



Banavie Primary School

School Handbook

2025 - 2026



Banavie Primary School
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Bee Kind, Bee Responsible, Bee Awesome



Dear Parent/Guardian

This brochure provides information about Banavie Primary School so that as parents you can become aware of our organisation and administration.

Our aim at Banavie is to foster the development of the whole child through intellectual, social and personal development of the pupils along with all the educational opportunities that school has to offer.

We invite parents to become actively involved in the school as well as in the education of their children. We encourage all parents to visit the school and find out more about us.

We trust the information in this document will prove useful.

Mrs Colette MacLean
Acting Head Teacher





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Introduction

Welcome to Banavie Primary School.

Banavie School is a 2-storey building with 4 classrooms upstairs and 4 downstairs. One of the downstairs classrooms houses the support for learning room and one houses the nursery class. There is also a gym hall, dining room, G.P. room, medical room and offices. There is a grass football pitch beside the school, plus other playing areas.

The present roll is 95 pupils in 4 mainstream composite classes. There are 13 children in the nursery class.

If parents have any concerns please come into school and discuss this with the Head Teacher or the class teacher or it can be taken to the Parent Council.

Aims of Banavie School:

- ❖ To provide a caring, happy, stimulating environment for pupils and staff which promotes equality in order that each pupils learn effectively.
- ❖ To deliver a broad and balanced curriculum through which each pupil should achieve their full potential, using a variety of learning and teaching styles aimed at raising achievement.
- ❖ To work in partnership with the parents and the wider community to enhance the quality of the pupils' learning and welfare in order to promote a healthy lifestyle.
- ❖ To promote achievement and success and set appropriately high expectations of pupils attainment, attendance and behaviour.
- ❖ To encourage in our pupils the ability to become confident individuals, effective contributors, responsible citizens and successful learners.
- ❖ To enhance professionalism of staff through teamwork and staff development.





There are **equal opportunities** for all children at Banavie. Furthermore, we align ourselves with the education services Anti-Racist and Multi-cultural Guidelines for Primary and Nursery Education.

School Hours

- ❖ P1 – P7 9.00am - 10.30am
- ❖ Interval
- ❖ P1 –P7 10.50am – 12.20pm
- ❖ Lunchtime
- ❖ P1-P7 12.20pm – 1.15pm
- ❖ Afternoon session
- ❖ P1 – P3 1.15pm – 2.45pm
- ❖ P4 – P7 1.15pm – 3.15pm

Uniform

The school colours are a maroon sweatshirt with black trousers, skirts, pinafores or knee length culottes with sensible shoes. A white polo shirt should also be worn. All uniform is available to order online at www.sptuniforms.co.uk Items of clothing should be clearly marked with the child’s name.

Buddy system

The primary six and seven pupils buddy the children in the nursery and P1. This operates throughout the year.

Teaching Staff

Including the Acting Head Teacher, there are five full-time members of staff and two part time staff.

Acting Head Teacher	Mrs Colette MacLean
Principal Teacher	Mrs I Drysdale
<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>
P1/2	Mrs C Mount
P3/4	Miss M Backhouse
P4/5/6	Mrs A Ross and Mrs C MacLean
P6/7	Mrs I Drysdale

P.E. Specialist Mrs S Chisholm P3-7

Additional Support Needs Teacher Mrs J Abell

Pupil Support Assistants Miss E Wink
 Mrs D Campbell
 Mrs S Davies
 Miss T Watson

Early Years Practitioner - Miss J Grant, Miss L Dunlop and Miss M Sanderson



The following are Visiting Music Staff: -

Brass	Mrs H Hook
Woodwind	Miss K Thomson
Chanter	Miss M MacMaster
Violin	Ms C Hamilton

Clerical Assistant 2 Schools	Mrs B Wells	9am - 2.45pm (Monday - Thursday)
Facilities Assistant	Various	throughout the year
Crossing Patroller	Mrs A Morrison	8.30-9.15am, 2.45-3.30pm

Additional Support Needs

All children need support to help them learn. Some children require more help than others. We follow the GIRFEC (Getting it Right for Every Child) staged approach to assessing, identifying and supporting additional support needs. In this model every child has a 'named person' who is responsible for making sure that the child or young person has the right help to support his/her development and well-being.

