any difficulty in identifying your catchment school, please email Edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

The online registration form will ask you to provide each child's full birth certificate and two pieces of recent official documentation both containing your permanent home address for example a utility bill, council tax statement, housing rent card, child benefit documentation.

Proof of where the child lives may also be needed.

If your child is due to start school in August 2024, you can enrol online from Monday 8 January 2024. Your catchment school will contact you between Monday 15 to Friday 19 January 2024 to confirm your enrolment.

If your child attends the nursery of your catchment school, please do not assume that they will automatically be transferred. You must register them as normal at the school that is in the catchment area for your home address.

If parents want their child to go to another school, they must enrol in the first instance with their catchment school and intimate that they wish to make a placing request. An online placing request form is available from the SLC website – www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk or by contacting edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk or phone **0303 123 1023**.

Change of School/Placing Request

Normally children attend the school in their catchment area. However, there are times when parents may wish their children to go to other schools. If you wish your child to go to another school, then you may make what is known as a 'placing request'. If you live in South Lanarkshire and decide to submit a 'placing request', we are unable to reserve a

place in your catchment school until the Council have made a decision on the 'placing request'. Please note if your 'placing request' application is unsuccessful and all places at your catchment school are filled you will be offered a place at the next nearest appropriate South Lanarkshire School.

Please note that if an application for a 'placing request' is successful then school transport is not provided.

If you move outwith your catchment primary school a 'request to remain form' must be completed. If you move outwith your catchment primary, this may affect your right to transfer to the associated Secondary School. Please note the secondary school is determined by the pupil's permanent home address and chosen denomination. If you require further information, please contact Education Support Services on edsupportserv.help@southlanarkshire.gov.uk or **0303 123 1023**.

Transition from primary to secondary school

Pupils normally transfer from primary to secondary school between the ages of 11½ and 12½, so that they will have the opportunity to complete at least 4 years of secondary education. Arrangements are made by the school to transfer children to the associated secondary school as determined by their home address. Parents of P7 children will be informed of the transfer arrangements made for their child to attend secondary school.

We will also provide you with information at this time on events designed to support P7 children before they move on to secondary school.

11) Support for Pupils

Getting it right for every child.

Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) supports families by making sure children and young people can receive the right help, at the right time, from the right people. The aim is to help them to grow up feeling loved, safe, and respected so that they can realise their full potential.

Most children and young people get all the help and support they need from their parent(s), wider family, and community but sometimes, perhaps unexpectedly, they may need a bit of extra help. GIRFEC is a way for families to work in partnership with people who can support them, such as teachers.

If you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing, you can speak to the named person who will work with you to provide support and decide how to move forward. Your school will let you know who this is. It is likely to be the Head Teacher in a primary school and a principal teacher (pupil support) in Secondary.

More information can be found on:

www.scotland.gov.uk/gettingitright

Support for All (Additional Support Needs)

The Head Teacher, Mrs Bokas is responsible for co-ordinating Support for Learning in our school. In Quarter, we operate a process of staged intervention in the identification, assessment and support for the learning needs of our children.



Stage 1 and 2: Intervention within class/school

Personnel involved in this stage would include class teachers, parents, school support assistants, Head Teacher. Additional resources appropriate to individual needs would be investigated and included in programmes where necessary.

Stage 3: Intervention from education services out with school.

At this stage, the support and advice of a range of specialist professionals may include Specialist Support Services Teacher, Educational Psychologist, Behaviour Support and E.A.L. teachers. If appropriate, an Additional Support Plan would be written at this stage, indicating both long and short-term targets in the area(s) of difficulty.

Stage 4: Multi - Agency Intervention

The Head Teacher would co-ordinate the involvement, where appropriate, of one or more of the agencies.

South Lanarkshire Education Resources have published a series of leaflets available, which cover information for parents and carers about the Additional Support for Learning Acts. These are available through the school or on the South Lanarkshire Council website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Enquire – the Scottish advice service for additional support for learning

Enquire is funded by the Scottish Government to provide information on the framework for supporting children who require additional support for learning and to encourage positive partnerships between families, schools, and local authorities to ensure children get the right support.

