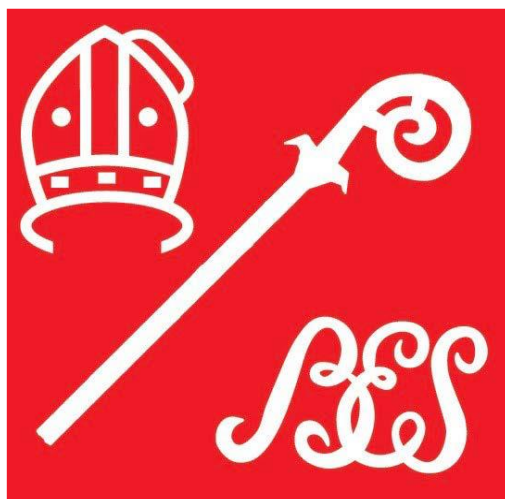


**BISHOP EDEN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**SCHOOL HANDBOOK**

**2025/26**



*#Respect #Safe #Responsible  
#bishopedenssucceedstogether*

73 King Street Inverness IV3 5HX

Tel: 01463 237103

Email: [bishopeden.primary@highland.gov.uk](mailto:bishopeden.primary@highland.gov.uk)

Facebook: Bishop Eden's Primary School

Current Roll: 23



Dear Families,

A warm welcome to Bishop Eden's Primary and to our wee school family! We prioritise working together and showing kindness for each other. We are a mainstream, denominational, Episcopal school and provide education from P1-P7. With a current school roll of 23, we take pride in knowing our pupils and families very well and being able to form strong relationships with them. We welcome everyone, regardless of faith to our school and we have an inclusive and diverse community. We believe in using the community around us to build secure foundations for our pupils' lives now and in the future. Our link with Inverness Cathedral is an important part of our identity.

We are a school that puts the wellbeing of our pupils at the forefront of everything we do. We develop every child's skills and abilities through working together; involving children, parents and staff. The following pages give a brief outline of what we seek to achieve. We work in partnership with families, so your child achieves their full potential.

At Bishop Eden's Primary School, the vision we have chosen is:

## **Bishop Eden's Succeeds Together**

We have three core values that underpin our vision. Everything we do in our school; we consider these values.

They are:

**RESPECT**

**SAFE**

**RESPONSIBLE**

If you are interested in sending your child to Bishop Eden's Primary, please do not hesitate to get in touch!

Mrs Emma Rennie  
Head Teacher

## **Our School Staff 2023/24**

Mrs Emma Rennie                      Head Teacher

### **Teaching Staff**

Mrs D Ross                              P1-4 Teacher  
Mrs J Strange                          P5-7 Teacher (3 days)  
Mrs E Rennie                          P5-7 Teacher (2 days)  
Mrs L Davison                         ASN Teacher (one day/fortnight)

### **Support Staff**

Mrs E Gribben                         Pupil Support Assistant  
Mrs A MacDougall                    Pupil Support Assistant  
Miss A Shearer                        Pupil Support Assistant

Miss A Shearer                        Clerical  
Mr D MacLennan                      Facilities Management Assistant  
Mrs G Thompson                      Catering Assistant/ Cleaning Operative

Mrs Catherine Fraser                Children's Services Worker (CSW)  
Mrs Roni Smith                        Family Links Worker

Revd Laura Symon                    Inverness Cathedral  
Provost Sarah Murray                Inverness Cathedral

### **Our School Day**

Primary 1-3	9am 1.30pm	12.15pm 3pm
Primary 4-7	9am 1.30pm	12.45pm 3pm
Morning interval	10.45am	11am

## School Ethos

### Our Cathedral Link

St Andrew's Cathedral, Inverness was founded by Bishop Robert Eden. Schools were an integral part of his vision for the developing work of the Scottish Episcopal Church in the Highlands. This was before the days of universal and compulsory education. A Girls' School was started in 1854 in a hall in Academy Street and transferred to the present building in 1870. The Boys' School was built adjacent to the Cathedral in 1871 (Now Café Ness at the Cathedral). The two schools were merged in 1943 and from January 1944 the resulting mixed primary school was known as Bishop Eden's School.

The purpose of Bishop Eden's was never to be an exclusive faith school. It was to develop a school for all who wished to attend, regardless of gender or ability to pay, which at the time were both barriers to receiving an education. Bishop Eden's still maintains this ethos. We are a denominational faith school, but value inclusion of all and promote a diverse population. **You do not have to be from the Episcopal Church or even Christian to attend our school. We welcome all faiths and cultures.** The school curriculum is no different from that in any other primary school and a general course of religious education is followed, but with reference, as appropriate, to the beliefs and practises of the Episcopal Church. Members of the Cathedral Clergy visit regularly to liaise with class teachers, assist in religious education and participate in other school activities. School services are held in the Cathedral at which parents and friends are invited to attend. The importance of the affiliation with the Scottish Episcopal Church and the continuous framework of support it provides are recognised. The buildings are owned by the Cathedral and the Cathedral Authorities are responsible for the external fabric. The Episcopal Church holds one right of place on the Parent Council.