If you have a concern about your child in primary school, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance or the 'named person', who will usually be the head teacher.

Sometimes a Child's Plan may be put in place to help organise, monitor and regularly review your child's progress. If you wish to find out more about GIRFEC or the Child's Plan you can access more information at [HPM 2017 \(forhighlandchildren.org\)](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/886/schools)

There are also Information sheets available at: [Home - Thriving Families](#) click on Education.

[http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/886/schools -
_additional_support_needs/1/support_for_learners](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/886/schools_-_additional_support_needs/1/support_for_learners)

Additional Information

The following organisations provide advice, further information and support to parents of children and young people with ASN. These organisations are identified under The Additional Support for Learning (Sources of Information) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2011 as:

(a) Enquire - the Scottish advice and information service for additional support for learning
<http://enquire.org.uk/>

(b) My Rights, My Say - an advocacy and advice service for young people over 12 with additional support needs <http://enquire.org.uk/myrightsmysay/>

(c) [Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance](#), an advocacy service to support parents and children

(d) [Scottish Child Law Centre](#), an organisation providing free legal advice to young people.

Role of the Additional Support Needs Teacher

At Banavie we have the services of an additional support needs teacher for 1 day per week in mainstream. The support teacher's timetable is constructed through examining the needs of the pupils and consists of small group, individual or in class support. She is supported by a team of Pupil Support Assistants.

Parents are kept fully informed of the strategies which the class teacher may adopt in order to help facilitate the pupil's learning. Child's Plans are reviewed annually but targets are reviewed twice a year. Parents and pupils are regularly consulted and have an input into all aspects of the plan.



Communications between School and Parents

Any parent who wishes to see his/her child's class teacher should telephone the school or write in for an appointment. After school hours is the most convenient time for appointments as staff are free to discuss any matters with parents. Newsletters are accessed through class Dojo and our website <https://sites.google.com/lochaberhigh.org.uk/banavie-primary-school/home>

Our **School Improvement Plan** and our **Standards and Quality report** are on our website and a paper copy can be requested from the school office.

We use Dojo for communicating with parents and sharing classroom experiences.

Complaints Procedure

If a parent has a complaint they may put this in writing to the Head Teacher who will meet with all parties to discuss the issues. The school will always endeavour to resolve issues by listening to parents and seeking solutions in partnership. Should a situation not be resolved, parents can contact Ms Mhairi MacDonald, Area Education and Learning Manager on 07918 842021.

Nursery Class

Our Early Years Practitioners are Miss Jennifer Grant, Miss Melanie Sanderson and Miss Laura Dunlop. We operate flexible nursery hours Monday to Friday, 8.45am - 3pm. At present we have 13 pupils attending our Nursery.

Parent Council

Banavie School has an active Parent Council. All parents are automatically members of the Parent Council.

Present Committee:

- Ms A Dudgeon (Chairperson)
- Mrs L Forster (Vice Chair)
- Mrs A Wormald (Treasurer)
- Mrs K Spinney (Secretary)

Meetings are held termly and all parents are encouraged to join us. The meetings are held in the school or you can join online using Google Meet from 7.30pm onwards. Through fundraising activities our school library, school outings, visiting specialists, computer equipment, the eco garden, playground equipment and a variety of resources are all supported.

Any parent who has an idea to share or wishes to raise an issue for the Parent Council to consider can do so by contacting Ms Abigail Dudgeon, Chairperson using the email: banavie.primary@highlandpc.co.uk

If you feel you need support and don't wish to approach the school or Parent Council, then you can seek advice using the link provided:

- <https://www.children1st.org.uk/help-for-families/parentline-scotland/>

Community Links

We work closely with the local community on litter pick-ups and visits to the canal. The school also provides a quarterly update for the local community newspaper. We work alongside our local Co-Op store in supporting Fair Trade and we follow a programme of Global Citizenship



which embraces the “fair trade” initiative. We have also been fortunate to create strong ties with Outward Bound and have worked closely with them to develop our outdoor learning.