Enquire offers independent, confidential advice and information on additional support for learning through:

Phone Helpline: 0345 123 2303

Address: Enquire
Children in Scotland
Rosebery House
9 Haymarket Terrace
Edinburgh
EH12 5EZ

Email Enquiry service: info@enquire.org.uk

Advice and information are also available at www.enquire.org.uk

Enquire provides a range of clear and easy-to-read guides and fact sheets including the parents' guide to additional support for learning.

If you would like to order our leaflets, postcards or guides to share with parents and carers of pupils in your school, please contact us on info@enquire.org.uk

Attachment Strategy for Education Resources

Attachment – what we do to support children and young people

South Lanarkshire Council Education Resources is committed to improving outcomes for children and young people by creating emotionally supportive learning experiences in our nurseries and schools.

The Education Resources Attachment Strategy supports the action in the 'Getting it Right for Every Child in South Lanarkshire's Children Services Plan 2021-23', following the launch of the Attachment Strategy in 2020, to provide staff training in Attachment and Trauma based practice.

What does it set out to do?

The aim of the strategy is to promote better experiences of attachment for South Lanarkshire's children and young people and to ensure that all education practitioners understand the importance of attachment theory and its application and how positive relationships can make a difference to outcomes.

How can I find out more?

South Lanarkshire Council Education Resources have published a series of leaflets and posters for establishments and for parents/carers which aim to share information on attachment theory and on how this informs the ways in which we support children and young people.

These are available in schools and on the SLC Staff Learning Centre Sway accessible by teachers and staff.

12) School Improvement

Our School Improvement Plan outlines the priorities in maintaining our high standards and sets out priorities for future developments. Plans are discussed with our Parent Council each session. These are available for parents from the school office or our website. A Standards and Quality Report is compiled towards the end of each session. This report outlines the main achievements of the school over the last 12 months and a copy of this can also be found on the school website.

Education Scotland Inspectors visited Quarter Primary and Nursery Class in April 2023. The outcome was positive and we received the grades below.

School

2.3 Teaching, Learning and Assessment - Good
3.2 Raising Attainment and Achievement - Good

Nursery

2.3 Teaching, Learning and Assessment - Good
3.2 Securing Children's Progress – Good

Main Achievements of 2022-23

- There are more opportunities now for outdoor learning through play. At breaktimes the support staff organise the loose parts and the play trolley so that children can access the resources during playtime and lunchtime. The children are more engaged during break times and almost all children are developing their social skills and communication.
- Loose parts are always accessible, and classes are timetabled to develop curiosity and imaginative play. Staff planned rich learning experiences for outdoor learning week and

now look for more opportunities to learn outdoors. The P1/2/3 class use their Maths and Literacy shed to develop their skills in writing reading and maths.

- 83% of our P1 pupils have achieved in early level Maths and Numeracy. 60%-80% of our P2s are on track and 90% of our P3s are on track as predicted.
- The Nursery class have been using the wild garden and this has given many opportunities for STEM learning and developing their curiosity. The Nursery outdoor area has been developed to include more Maths and Literacy learning to develop early skills in mark making, writing, and reading.
- Parents participated in Forest School sessions led by Acting Pt of Equity. This was a very positive experience for pupils and parents to learn together and explore the local forest and the learning opportunities it can offer including den building and cooking.
- Staff participated in Maths Recovery CLPL delivered by our Maths Recovery teacher. This was an introduction into how the approach is used to support children who have gaps in their learning and not on track in Maths and Numeracy. Most staff have now attended the Maths Recovery training provided by SLC.
- P4/5 pupils were targeted first by the class teacher and there has been an improvement in confidence and assessment data of targeted pupils. Within the P4 group 75% of pupils have achieved first level Maths which equates to 9 out of 12 pupils achieving. Within the P5 group 88% of pupils are on track within second level Maths and Numeracy.
- Maths Recovery intervention will be continued next session. Overall attainment in Maths is good, most children are making good progress in Maths and Numeracy. This planned intervention has led to improved outcomes for children who require support with their learning.
- Staff in Nursery have been trained in 'together we count' and use this to plan learning in maths and numeracy both indoors and out. Almost all children count to 10 and beyond confidently and the majority order numbers to 10 accurately.
- Our curriculum rationale has been updated to include our refreshed vision and values. The principles of curriculum design are included in our quality assurance process when planning for class visits and the HT provides feedback on strengths and identifies next steps in planning.
- P1 staff have engaged in training in developing Play across the early stages in school and have completed practitioner enquiry and shared with colleagues across SLC. The environment has been developed to offer play experiences in areas such as STEM, Literacy and Numeracy, and using the outdoor learning shed.
- We make very effective use of data to identify poverty related attainment gaps. PEF is used well to support children with potential barriers to their learning and progress. Attainment gaps are beginning to narrow significantly because of these well-planned interventions.