Much more important than the denominational emphasis is the strong values based approach of the whole life of the School.

- We talk about Bishop Eden's Excellence, #BEE ~ this means showing excellence in our behaviour, our work ethic and attitude.
- We talk about being our very #BEST selves~ our expectations are not perfection, but persistence.
- We focus on our school values of respect, safety and responsibility in everything.
- We see our diversity as a strength.

- We believe our purpose is to allow every child and family we work with to flourish through positive relationships; working together to help their child achieve their overall potential.
- We foster high expectations and aspirations for all our children from an early age.
- The Clergy of the Cathedral are always willing to assist school families pastorally in any matter in which their involvement is sought.

### **Equality and Inclusion**

Our activities in school should ensure that we:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, promote good relations. Activities should not discriminate against any of the following 'protected characteristics; age, disability, race, religion or belief, gender, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity.
- Highland Council Education Service aims to:
  - Offer education of the highest quality to all young people within a developing culture of inclusion.
  - Endorse the principles of inclusion, entitlement, and equality of opportunity in the development of best practice.
  - Value the diversity of interests, qualities, and abilities of every learner.

For up-to-date information please see:

[www.highland.gov.uk/info/751/equality\\_diversity\\_and\\_citizenship/313/equal\\_opportunities](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/751/equality_diversity_and_citizenship/313/equal_opportunities)

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child has now been incorporated into Scots Law. To find out more about this and the rights for all children in Scotland, you can access information here

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/statutory-guidance-part-2-uncrc-incorporation-scotland-act-2024/pages/3/>

## **School Uniform**

Pupils are expected to wear school uniform, as it helps to foster a sense of pride and teamwork, being part of Bishop Eden's Primary School. Our uniform can be bought from: <https://schoolwearnadeeasy.com/>.

Our uniform consists of:

- a red Bishop Eden's sweatshirt or cardigan
- white/red polo shirt/t-shirt or shirt or white with school tie
- Bishop Eden's tartan skirt/pinafore OR black/grey trousers/school shorts/joggers/skirt etc
- Red gingham dresses may also be worn
- Trainers or school shoes



We encourage our children to be ready to learn and this can include being outdoors, so black joggers/leggings are acceptable as it enables children to be able to move about. Children should also have with them what they need to be outside during the day, such as coats/jackets/hats and in summer-sun hats and sunscreen. We would discourage earrings due to the risk of getting ripped, especially longer ones.

On more formal days, such as Cathedral services, we encourage children to dress up a bit more, such as wearing school trousers rather than joggers and school shoes rather than trainers if they are able. We will let you know when these days are.

For PE, we ask families to send their child to school on PE days in joggers or leggings, as well as school jumper/t-shirt/polo-shirt. This reduces time needing to change. Children will be required to take out earrings and remove jewellery before joining in PE.

Indoor shoes are encouraged. Please do not send in crocs or slippers for health and safety reasons.

We often have a significant stock of used uniform within the school that we are happy to give away and donations for this are gladly accepted. Please get in touch if you are interested.

## **Positive Behaviour**

Bishop Eden's Primary School is committed to a positive relationships approach in line with Highland Council's Promoting Positive Relationships Framework and Guidance which can be viewed at [http://www.highland.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/166/positive\\_behaviour\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.highland.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/166/positive_behaviour_guidelines.pdf)

## **Celebrating showing our values**

At Bishop Eden's Primary we feel it is important to celebrate the success of children who consistently go above and beyond in their school lives and show the Bishop Eden's Excellence we strive for.

Some ways we celebrate success:

- We focus on #BEE ~ Bishop Eden's Excellence. This means always aiming to live our school values and go above and beyond in trying to reach our personal potential. Bishop Eden's Excellence Awards are given at the end of the school year to pupils who have exemplified this.
- At assemblies, Children receive house points for showing our school values and hard work. They also receive SKILLS certificates, Head Teachers awards. Golden BEEs are given out by our playground buddies to acknowledge pupils who are showing school values that week in the school playground.
- Non-teaching staff (PSAs, Cooks, FM, Clerical etc) give children who are showing school values blue BEEs which classes can collect over the term.

## **After School Clubs**

At Bishop Eden's we believe after school clubs help support our learners to develop different skills and have time to socialise with their peers in a more relaxed way.

We aim to have access to after school clubs for FREE most days of the week for all pupils until 4pm.