The Curriculum /Areas of Study [Curriculum for Excellence | Education Scotland](#)

At Banavie the pupils follow a curriculum around the four capacities of a Curriculum for Excellence which encourages pupils to become:-

Successful learners

with: enthusiasm and motivation for learning, determination to reach high standards of achievement, openness to new thinking and ideas.

are able to: use literacy, communication and numeracy skills, use technology for learning, think creatively and independently, learn independently and as part of a group, make reasoned evaluations, link and apply different kinds of learning in new situations.

Confident individuals

with: self-respect, a sense of physical, mental and emotional well-being, secure values and beliefs, ambition.

are able to: relate to others and manage themselves, pursue a healthy and active lifestyle, be self-aware, develop and communicate their own beliefs and view of the world, live as independently as they can, assess risk and make informed decisions, achieve success in different areas of activity.

Responsible citizens

with: respect for others, commitment to participate responsibly in political, economic, social and cultural life.

are able to: develop knowledge and understanding of the world and Scotland's place in it, understand different beliefs and cultures, make informed choices and decisions, evaluate environmental, scientific and technological issues, develop informed, ethical views of complex issues.

Effective contributors

with: an enterprising attitude, resilience, self-reliance.

are able to: communicate in different ways and in different settings, work in partnership and in teams take the initiative and lead, apply critical thinking in new contexts, create and develop, solve problems.

Curriculum Areas

The Curriculum for Excellence is divided into 3 levels within the primary school

1. Early level..... Nursery and Primary 1
2. First level Primary 2,3,4
3. Second levelPrimary 5,6,7

We study the following curriculum areas and plan using the experiences and outcomes linked to each area. The children work through the different levels based on their ability and progress is closely monitored. All staff have a responsibility for Health and Wellbeing/Literacy/Numeracy. We involve the children as much as possible when planning their learning and ensure they understand what they are learning and why in each lesson.

Literacy and English:

1.Listening and talking

This area is developed in a variety of ways at each stage of the school and is inter-linked with the other elements of language work.



2. Reading

Following the principles of the Highland Literacy Progression our reading is split into 4 key areas:-

Core reading session 3-4 times per week using a variety of levelled material

Reading for enjoyment at home and in class with a variety of levelled novels

Reading for information

Writer's Craft

3. Writing

Pupils are taught personal, imaginative and functional writing from P1-7. This is our third year implementing the Talk For Writing programme and will be analysing the results as we progress through the academic year.

Numeracy and Mathematics:

Number, Money and Measure

Shape position and movement

Maths and its impact on the world

Information Handling

Problem solving and the relation of maths to realistic and meaningful situations are taught throughout the school, alongside daily mental maths activities.

Health and Well Being:

- ❖ Mental, social, physical and emotional well being
- ❖ Planning for choices and change
- ❖ Relationships, sexual health and parenthood
- ❖ Physical Education, physical activity and sport
- ❖ Food and health
- ❖ Substance misuse

Physical Health explores physical factors in relation to our health and looking after ourselves e.g. exploring changes in the body, identifying ways of crossing the road safely and recognizing the harmful effects of smoking, alcohol, solvents and illegal drugs.

Emotional Health explores emotions, feelings and relationships and how they affect our mental wellbeing e.g. learning to share and care for others and reflecting on experiences and ways of dealing with problems, e.g. loss, bullying, drug misuse.

Social Health explores the interaction of the individual, the community and the environment in relation to health and safety e.g. dealing with litter, practicing personal safety strategies and exploring ways of helping the school to be a health promoting school.