School Improvement Priorities 2023-24

Strategic Priority	Year 1
1.	Develop Expressive Arts Curriculum across all levels of CfE
2.	Build on existing effective practice of teaching and learning pedagogy in Maths and Literacy that develops skills and supports and challenges all children
3.	Develop play-based learning Pedagogy in P1/2 within a composite class setting

13) School policies and practical information

School/Nursery Meals

Nursery class – if relevant

All children attending a local authority nursery will be provided with a free lunch. In addition, if your child attends long mornings or afternoons e.g., over 4 hours 30 minutes they will be provided with a 'brunch' or 'afternoon tea'.

Nursery lunches and snacks are based on nutritional requirements from the NHS "Setting the Table" guidance.

Nursery age children will also receive milk and a healthy snack free of charge under the Milk and Healthy Snack scheme 2021. This will be provided by the establishment.

Primary pupils

Healthy eating is something that the school supports, and a range of meals are available at lunchtime that meet the Nutritional Requirements for Food and Drink in Schools (Scotland) Regulations 2020

For their lunch each day pupils have the option to choose from two hot meal options plus a snack option. These are all served with vegetables or side salad. All meals also come with fresh chilled drinking water, salad, seasonal fruit and depending on the day - soup or a dessert.

Milk will be available for those pupils entitled to free school meals through the free school meal eligibility scheme at morning break or lunchtime.

Pupils in:

Primary 1 - 5 receive a free school lunch.

Primary 6 - 7 meal cost is £2.05.

School lunches and milk can be paid for through your Parentpay account or Paypoint facilities in local shops.

NB School Meal prices are reviewed annually and may be subject to change

Adapted diets

If your child within Nursery, Primary or Secondary requires an adapted diet for medical reasons please speak to the school/nursery office who will provide the request form for you to complete. In addition, if you have a halal or vegan diet request for your child, please speak to the school office who will provide you with a request form.

Free School Meals

Children of parents who receive the following benefits are entitled to a free lunchtime meal for their child:

Income Support, Universal Credit (where your take home pay is less than £726 per month), Job Seeker's Allowance (income based), Employment and Support Allowance (income related), Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit (where your gross annual income does not exceed £8,717 as assessed by the HM Revenues and Customs), Child Tax Credit Only (where your gross annual income does not exceed £18,725 as assessed by the HM Revenues and Customs) or receive support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

If you are in receipt of Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Reduction from us there is no need for you to apply online, we will use the information we hold to automatically award free school meals (P6 to S6) and/or school clothing grants (P1 to S6) to eligible families.

We would encourage parents of children who are in receipt of any of the above benefits to take up this opportunity of having a meal provided for their child when they are at school. Arrangements are in place so that children who receive free meals are not singled out and we encourage all children to remain in school at lunch time.

Breakfast Club is available from 8.15am-8.45am daily. Cereal, toast, milk and water are available for pupils attending.

School uniform

We ask all parents/carers to support the school by encouraging your child(ren) to adhere to the agreed dress code and the wearing of our school uniform. The wearing of a school uniform helps promote the identity of the school in the local community and helps create an ethos of sharing and pride in the school.

In addition, the wearing of a uniform helps towards increasing the protection of all pupils. The wearing of a uniform helps staff and the pupils to distinguish between who belongs to the school and those who may be visitors. This enables staff to approach and identify visitors more readily and helps in trying to offer a safer environment for pupils and teachers alike.

Equality of opportunity is an important aspect of the life of the school. Any proposals on the dress code and on what constitutes the school uniform will be the subject of discussion with the Parent Council and where appropriate consultation with parents, pupils and staff.