On Fridays, pupils from Bishop Eden's have the opportunity to be part of Inverness Cathedral Junior Choir, with Choir Master, Adrian Marple. The choir comprises children from all over Inverness, and was featured on BBC's 'Songs of Praise' in July 2022, which the whole school was invited to and attended.

## **Achievements**

We celebrate achievements in our school through assemblies and our monthly newsletter. We celebrate achievements from home through sharing success and displaying this on our school achievements wall. This underpins our ethos of a positive approach to everything we do at Bishop Eden's Primary. As a result, we feel our pupils celebrate each other's successes, strive to do better themselves and have pride in our school. We may be a small school but we have a big heart!

## **School Day**

### **School Meals**

School lunches are served in the dining room in two sittings - P1-3 and P4-7. At present a school lunch costs £2.40 a day. Payment should be made on a Monday for the week. Free meals are available to families on some benefits and claim forms can be collected from the school office or from the links below. All children in primary 1-5 are entitled to a free school meal although do please still apply for free school meals if you think you may be entitled, as this provides the school with some additional funding.

The current menu can always be viewed on Highland Council website.

[http://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/6432/primary\\_school\\_main\\_menu](http://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/6432/primary_school_main_menu)

Free meals can be claimed in certain circumstances, for information and application form please see

[http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools -  
\\_grants\\_and\\_benefits/10/free\\_school\\_meals\\_and\\_assistance\\_with\\_clothing](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools_-_grants_and_benefits/10/free_school_meals_and_assistance_with_clothing)

## **Packed Lunches**

Packed lunches may be brought to school and eaten in the dining room. advising against glass bottles, tin cans and hot liquids being taken to school. We ask the following about schools lunches:

- **No nuts or nut products which can cause an anaphylactic response in those with allergies within our school.**
- No glass bottles, tin cans and hot liquids being taken to school.
- No fizzy or sugary drinks



- We encourage healthy foods in lunches as much as possible and to limit sugary or processed foods
- Please help us to reduce waste and plastic pollution by using reusable containers.

We promote personal responsibility as part of our schools' values, so we encourage children to be able to open and eat their lunch independently. Containers that children can open easily and foods that are easy to eat are supportive of this.

### **Breakfast/Morning break**

At Bishop Eden's a free breakfast club is supported by Inverness Caledonian Thistle Community Development each morning from 8:30. At break times we do not have a snack trolley, so children should bring a snack from home. We encourage families to pack just one or two small healthy items for this as otherwise children spend their whole break eating their snack!

### **Transport**

Transport to school is available on a shared bus with St. Joseph's, subject to certain conditions. Please contact the Head Teacher for more information. We encourage children to either walk or cycle to school and the school should be notified of any change in travel arrangements for your child. We would ask parents to park at Tesco/at the riverside (15-minute parking) and walk the remainder of the way, if possible, to reduce congestion outside the school during pick up and drop off times and increase the safety of the many children leaving the building.

Bicycles, scooters, skateboards etc., should not be ridden in the playground due to safety concerns.

### **Emergency**

Parents/Carers are required to give emergency telephone contact numbers to the school so that in the event of accident, illness or early school closure, the necessary arrangements can be made. Children should be made aware of these arrangements.

### **School Term Dates**

Please go to the following link to download the current school calendar complete with in service and holiday dates.

Highland Council Website

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/32/school\\_term\\_dates](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/32/school_term_dates)

## **Attendance and Absence**

Good attendance is vital if pupils are to achieve their full potential. If a pupil is absent from school, a parent or guardian should phone the school by 9.30am on the first day of absence. When returning to school after an absence, the parent or guardian must give written reason for the time absent.

**Permission to leave during the school day:** If a pupil needs to leave during the school day for an appointment etc., pupils need to bring with them a note/email from parent or guardian. Pupils must report to the school reception and 'sign out', if returning the same day, they must report again to the reception and sign in. Where at all possible, medical and dental appointments should be made out with school hours.

If pupils fall ill during the day, parents will be contacted for them to collect their child. Therefore, it is essential that we have up to date daytime contact numbers and emergency contact numbers for all pupils.

Schools are required to keep an attendance register by law. We have a responsibility for the care and welfare of all pupils during the school day therefore need to know the whereabouts of absent pupils.

When parents are considering whether or not to remove their children from school for a family holiday, they should be aware that such a decision:

- will result in a significant loss in classroom experience.
- will result in a pressure to 'catch up' on missed work
- could result in pupils missing assessments with consequential impact on their learning.
- could result in the loss of curricular activities
- will affect school attendance records and efforts to raise standards of attendance
- under the guidance issued at a national level, most family holidays will be coded as unauthorised absence, only in exceptional cases will the absence be recorded as authorised.