PE: All classes participate in weekly P.E. lessons linked with our healthy school's initiative. Those in P4-7 have the services of a specialist teacher for 2.5 hours per week. Pupils should have appropriate gym kit i.e. tee shirt, shorts and gym shoes. No football colours should be worn and items must be labelled. Our P6 pupils have swimming lessons at the leisure centre. The school works closely with the Active Schools Co-ordinator who provides a wide range of sporting opportunities throughout the year. Pupils may be excused from P.E. on the production of a note from parents.

Before starting the more sensitive aspects of the Health and Wellbeing Curriculum e.g. Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood, drug awareness, etc. we will send a reminder of what is covered in the different stages on the school newsletter. If you would like to discuss any aspects of these areas in the curriculum, please do not hesitate to contact the school and we will be happy to address any concerns that you may have.

We request that each pupil brings a water bottle to school each day as part of our healthy living programme.



Science

- ❖ Sciences Planet Earth
- ❖ Forces and Electricity
- ❖ Materials
- ❖ Biological systems

Social Subjects:

- ❖ People, past events and societies (HISTORY)
- ❖ People in society economy and business (ENTERPRISE)
- ❖ People, place and the environment (GEOGRAPHY)

Technologies:

- ❖ Technological developments in society
- ❖ ICT to enhance learning
- ❖ Computing science contexts for developing technological skills and knowledge
- ❖ Food and textiles contexts for developing technological skills and knowledge
- ❖ Craft design engineering and graphic contexts for developing technological skills and knowledge
- ❖ Business contexts for developing technological skills and knowledge

Expressive Arts: includes these four areas of study

- ❖ Art and Design
- ❖ Drama
- ❖ Dance
- ❖ Music

Languages

In accordance with National Guidelines, we follow the 1 + 2 programme for teaching languages. The first language taught is English, French is taught daily/weekly as the second language throughout the year and the third language we are teaching is Scots. This is carried out in two themed weeks with a focus around St Andrew's Day and Burns' Day. Primary 5 - 7 also receive a six week block of online Gaelic lessons. The aims are to encourage the children to have confidence in expressing themselves in a second language, and to increase their awareness of French and Scottish culture. This is achieved through the provision of a wide range of activities including games, songs, role-play and story-telling as well as direct teaching of simple vocabulary and language structures.

Religious and Moral Education: is an integral part of our curriculum and encompasses three areas:

- ❖ Christianity
- ❖ World Religions
- ❖ Development of beliefs and values

The school is obliged to advise parents that they have a legal right to have their child withdrawn from Religious and Moral Education. Please put this in writing to the Head Teacher.

Extra-Curricular Activities - netball, shinty, and dance take place after school hours. We also celebrate pupils' wider achievements through their own personal portfolio and across the school on our achievement board. Parents can access further information regarding the Curriculum for Excellence from national websites - [Parentzone Scotland](#) | [Education Scotland](#)



Assemblies

Weekly assemblies are led by either the Head Teacher or pupils. We share our learning and pass on our good wishes to pupils celebrating their birthday.

Charities

Through our enterprise projects we support “Children in Need” and “Red Nose Day” as well as a nominated local charity.

School Library

The library is housed in the general purpose area in the school. Classes have access to the library throughout the year which houses non-fiction and fiction texts for both curriculum activities and reading for enjoyment. The Library Van also visits the school at least once a month providing access to the books Highlife Highland have in their libraries.

Assessment & Record Keeping

Assessment is an on-going procedure and staff meet regularly to monitor and discuss pupil progress and next steps. Pupils are regularly consulted as to their own personal target setting. All teachers keep detailed records of each child’s progress which is linked to the Curriculum for Excellence expectations and outcomes. If you would like any further information regarding assessment you can find it using the link [Assessment and achievement | Curriculum in Scotland | Parentzone Scotland | Education Scotland](#)

Homework

We currently give out homework on a rolling cycle of two weeks with homework and one week without, the amount given depends on the age of the child and reflects the work being done in school. Reading books are given out weekly for P1 – P3 pupils. Parents are urged to supervise this activity. Any concerns parents have with homework can be directed to the class teacher.