There are forms of dress which are unacceptable in all schools such as:
the wearing of football colours

- clothing with slogans that may cause offence (anti-religious, symbolism or political slogans)
- clothing which advertises alcohol, tobacco, or drugs
- clothing which can be deemed unsuitable in terms of health and safety grounds such as shell suits, combat style clothing, dangling earrings, loose fitting clothes particularly in practical classes.
- articles of clothing that could be deemed to inflict damage on other pupils or be used by others to do so.
- footwear that may damage flooring.

Allergies

A significant number of children and young people in our schools will have allergies and it is important that parents keep the school fully informed on these matters.

Allergies can present in a variety of ways and can occur at any point in a person's life. Symptoms range from mild to severe. Children and young people known to have an allergy with moderate to severe symptoms will likely have a Health Care Plan drawn up by the NHS. This will detail symptoms and appropriate interventions.

It is vital that parents share this information with the school and continue to provide any updated information.

Where symptoms are mild and a Health Care Plan is not in place, parents should still continue to liaise regularly with the school on any new triggers, medications and actions required.

In all cases, our employees need to know your child's symptoms, treatments and any actions required to help prevent exposure to the allergen and minimise the risk of allergic reactions.

Employees in schools will receive training on allergies and will liaise with parents and NHS on any additional specialist training required.

In supporting children and young people with allergies, school employees will operate in accordance with South Lanarkshire Council's Safe Systems of Work / risk assessment and national guidance on the administration of medicines.

Support for parent/carers

Clothing grant

In certain circumstances the Council provides support to parents/carers for the purchase of school wear. This also now includes nursery children aged 3 and 4 years old.

Applications can be made online at www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk. If you are required to submit evidence of your Tax Credit income it is important that a copy of this evidence is attached to your online application. Should you require further information, or you are unable to submit an application online then please contact the helpline number **0303 123 1011** (option 5).

School hours/holiday dates (included at back of handbook)

Primary school hours are:

9.00am School Day begins
10.40am – 10.55am Interval
12.35pm – 1.20pm Lunch
3.00pm School Day ends

Nursery hours are: 9.00am – 3.00pm

School holiday dates and in-service dates are available from the website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Transport

School transport

South Lanarkshire Council has a policy of providing school transport to primary pupils who live more than one mile by the recognised shortest walking route from their catchment school. This policy is more generous than the law requires. This means that the provision of transport could be reviewed at any time. Parents who consider they are eligible should complete a form online www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk or contact **0303 123 1023**. These forms should be completed and returned before the end of March for those pupils starting the school in August to enable the appropriate arrangements to be made.

Applications may be submitted at any time throughout the year and will be considered by Education Resources.

A privilege transport scheme is operated for mainstream school contracts where a pupil is not entitled to free school transport. Privilege transport will only be granted providing there is spare capacity on an existing school contract and will be from and to designated pick up and drop off points. Privilege transport will not be provided where a service bus is used on the school run. Any spare capacity will be allocated using agreed priorities. More information on school transport is available www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200188/secondary_school_information/545/school_transport or phone **0303 123 1023**.

Pick-up points

Where school transport is provided it may be necessary for pupils to walk a certain distance to the vehicle pick-up point. Walking distance in total, including the distance from home to the pick-up point and from the drop-off point to the school in any one direction, will not exceed the authority's distance limit for school transport.

It should be noted that it is the parent's responsibility to ensure their child behaves in a safe and acceptable manner while travelling in, and alighting from, the vehicle. Misbehaviour can result in your child losing the right to school transport.

Parents are asked to note that South Lanarkshire Council does not provide transport for those pupils who attend school via a placing request.

Insurance for schools – pupils' personal effects

South Lanarkshire Council is concerned at the level of claims being received for loss or damage to pupils' clothing or personal effects. Parents are asked to note the Council's position in terms of insurance for pupils' personal effects:

Theft/loss of personal effects

The Council is not liable for the loss or theft of pupils' clothing or personal effects for example mobile phones, tablets etc. and any items are therefore brought into the school is done so at the pupil/parents' own risk.

Parents can assist by ensuring that valuable items and unnecessarily expensive items of clothing are not brought to school.

Teachers and other staff have been advised not to accept custody of any such items.

The same principle applies to musical instruments and other equipment used for activities within the school, which belong to the pupil, but are brought into the school. Parents should be aware that if such equipment is left in school, it is done at the pupil/parents' own risk.