In conclusion, we would ask parents to be aware of these considerations when making decisions on planning holidays during term time. We have enclosed a link to the school term dates on the Highland Council website to aid parents in planning any holidays they may be considering [www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/32/school\\_term\\_dates](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/32/school_term_dates)

If parents decide to make holiday arrangements during school term, this should be confirmed in writing/email to the Head Teacher.

## Communication

We pride ourselves on a policy of good communication. We will endeavour to be responsive to any request immediately, but on occasion may need time to investigate the request/concern. We have **parents' meetings** twice a year and regular informal times for parents to meet with their child's teacher. We have regular open afternoons, concerts and performances with families invited into school. We use our school Facebook/Twitter page to share information and latest news to keep families updated on important dates etc. We also send out monthly newsletters and updates via email. Paper copies are available on request.

A **newsletter from the Head Teacher** is issued every month to all parents. This letter contains features about the life of the school and includes information about important dates and events. Each class also have a termly class newsletter detailing specific learning plans for the term ahead.

The school **Facebook page** is updated regularly and a new school website is currently under construction. The **School Improvement Plan** detailing the school's self-evaluation and improvement targets can be obtained on request from school office.

We also communicate through **parent workshops** to demonstrate specific aspects of the curriculum.

## Reporting to Parents

A written report is sent home in June. Parents are welcome at any time to make an appointment through the school office to discuss their child's progress with staff or to ask for information, support or advice on how best to support your child's learning. All children also have a Learning Profile which documents their learning journey in school. This is shared with parents during open day events.

## Parental Involvement

Parents are encouraged and very welcome to participate in school life e.g., by coming and sharing their talents/interests etc. Please let us know if you are interested in becoming involved. All parents working regularly with children are required to undertake a PVG check.

We gather parents' opinions through questionnaires, focus groups, comments boxes, 'post its' for comments at various school events. We also have an active Parent Council through which views and opinions can be shared.

At Bishop Eden's Primary School, we pride ourselves in having parents very involved in everything to do with the school. Not only through formal parents' appointments, reports and open afternoons but also through our Parent Council. Our school benefits from a very dedicated and supportive parent community.

Parents are experts of their own children and they themselves were in school once so remember well what worked effectively for them as learners.

Useful information for parents and how to get involved in your child's education, how to support the school, information on curriculum developments can all be found at Parentzone:

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/>

### **Parent Council**

We have a very friendly and active Parent Council who works alongside the school to try and further the experience for our children. The parent council can be contacted by email: [Bishopedenschool.primary@highlandpc.co.uk](mailto:Bishopedenschool.primary@highlandpc.co.uk)

The parent council welcome new members at any time and this can be through attendance at meetings or any other support that other parents/carers can offer.



We also have representation at meetings from the Cathedral which is very important to support our identity as a denominational Episcopal school.

### **Concerns**

If you have any concerns about your child's education and/or their time at school you should contact the school to discuss this with a member of staff. for more serious issues.

Throughout the year there are opportunities to talk to staff during parent meetings and open afternoons. Please feel welcome to speak to the school at any time. We keep a record of meetings with parents and will complete an action plan to address issues if needed.

Children 1st have a national, confidential helpline, Parentline, providing advice and support to anyone caring for or concerned about a child.

[www.children1st.org.uk/help-for-families/parentline-scotland/](http://www.children1st.org.uk/help-for-families/parentline-scotland/)

## **Complaints Procedure**

If a parent has any complaints they should contact their child's class teacher in the first instance, or the Head Teacher for more serious 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 our Care & Learning Manager (South) Fiona Shearer on 01463 702074 or Care & Learning Office The Highland Council Headquarters Glenurquhart Road Inverness IV3-5NX

Please note that transport is not a school responsibility and any queries should be addressed to the Transport Officer Officer, Glenurquhart Road Inverness, IV3 5NX, or [public.transport@highland.gov.uk](mailto:public.transport@highland.gov.uk)

## **Placing Requests**

Bishop Eden's is a placing request school as it does not have a designated catchment area. To attend Bishop Eden's, families must complete a placing request form online. Prospective P1 Families must first register their child at their local catchment school, then complete the placing request online. Applications can be made at any time throughout the year.

Choosing your child's school is a huge decision and will have a huge impact on your child's learning. It is therefore vital that this decision is made with considerable thought and assurance that Bishop Eden's can best support your child to meet their academic and personal potential. Therefore, our school policy is to encourage you to arrange a meeting with the Head Teacher prior to putting in a placing request. This can be done over the phone or in person. It is also advisable to come and visit the school if you can at the same time. Please phone or email the school to make an appointment with Mrs Rennie, the Head Teacher.

Placing Requests can be obtained from:

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/887/enrol\\_your\\_child\\_for\\_school/2](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/887/enrol_your_child_for_school/2)

Parents of children with additional support needs, (including those that have Coordinated Support Plans) can make placing requests to any school in Scotland including schools outside of the local authority area they live in. All appeals about placing requests to special schools will be referred to the Additional Support Needs Tribunal.