Setting targets/raising standards

Target setting is a National incentive in order to raise standards in Scottish schools. Numeracy and Literacy are the key areas and every school is expected to make a contribution to national improvement by setting its own targets for development. At present we are working closely with all schools in Highland to develop further our tracking and monitoring system linked to the Curriculum for Excellence.

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations are held in November and March with an “Open Day” in June. Parents are invited into school to view their children’s work and to discuss their performance with the class teacher. Each year we also hold two Parent Workshops on aspects of the Curriculum for Excellence.

In June a **formal report** is sent home. Throughout the school year Key Assessment Tasks will be sent home at various times to cover Literacy, Numeracy, Health and Wellbeing and one other curricular area. These will include snapshots of the children’s work as well as self assessment and teacher feedback. As a school, we seek to provide information to pupils, parents and staff to assist in the effectiveness of learning and teaching process and in raising attainment. Teachers use the assessment process as an evaluative, diagnostic and formative tool to provide evidence of pupil attainment and progress and to inform learning and teaching approaches and pupil



targets. We are continuing to work on developing a growth mindset with our pupils and as such they should view the assessment process as a motivating experience which takes place within the overall context of a supportive school. Pupils should make use of feedback, in all its forms to inform next steps for the improvement of their own learning. Parents will receive feedback on their child's progress through pupil reports, progress checks, and target setting information. An immediate concern can be easily dealt with by contacting school at any time (01397 772402) and an appointment can be made with the class teacher or the Head Teacher.

Child Protection

In terms of our Child Protection Inter-agency Guidelines, all Education Service staff must report such incidents to Social Work Services, which can lead to a joint Social Work/Police investigation. All agencies involved in Child Protection are obliged to make it their paramount consideration and this will be the priority for all staff, working at Banavie. Further information about Child Protection Procedures within Highland can be obtained from the Child Protection Development Officer. Telephone - 01463 703483.

Drugs Misuse Incidents

In line with Highland Council's recommendation, Banavie Primary School endorses the Scottish Executive Guidelines for the Management of Incidents of Drugs Misuse in Schools. Any incidents of Drugs Misuse will be reported and dealt with in line with Highland Council Policy.

First Entrants

Enrolment

Children who are due to begin school in August are usually enrolled the previous January. Enrolment of new entrants is advertised in advance. Parents who are considering enrolling their children are most welcome to visit the school to meet the Head Teacher. An appointment can be arranged by telephoning the school. During the summer term, normally in June, a visit to the school by the new entrants and their parents is arranged. This visit gives the children and parents the opportunity to meet the primary one teacher. The children spend some time in the classroom where they are encouraged to participate in some creative activities, while their parents are given a guided tour of the school and are given an opportunity to view and discuss educational materials and resources. The primary one teacher has timetabled visits to the nursery throughout the year. This allows the teacher to meet the children within a setting they know, thus helping to promote as easy a transition into school as possible for all the children.

There is a designated catchment area for the school, but pupils living outwith the area can request a place; the decision to allocate this rests with the Area Education Manager. Placing request forms can be obtained from [Enrolment in a school outside your catchment area | Enrol your child for school | The Highland Council](#)

Transportation to and from school, for placing request pupils, is a parental responsibility.

Some **Reminders** for Parents of First Entrants

PLEASE:

- - Mark all articles of clothing, school bags and packed lunch boxes.
- - Provide a bottle for water each day.
- - Provide the child with an overall (an old shirt will do) for painting or other messy activities.

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- - Make an appointment to see the Head Teacher/class teacher if you are worried about your child.

What parents can do to help their children who are just starting school:

- Teach them to tie their shoelaces and fasten buttons.
- Teach them the names of colours.
- Talk about picture books with them.
- Talk about numbers e.g. "One shoe, two shoes" "three places at the table".
- Tell them stories - even the same story many times over if it is requested.
- Teach them the use of a knife and fork.
- Instruct them in road safety.

What Parents can do to help their children when at school:

- Supervise their homework
- Teach them to tell the time
- Encourage them to use local libraries to read books regularly and discuss with them the books they read
- Talk about life at school with them or about their school friends or their interests

But most important of all, listen to them, and by doing so, show them that you are interested in their progress.