In the case of valuable items such as musical instruments, parents should ensure that these items are covered by their own household insurance.

(ii) Damage to clothing

The Council is only liable for damage caused to pupils' clothing where the damage has resulted from the negligence of the Council or one of its employees. Claims arising otherwise will not be accepted by the Council's insurers.

Promoting positive behaviour

It is the responsibility of staff within the school to ensure that parent council members, parents and pupils are involved in the creation of a positive school ethos that encourages good behaviour. Equally, the school whilst trying to promote positive behaviour must support young people should incidents or bullying occur. Parents have a significant role to play in working with the school so that teachers, parents, and pupils know what is expected of them in trying to change the behaviour and attitudes that contribute to bullying behaviour.

Our approach is to create an environment where better behaviour will encourage better learning. The school, along with the support of parents, can work together to create a learning environment which young people can enjoy and feel safe.

Incidents of bullying should be reported to the school immediately so that each alleged incident can be looked at. Together we can work towards creating a safer school for children and staff.

In addition, a guideline (Promoting Positive Relationships and Behaviour) has been produced to support all teaching and support staff and inform them of their roles and responsibilities in respect of dealing with the small number of children and young people who display challenging behaviour. Early identification is crucial so that intervention can be provided to support children and young people to help them address their issues and concerns. Staff training is provided to help develop the skills needed to respond to and manage challenging behaviour. A wide range of appropriate staff development opportunities has been developed for this purpose.

Child Protection

All staff in educational establishments in South Lanarkshire Council receive an annual Child Protection update and are required to follow the advice and guidance contained within relevant Education Operating Procedures. They must also complete a mandatory Learn on Line Course "Child Protection in Education".

South Lanarkshire's children's services partnership works together to support children, young people, and their families so that children grow up in communities where they are safe, healthy, active, achieving, respected, responsible and included, and have the opportunity to achieve their full potential. They are committed to continuously improve our services to ensure children, young people and their families get the right support at the right time.

Sometimes children and young people need additional help to make sure that they are "*cared for and protected from abuse and harm in a safe environment in which their rights are respected*" (CPC South Lanarkshire Child Protection shared vision). The Child Protection Committee has the overarching responsibility to ensure that agencies individually and collectively work to protect children and young people as effectively as possible.

All staff have a responsibility to report any suspicions that a child has been abused or is at risk of harm, abuse, or neglect. Robust procedures and guidance are in place to support education staff to: -

be alert to signs that a child may be experiencing risks to their wellbeing,

report concerns to the head of establishment or the child protection coordinator without delay.

be actively engaged in support and protection and development of wellbeing.

If you would like more information, or have a concern of a child protection nature, please contact the head of the educational establishment which your child attends.

The Child Protection Committee's website has a range of useful information for parents/carers to help them keep their children safe.

www.childprotectionsouthlanarkshire.org.uk

General Data Protection Regulation as supplemented by the Data Protection Act 2018 (GDPR)

Information on pupils, parents and guardians is held by the school to enable the teaching, registration, and assessment of pupils as well as associated administrative duties. The information is stored and used as per the requirements of the GDPR, with South Lanarkshire Council defined as the data controller. The Council have established a data protection policy that applies to all of its school.

Education Resources has also prepared a privacy notice (below) which sets out how we will deal with personal information as part of our statutory function as an education authority. For more information, please contact the school.

Privacy Notice

Introduction

In line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) we have produced this privacy notice to inform you how we deal with personal information as part of our statutory function as an education authority.

The Council has a legal obligation to deliver effective education services to children, young people, and adult learners in South Lanarkshire. In order to do this, we need to collect personal information about children, young people, and their families so that we can help them to learn and keep them safe.

Using your personal information

The Council is a "controller" of the personal information you provide when enrolling for a nursery or school, applying for an education service, or participating in groups or activities provided by Education Resources.

Information we collect from you about you and your child at enrolment.

When you enrol for a nursery or school, we ask for the following information:

parent/carer contact details (name, address, phone, email).

the child's name, date of birth, gender, and address.

information about medical conditions, additional support needs, religion, and ethnicity.

any information you may wish to provide about family circumstances.

Information we collect at other times.