## **Pupil Leadership**

We offer many roles and responsibilities in school for our pupils to be a part of and a variety of opportunities for pupil voice.

In Bishop Eden's, every pupil is a member of a committee that is linked to either leadership, school values or areas of the school we are trying to improve. Our current committees are:

- Pupil Council ~ representatives help to make improvements to our school and wider community
- Eco Committee~ helping us to develop our sustainability in the school, become more environmentally friendly and develop plans for our school allotment
- Reading for Pleasure~ this group look at ways we can help our school become develop a love of reading. They are currently working towards the Scottish Book Trust Reading Award.
- House Captains and vice captains ~ contribute to our monthly newsletters, plan whole school house events and support at the Cathedral Playgroup once a month



Being part of a committee and seeing a development through is an important aspect of citizenship and global learning. We think it is important to care for each other and our environment.

## **Curriculum**

At Bishop Eden's we have dedicated Literacy and Numeracy lessons everyday that take up most of the morning. This consistency helps to support attainment as we build on learning each day. This is one of the many reasons it is important that children are absent as little as possible as over the course of a week we cover a great deal.

We have skilled PSA's who support pupils every day. Our small classes mean that our learners get a much higher amount of teacher time and teachers utilise this to ensure pupils meet their full potential. As a result, we have high levels of attainment and support our learners to progress wherever they are in their learning.

We also ensure that all other areas of the curriculum such as Science and Social Studies, incorporate opportunities to further develop learner's literacy and numeracy skills.



At Bishop Eden's Primary, we endeavour to create as many rich contexts for learning as we can for the pupils. We utilise our city centre location and wider school community to make learning fun and meaningful for all our pupils. This makes learning more exciting, more memorable and more likely to be retained.

Our local context has allowed us to work alongside a number of partners to further enhance our learning experiences including STEM events at UHI, visits Inverness library, helping to design information boards as part of The Northern Meeting Park Project and of course our partners at Inverness Cathedral and the wider Episcopal Church.

We develop leadership and work skills by developing the young workforce: skills for learning, life and work. For example, our older pupils support our adjoining playgroup.



Bishop Eden's has our own courtyard allotment where all pupils get opportunities to help grow our own produce. We are also in the process of further developing our 'Secret Garden' where we will be bringing on seedlings, growing sensory plants and just a peaceful place to be.

**We are able to do this as Curriculum for Excellence aims to achieve a transformation in education in Scotland by providing a coherent, more flexible and enriched curriculum from 3 to 18.**

**The curriculum includes the totality of experiences which are planned for children and young people through their education, wherever they are being educated.**

The purpose of the curriculum is laid out in the four capacities - to enable each child or young person to be a **successful learner, a confident individual, a responsible citizen and an effective contributor.**

The curriculum aims to ensure that all children and young people in Scotland develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they will need if they are to flourish in life, learning and work, now and in the future. The attributes and capabilities of the four capacities are outlined below:

successful learners	confident individuals	responsible citizens	effective contributors
<p><b>attributes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>enthusiasm and motivation for learning</li> <li>determination to reach high standards of achievement</li> <li>openness to new thinking and ideas</li> </ul> <p><b>capabilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use literacy, communication and numeracy skills</li> <li>use technology for learning</li> <li>think creatively and independently</li> <li>learn independently and as part of a group</li> <li>make reasoned evaluations</li> <li>link and apply different kinds of learning in new situations.</li> </ul>	<p><b>attributes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>self-respect</li> <li>a sense of physical, mental and emotional well-being</li> <li>secure values and beliefs</li> <li>ambition</li> </ul> <p><b>capabilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>relate to others and manage themselves</li> <li>pursue a healthy and active lifestyle</li> <li>be self-aware</li> <li>develop and communicate their own beliefs and view of the world</li> <li>live as independently as they can</li> <li>assess risk and make informed decisions</li> <li>achieve success in different areas of activity.</li> </ul>	<p><b>attributes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>respect for others</li> <li>commitment to participate responsibly in political, economic, social and cultural life</li> </ul> <p><b>capabilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>develop knowledge and understanding of the world and Scotland's place in it</li> <li>understand different beliefs and cultures</li> <li>make informed choices and decisions</li> <li>evaluate environmental, scientific and technological issues</li> <li>develop informed, ethical views of complex issues.</li> </ul>	<p><b>attributes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an enterprising attitude</li> <li>resilience</li> <li>self-reliance</li> </ul> <p><b>capabilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>communicate in different ways and in different settings</li> <li>work in partnership and in teams</li> <li>take the initiative and lead</li> <li>apply critical thinking in new contexts</li> <li>create and develop</li> <li>solve problems</li> </ul>

The attributes and capabilities can be used by establishments as a guide to check whether the curriculum for any individual child or young person sufficiently reflects the purposes of the curriculum.