Absence from school

Parents should contact the school by telephoning the absence line **01397 773220** by 9.30a.m. each morning if a child is to be absent. If the absence is likely to be for one week or more, parents should contact the school and advise accordingly.

Doctor or Dentist Appointments

If a child has to attend the doctor or dentist within school hours, it would be helpful if parents would send a note of the appointment time to the class teacher.

Holidays Taken Outwith The Normal School Holiday Period

Taking holidays outwith the recognised holiday time is discouraged. Under guidance from the Scottish Executive, most family holidays will be coded as an unauthorised absence; only in exceptional cases will the absence be recorded as authorised. Parents are asked to be aware of these considerations when making decisions on planning holidays during term time. Holiday dates are included in this brochure to aid you in your planning of any holidays you may be considering. If you do decide to make holiday arrangements during term, you should confirm this in writing to the Head Teacher.

Medical and professional services

Parents must inform the Head Teacher of any disabilities their child may have. If any medication is to be administered during the day, this will be done as per the school's policy on the administration of medicines.

Pupils will undergo examinations at the beginning and end of their primary education. There are regular visits to the school by the School Nurse and School Dental Unit.

Minor Injuries

If your child is injured at school you will be contacted via Dojo or by telephone. If the injury is serious, then the school will take any necessary interventions including calling an ambulance if

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necessary. In these instances, a phone call to the parent will always take place as soon as possible after the injury has occurred.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Staff will support the emotional development and wellbeing of pupils through formal and informal activities. Any concerns about pupil's wellbeing can be discussed with the head teacher. School has access to Highland Council's Primary Mental Health Worker Service and consultation and advice may be sought if there are concerns that may require support. Parents will always be involved in any discussions beforehand, and this step will only be taken with full consent from parents and (where appropriate) the pupil themselves.

School road and school crossing

As the school road is so narrow, pupils are instructed to walk on the pavement at all times. **It is recommended that parents do not use the road for daily delivery of their children**, but drop them off at the top of the road where there is a Crossing Patroller. The Crossing Patroller is on duty from **8.30am -9.15am, 2.45pm -3.30pm each day**.

Transport

Pupils from Achaphubuil, Blaich, Glenfinnan and Muirshearlich are eligible for school transport at the beginning and the end of the day. There is also a service bus for Corpach pupils. Pupils may cycle unaccompanied after parents have signed the required documentation. **In P1-3 we insist pupils are accompanied by an adult.**

Wet weather procedure

We try to have the children outdoors as much as possible during breaks and lunchtime and would recommend that they dress appropriately for the weather, however, during very wet weather pupils will be supervised inside their classroom by the playground supervisor and our PSAs.

School Closure/Adverse Weather

In the event that the school has to close due to adverse weather or for another reason, you will be notified via DOJO as soon as possible. Highland Council also have an adverse weather page which is updated everyday at 8am and throughout the day. The page is cleared at 4pm each day. [School closures | The Highland Council](#)

Discipline

A good standard of behaviour is expected from pupils at Banavie at all times for a positive approach to every aspect of school life. Action taken against unacceptable behaviour will follow our Positive Relationship Policy and depend on the circumstances of the event. Parents will be notified immediately in order to discuss any serious concerns.

Pupil Voice Groups

Pupils in Nursery-P7 are members of the Pupil Voice Groups. These include: Pupils Council, Eco Committee, Rights Respecting School, Junior Road Safety Officers and the News Group. These groups meet monthly to discuss issues and concerns which pupils may have. We also have 4 monitors weekly on duty in the corridor from P7. In the playground we have benches for the



pupils and the green bench is our friendly bench for those pupils requiring some reassurance at break and lunch time.