We will also collect information at other times such as when you apply for a benefit, request a services or other support. We will provide an additional privacy notice at these times.

If you apply for an education service or benefit, such as school transport, free school meals, clothing grant, placing request or EMA, we will also ask for personal information as set out above. We will also ask for information about your income for education benefits applications.

If you make a request for additional support such as an educational psychologist or other support for learning, we will ask for more detailed information to allow us to provide the most appropriate support for your family. This may include information about family circumstances or medical conditions.

If there are concerns about your child's wellbeing and/or your child has needs that may require additional support, we will wish to work with you to collect and consider information to enable us to help you get the right support at the right time in line with the Getting it right for every child approach.

We require this information to ensure that children and young people are educated appropriately, supported, and that we take account of their health and wellbeing. We will also ask you to update this information annually and to tell us when there are changes to your details.

Information that we collect from other sources.

As an education authority and as part of our statutory function in accordance with our legal obligations, we receive information from other sources such as the SQA, the NHS or Social Work about you or your child, this includes:
exam results and assessment information.
information about health, wellbeing, or child protection.

Why do we need this information?

We need this information so the Council can ensure it is delivering education services appropriately to all learners:
for the education of children, young people and adult learners.
for teaching, enrolment, and assessment purposes and to monitor the educational progress of children, young people and adult learners;
to keep children and young people safe and provide guidance services in school;
to identify where additional support is needed to help children, young people and adult learners with their learning;
to maintain records of attendance, absence and behaviour of children and young people (including exclusions);
to support children and young people moving on each year from nursery to primary, primary to secondary and when they move or leave school;
to help us develop and improve education services provided for young people, adult learners, or families
In accordance with our legitimate interests as an education authority we will also use your information to create statistical reports.

We will share your information with:

As an education authority and as part of our statutory function in accordance with our legal obligations we will share information with other bodies or parts of the Council, including:
The Scottish Government and bodies such as Education Scotland, Scottish Qualifications Authority, Skills Development Scotland, and other organisations that support children and young people's learning.
Other parts of the Council when required for services such as school meals, school transport, education benefits and with Social work in connection with any child protection concerns we become aware of.
The NHS, to support health initiatives in accordance with the legal obligation on the Council in terms of section 39(3) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978.
South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Limited, where children and young people are participating in sports and leisure activities.
Other schools/local authorities – if a child moves or transfers to another school the Council has an obligation to pass on information with regards to pupil records to the new school/local authority.

You have the right to access your personal information as well as the rights of rectification, erasure, restriction, and the right to object. For information on these rights and how to exercise them or for information about how we manage your personal information, you can get a copy of our full privacy notice from our website:
(https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200235/meta/1730/general_privacy).

Our full privacy notice will also provide information on how to make a complaint or to request a paper copy of the privacy notice from the Data Protection Officer.

Appendix A

This annex gives a list of useful information and the links to the content is now available from the Council's website by accessing the following link

http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200186/primary_school_information/1264/curriculum_for_excellence/3

The list is not intended to be exhaustive, and authors may wish to consider additional sources of school, local and national information, material, and resources.

Contact Details

Education Scotland's Communication Toolkit for engaging with parents.

The Scottish Government Guide Principles of Inclusive Communications provides information on communications and a self-assessment tool for public authorities.

Choosing a School: A Guide for Parents - information on choosing a school and the placing request system

A guide for parents about school attendance explains parental responsibilities with regard to children's attendance at school.

Parental Involvement

Guidance on the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 provides guidance on the act for education authorities, Parent Councils, and others.

Parentzone provide information and resource for parents and Parent Councils
National Parent Forum for Scotland; www.npfs.org.uk

School Ethos

Supporting Learners - guidance on the identification, planning and provision of support

Journey to Excellence - provides guidance and advice about culture and ethos.

Health and wellbeing guidance on healthy living for local authorities and schools

Building Curriculum for Excellence Through Positive Behaviour and Relationships outlines the Scottish Government's priority actions around positive behaviour in schools and is also a source of support.

Scottish Catholic Education Service's resource 'This is Our Faith' which supports the teaching and learning of Catholic religious education.

Curriculum

Information about how the curriculum is structured and curriculum planning.

Information about the outcomes a learner can expect to experience and achieve across literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing, as well as the 8 curricular areas.