To find out more visit: <https://education.gov.scot/curriculum-for-excellence/>

To find out about attainment and achievement please visit <https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/curriculum-in-scotland/assessment-and-achievement/>

## Curriculum Areas

The curriculum areas are the organisers for ensuring that learning takes place across a broad range of contexts, and offer a way of grouping experiences and outcomes under recognisable headings.

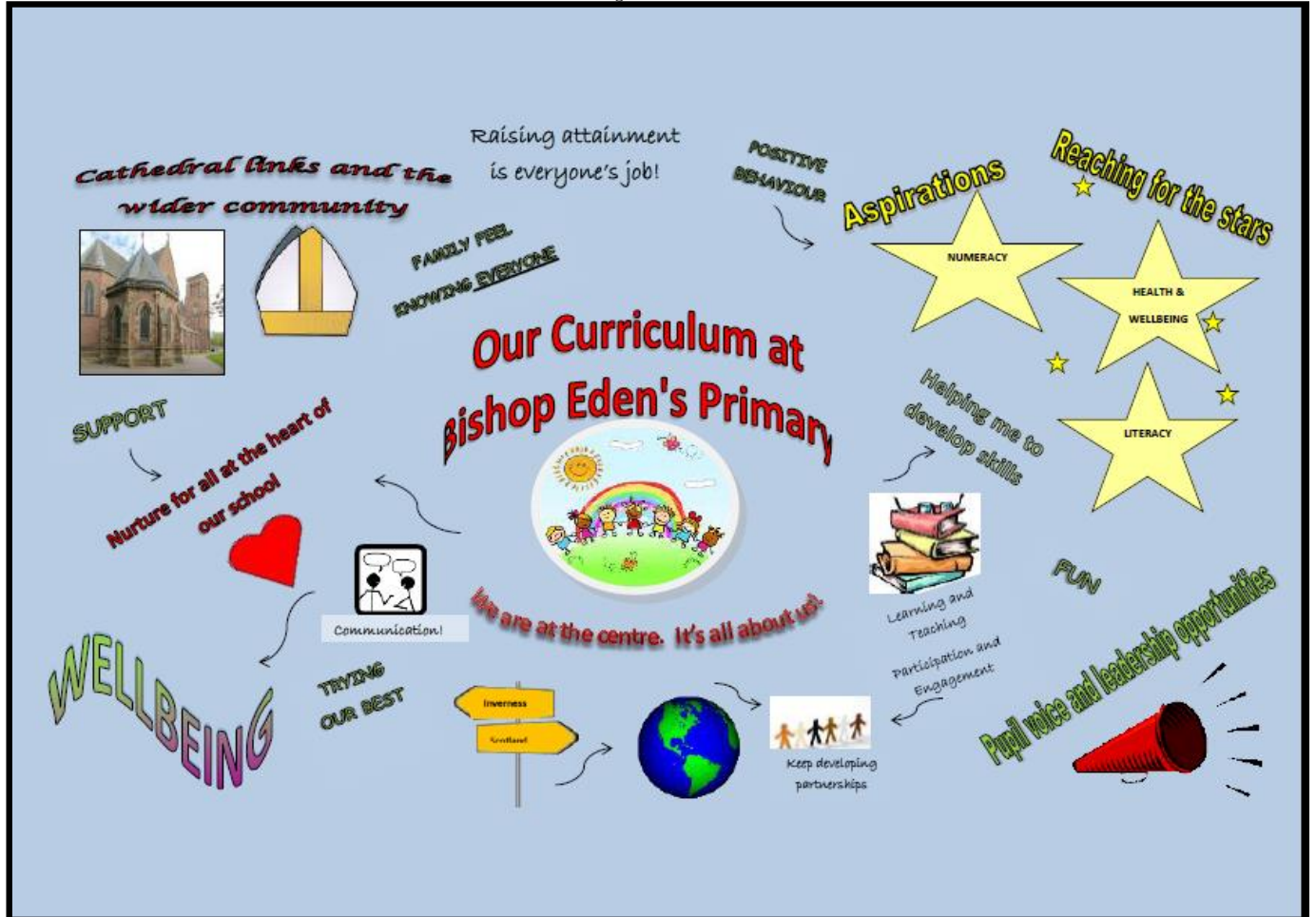
The experiences and outcomes describe the expectations for learning. Taken together, experiences and outcomes across the curriculum areas sum up national aspirations for every young person: the knowledge and understanding, skills, capabilities and attributes we hope they will develop.

The eight curriculum areas make their own unique contribution to developing the four capacities. Each does so both within its own disciplinary contexts and through connections with other areas of learning.