School Meals/Packed Lunches /Snack

Cooked meals are provided daily at a cost of £2.0. Money is collected on a Monday. Cheques are payable to the Highland Council. All pupils in P1-5 are entitled to a free school meal. For information and application forms for Free School Meals please see <http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools - grants and benefits/10/free school meals and assistance with clothing> or the school office. The menus follow the healthy schools programme and work in a three week rotation. A drink of juice/milk/water is provided each day. Packed lunches should try to follow healthy guidelines and are eaten in the dining hall/GP room. Only cartons of drinks may be brought into school. All pupils integrate across the classes during the lunch. A small snack of preferably fruit/something healthy can be consumed at break time. The canteen also offer a tuck shop with toast, pancakes or half a bagel. Occasionally, the classes may organise a tuck shop for special events. This information will be shared on Dojo.

Lost Property

All items found are handed to the Head Teacher and are placed in the entrance hall.

School Fund

Each year the school engages in a variety of activities, under the auspices of fundraising. Discos, sponsored events and a fun night all help to augment the capitation allowance. The fund is held in a bank account at the Royal Bank of Scotland with the Head Teacher and the Principal Teacher as signatories.

The extra this provides includes, school trips, Christmas parties, visits by theatre groups. The fund is also used to stock our library, computers, playground equipment and musical instruments.

School website

Information on various aspects of our school can be found on our school website.

The website address is:- [Banavie Primary School \(google.com\)](http://Banavie Primary School (google.com))

The website is regularly updated. Contributions and suggestions from parents are most welcome.

Transferring Educational Data About Pupils

Education Authorities and Scottish Government have collected data about pupils on paper forms for many years. We now work together with schools to transfer data electronically through the ScotXed programme. 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 Scottish Government itself.

Why do we need your data?

In order to make the best decisions about how to improve our education service, Scottish Government, Education Authorities and other partners such as the SQA and Careers 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,

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- 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.

Policies

Our school policies are available from the school office on request. Highland Council policies are available using the link [Policies | Policies | The Highland Council](#)

Data Policy

The ScotXed programme aims to support schools and Local Authorities by supporting the collection, processing and dissemination of statistical information required for planning, management and monitoring of Scottish education services. ScotXed website

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/ScotXed/SchoolEducation>

A subset of this information is passed to Scottish Government for research and National Statistics publications.

Education data within Scottish Government is managed effectively by secure systems and is exploited as a valuable corporate resource, subject to confidentiality restraints. As part of its Data Policy, Scottish Government will not publish or make publicly available any information that allows individual pupils to be identified, nor will data be used by Scottish Government to take any actions in respect of individuals. Data is held securely and no information on individual pupils can or would be published by Scottish Government.

The individual data collected by Scottish Government is used for statistical and research purposes only. We hope that the explanations contained on the ScotXed website will help you understand the importance of providing the information.

Your data protection rights

The collection, transfer, processing and sharing of ScotXed data is done in accordance with the Data Protection Act (1998). 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 uses of pupil data can be found on the ScotXed website (www.scotxed.net).

Scottish Government works with a range of partners including HM Inspectorate of Education and the SQA. On occasion, we will make individual data available to partners and also academic institutions and organisations 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 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 relevant colleagues and individuals within and outwith Scottish Government.

Equal Opportunities, Equality and Inclusion

Access to all subjects is provided to all pupils without reference to the sex of the pupil, as Banavie Primary School conforms to the principle of Equal Opportunities in all areas.

http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/751/equality_equality_diversity_and_citizenship/313/equal_opportunities



Multi-Cultural and Anti-Racist Policy

We have a responsibility as a school for combating racism and promoting understanding respect for other people's cultural identity and beliefs. Regardless of race, gender, class or ability we aim to provide equality of opportunity and an environment in which shared cultural experiences provide the basis for mutual understanding of other backgrounds and beliefs. Incidents of a racist nature will be logged and the action taken will be recorded.

Anti Bullying Policy

At Banavie we do not tolerate bullying and want to ensure that all pupils, parents and staff feel safe and valued. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact the Head Teacher.
https://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/19358/anti_bullying_-_guidance_for_schools

Educational Excursions

School excursions occur throughout the school session. They can range from a local walk to a whole school trip outwith the area. Parents are notified of all school outings.