Advice, practice, and resources to support the experiences and outcomes on literary, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

Broad General Education in the Secondary School – A Guide for Parents and Carers

Information on the Senior Phase

Information on Skills for learning, life, and work

Information around the Scottish Government's 'Opportunities for All' programme

Information for organisations responsible for the planning, management and delivery of career information, advice, and guidance services

The Skills Development Scotland website 'My World of Work' offers a number of tools to support career planning.

Assessment and Reporting

Building the Curriculum 5: a framework for assessment provides guidance around the assessment framework.

Information about Curriculum for Excellence levels and how progress is assessed.

Curriculum for Excellence factfile - Assessment and qualifications

Information on recognising achievement, reporting, and profiling.

The Scottish National Standardised Assessment- in Scotland, pupils in P1, P4, P7 and S3 complete online standardised assessments in literacy and numeracy as part of their everyday learning and teaching.

Transitions

Curriculum for Excellence factfile - 3-18 Transitions - provides information on the transitions children and young people will face throughout their education and beyond.

Career Information, Advice and Guidance in Scotland - A Framework for Service Redesign and Improvement provides guidance on career information, advice, and guidance strategy.

Choices and changes provides information about choices made at various stages of learning.

The Additional support for learning page provides links to relevant legislation and guidance, including the arrangements that should be in place to support pupils with additional support needs.

Supporting Children's Learning Code of Practice includes specific requirements on education authorities and others under the new legislation in relation to transition.

Enquire is the Scottish advice service for additional support for learning.

Parenting Across Scotland offers support to children and families in Scotland.

Support for Pupils

The Additional support for learning page provides links to relevant legislation and guidance, including the arrangements that should be in place to support pupils with additional support needs.

Information about the universal entitlement to support that underpins Curriculum for Excellence

Supporting Children's Learning Code of Practice (Revised edition) - provides Statutory guidance relating to the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 as amended.

Getting It Right For Every Child and Young Person, is essential reading for anyone involved or working with children and young people, including practitioners working in adult services with parents and carers.

School Improvement

Scottish Schools Online - provides a range of school information, including contact details, school roll, facilities, website, inspection reports.

Education Scotland's Inspection and review page provides information on the inspection process.

Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF)

Scottish Qualifications Authority provides information for teachers, parents, employers, and young people on qualifications.

Amazing Things - information about youth awards in Scotland

Information on how to access statistics relating to School Education

School Policies and Practical Information

National policies, information and guidance can be accessed: from the Scottish Government website on www.gov.scot with an update on school inspection outcomes being available via the Education Scotland website.

Education Resources



Education Resources

School holiday Dates Session 2023/2024

Break	Holiday dates		
First Term	<i>In-service Day</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>14 August 2023</i>
		<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>15 August 2023</i>
	Pupils return	Wednesday	16 August 2023
September Weekend	Closed on Re-open	Friday Monday Tuesday	22 September 2023 25 September 2023 26 September 2023
October Break	Close on Re-open	Friday Monday	13 October 2023 23 October 2023
	<i>In-service day</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>13 November 2023</i>
Christmas	Close on Re-open	Friday Monday	22 December 2023 8 January 2024
Second Term			
February break	Close on Closed on	Friday Monday Tuesday	9 February 2024 12 February 2024 13 February 2024
	<i>In-service day</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>14 February 2024</i>
	Re-open	Thursday	15 February 2024
Spring break/Easter	Close on Re-open	Friday Monday	28 March 2024 15 April 2024
Third Term			
Bank Holiday	Closed	Monday	6 May 2024
	<i>In-service day</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>2 May 2024</i>
Local Holiday	Close on Closed on Re-open	Thursday Friday Monday Tuesday	23 May 2024 24 May 2024 28 May 2024 29 May 2024
Summer break	Close on	Wednesday	26 June 2024

Notes

- ◆ Good Friday falls on Friday, 29 March 2024
- ◆ *Lanark schools will close Thursday 6 June 2023 and Friday 7 June 2024*
- ◆ Schools will close at 2.30pm on the last day of terms 1 and 2 (Friday 22 December 2023 and Thursday 28 March 2024)

Schools will close at 1pm on the last day of term 3 Wednesday 26 June 202