The eight curriculum areas are:

**Health and wellbeing, Literacy, Numeracy and Mathematics, Expressive Arts, Religious and Moral education, Sciences, Social Studies and Technologies**





Bishop Eden's Primary provides children with many opportunities to learn **outside the classroom** as much as possible. We are very lucky to be situated in the middle of the city, means we can easily walk to places to enrich our learning experiences. Some of the links we have made include: Inverness Library, Inverness Museum, My World of Work, Bellfield Park, Christian Youth Centre, Eden Court, Inverness Tennis and Squash Club, Inverness Caledonian Thistle, shops and restaurants within the city centre and local businesses. We are continually making new links for the benefits of our pupils and so we can engage with a wider school community.

### Assessment and Reporting

Assessment is an important part of the teaching and learning process and evaluates a child's progress. Assessments assist and provide information to pupils, families and staff in how to support raising attainment. Assessments are carried out in a variety of ways for different purposes. It can be daily and ongoing observational assessment by teachers or a summative assessment at the end of a block of work. It may provide information on pupil progress, to diagnose an area of difficulty or to communicate to families and pupils their areas of strength or concerns. We involve children in what is to be learned

and how to achieve it. Meaningful feedback to children from teachers helps them to self/peer assess their work and make improvements.

Bishop Eden's Primary School, along with other Highland schools, undertakes some standardised assessments including National Standardised Assessments (NSA) for P1, P4 and P7 (as per education guidelines). This gives the teachers extra information to match against the ongoing data they have.

See the following website for further information

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-in-scotland/assessment-and-achievement>

### **School Improvement**

Both the School Improvement Plan and the Standards and Quality Report can be emailed on request. Our key strengths and areas for improvement are clearly defined in these documents along with our action plans for change. The Pupil Council take these and change them into a child friendly format so that they also know how they can help the school improve. Our most recent inspection report can be found at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-and-review/find-an-inspection-report/find-an-inspection-report/> with more information at.

If you would prefer to receive any of these documents in a different language please contact the school and it can be translated for you.

### **Transition**

#### **Nursery to Primary**

Bishop Eden's does not have a dedicated nursery/early learning centre (ELC). As a result, we enrol children who have attended many nurseries around Inverness. From January, both the Head Teacher and the P1 teacher start to make visits to local ELCs/Nurseries for pupils we know will be starting P1 with us in August. Even before you have registered for P1/put in your placing request in, it is a good idea to get in contact with us so we can start to arrange transition.

In the run-up to starting Primary 1 we have a series of visits for pupils and parents so that they get to know the staff, pupils and the school before starting in August. These transition visits prove to be very beneficial for everyone and it means that the pupils are well prepared for starting school.

## **Within School**

Transition also takes place within the school when pupils move from one teacher to another or from one classroom to another. Again, much work is done with the pupils to prepare them for such a change. As a school, we try to work as a whole school at times throughout the year. This combined with our small numbers of staff and pupils mean that pupils are familiar with all the staff and pupils and are used to working in any part of the building, with other pupils from every class.

## **Primary to Secondary**

Pupils from Bishop Eden's Primary will go on to any secondary school in Inverness depending on their catchment area. We can feed into and support transition into all the secondary schools in Inverness and wider if necessary. Staff from receiving secondary schools visit in early Primary 7 to begin transition. We ensure support for pupils to attend meetings, events and activities for the pupils and support families through this process.

Our closest secondary is Inverness High school, which is also where our allotment is located. Our pupils attend different events throughout the year.

Some pupils will have additional needs which require them to have enhanced transition. This will be arranged in conjunction with families, Bishop Eden's and the receiving secondary school to ensure all needs are supported.

## **Primary to Primary**

There will be times when pupils move to another primary school, such as moving house. When this happens, all confidential records kept at Bishop Eden's for the pupils are posted directly to the receiving school on their request. Any completed class work may be given to the pupils, families and/or new school.

## **Additional Support Needs**

Bishop Eden's Primary is dedicated to meeting the individual needs of all the pupils in our school. All staff are highly skilled in ways of engaging with pupils and bringing out the best in their learning. First learning needs are met in the classroom by the class teacher. This is done through quality relationships, differentiation and matching ability to activity.

All children need support to help them learn. Some children require more help than others. This can be for a short time or a longer time. We follow The Highland Practice Model 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.

Our Pupil Support Assistants work with a variety of small groups and individuals throughout the week to support learning of all our pupils. We have a range of resources for supporting specific learning difficulties and use them when it is most appropriate for each pupil.

If you have a concern about your child please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance or the 'named person', who will usually be the Head Teacher. In a secondary school, the named person will usually be the Principal Teacher Guidance/Pupil Support.