Transfer to Secondary School

On completion of primary 7, pupils usually transfer to:

Lochaber High School
Camaghael,
Fort William
PH33 7ND
01397 702512

There are many transition opportunities for the Primary 7 pupils including a basketball tournament, watching school productions and inter school athletics and swimming. The primary seven pupils have five induction days at Lochaber High School in June. This allows the pupils to meet staff, visit the different departments and follow a timetable. Guidance staff visit Banavie Primary to talk to our pupils and answer any questions they may have. Secondary learning support teachers visit pupils who have additional support needs and they are given the opportunity to have additional enhanced transition visits throughout the year. These visits are usually in small groups and a member of primary school staff or a parent can accompany them. Parents can look at the website [Lochaber High School - Home](#)

Health Promoting Status

Banavie Primary School is a Health Promoting School. We follow a structured program of health related topics in order to afford pupils choice and information in order to make informed decisions as they grow and develop.

DOJO

The school uses DOJO as a way to communicate with parents. Some classes also use it as a reward system. More information will be given to you once your child starts.

Green Flag Status

Banavie Primary School has now achieved seven "Green Flags" through the Eco initiative.

Rights Respecting School

The UNICEF UK Rights Respecting School Awards (RRSA) is based on principles of equality,

Bee Kind, Bee Responsible, Bee Awesome



dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation. The RRSA seeks to put the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart and develop every child's talent and ability to their full potential. A Rights Respecting School is a community where children's rights are learned, taught, practiced, respected, protected and promoted. Banavie has achieved their Bronze award and both staff and pupils are dedicated to embedding the principles of RRSA into the ethos of the school. We are now working towards our Silver Award.

School Improvement and Standards and Quality Report

Through undertaking self evaluation we have decided to work on the following aspects of the school:

1. To continue to raise attainment in numeracy.
2. To ensure robust moderation of levels within the school and across the associated school group.
3. To further enhance the rights of the child by undertaking the Silver Rights Respecting Schools Award.

The results from previous improvements made can be found in the Standard and Quality report. These showed that we had embedded Talk for Writing within the school. Staff are confident using this program and the attainment had increase due to this.

Staff have also been focusing on pedagogy and the different aspects of learning. We have focused on key areas such as introducing a lesson and the plenary in order to check for understanding.

The final area that we focused on was to achieve our Bronze rights Respecting School Award, which we did in June 2024.

We look for parent involvement and feedback for these areas during our Parent Consultation evening and through questionnaires.

If you would like any further information on the School Improvement Plan or the Standards and Quality Report, please see the school website and look under the Parent tab. [Banavie Primary School](#)

The school share copies of these documents during Parent Council meetings and they are also available request at the school.

Inspection of Banavie Primary School

Banavie Primary School and Nursery were inspected in December 2022. The Inspection covered key aspects of the work of the school at all stages. Copies of the report are available from the school, or by clicking the link below.

[Details | Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and Review | Education Scotland](#)

Whilst information provided is considered to be correct at the time of printing it is possible that there may be changes affecting a matter dealt within the document.

Conclusion

May I assure you that the Staff at Banavie Primary will endeavour to provide the best possible education for your child. We look forward to having a happy and successful partnership with you and your child.

Mrs Colette MacLean, Acting Head Teacher.



Holiday Dates - 2024/25

Holiday Starts	Return to School
	Tuesday 19 th August 2025
Monday 13 th October 2025	Monday 27 th October 2025
Wednesday 24 th December 2025	Wednesday 7 th January 2026
Monday 16 th February 2026	Thursday 19 th February 2026
Friday 3 rd April 2026	Monday 20 th April 2026
Monday 4 th May 2026	Tuesday 5 th May 2026
Friday 3 rd July 2026	

In service training dates
Monday 18 th August 2025 Monday 15 th and Tuesday 16 th September 2025 Wednesday 18 th February 2026 Thursday 7 th May 2026

[School term dates](#) | [School term dates](#) | [The Highland Council](#)