Sometimes a Child's Plan may be put in place to help organise, monitor and regularly review your child's progress. Parents and pupils will be involved in these procedures and in reviews. More information can be found about the Highland Council model for support and child's plans at:

[http://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/230/highland\\_practice\\_model\\_-\\_delivering\\_additional\\_support\\_for\\_learners](http://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/230/highland_practice_model_-_delivering_additional_support_for_learners)

[http://www.highland.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/11/co-ordinated\\_support\\_plan](http://www.highland.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/11/co-ordinated_support_plan)

### **Partner Agencies**

We work very closely with our partner agencies. Our Practice Lead for schools, Moira Calder comes into the school regularly to review supports in place for children. This is a partnership with Social Work and Moira will often attend Support Meetings for children. These meetings are essential in bringing together services for the benefit of the pupils.

We also work closely with Community Paediatricians, School Nurses, Speech and Language Therapists, Educational Psychologists, Dental Nurses, Social Workers and Community Police. They visit the school regularly and work with the children in a variety of ways. Often they act as advisors for support or in relation to referrals and requests.

If required, outside agencies can be contacted to work with individuals or groups. Some of the agencies we have worked with in the last year are:

Action for Children, Children Service Workers, Crocus Group, CAMHS and Pupil Support Services.

More information can be found at: <https://www.thrivingfamilies.org.uk/> click on Education.

Advice for pupils, parents and carers on additional support needs may also be found at the following websites:

(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

### **Administration of Medicines**

National Guidance on the Administration of Medicines in Schools has been issued by the Scottish Government.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/supporting-children-young-people-healthcare-needs-schools/>

This guidance is based on a number of common principles that will be consistently applied when identifying, supporting and reviewing the healthcare needs of children and young people in Highland schools to enable them to make the most of their learning.

Under Article 24 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, all children have a right to the highest attainable standard of health and to health care services that help them attain this. Article 7 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities states that children with disabilities have the right to express their views freely on all matters affecting them. The arrangements for each individual will therefore take account of the health professionals' advice, the pupil's views and, where appropriate, their parent's views.

NHS Highland, Highland Council and school staff will work collaboratively to ensure that pupils receive the service they need in the way most appropriate to their personal circumstances.

We will work with pupils and families to support the healthcare in our school, making reasonable adjustments that children and young people with healthcare needs might need and require.

Where appropriate, we will make arrangements for staff providing healthcare to pupils to receive appropriate training from a health professional, or other accredited source in the care they are providing.

Assistance with intimate care may be needed by children in any school and this will be provided if required to support these needs quickly and with respect for children's privacy, dignity and rights.

If your child requires medication, please note that this will only be administered by staff when there is clear written guidance from a parent/carer, providing:

- The name of the medicine, the quantity of the medicine to be given, the time it has to be given.
- As far as possible prescriptive medication should be given at home by parents/carers. If it is required to be given in school, the medication should be unopened, clearly marked with the directions from the pharmacist and administered as part of an agreed medical protocol.

### **Minor injuries**

School will only deal with minor cuts and bruises; these will be cleaned, and a plaster applied. If your child is injured, falls, or becomes unwell during the school day you or the emergency contact you have provided, you will always be contacted and you may be advised to collect your child from school.

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

Staff will support the emotional development and wellbeing of pupils through formal and informal curricular activities. Any concerns about a pupil's wellbeing can be discussed with the named person. School have access to Highland Council's Primary Mental Health Worker Service and consultation and advice may be sought if there are concerns that might require more targeted support. Parents would generally be involved in discussions beforehand, however a young person over the age of 12 can ask for support themselves.

## **Adverse Weather**

In adverse weather, we aim to let parents know of school closure as soon as possible. We will communicate to parents via text message, email and our school Facebook page. The Highland Council School Closure page will also be updated <https://www.highland.gov.uk/schoolclosures>

## **Data policy**

Information about pupils' education is collected through our statistical surveys in partnership between the Scottish Government and Local Authorities through the ScotXed Programme which aims to help schools and Local Authorities by supporting efficient collection, processing and dissemination of statistical information. The Scottish Government then provides analysis of the data to support research, planning, management and monitoring of education services as well as to produce 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 made publicly available by Scottish Government.

**The individual data collected by Scottish Government through the Pupil Census is used for statistical and research purposes only.**

Information on why we collect data about pupils and who we share this data with can be found in Highland Council's Privacy Notice which is available here:

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory\\_record/1095920/enrol\\_your\\_child\\_at\\_a\\_school](https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory_record/1095920/enrol_your_child_at_a_school)

## **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 Skills Development Scotland need accurate, up-to-date data about our pupils. We are keen to help all our pupils do well in all aspects of school life and achieve better examination results. Accurate and up-to-date data allows us to:

- plan and deliver better policies for the benefit of all pupils
- plan and deliver better policies for the benefit of specific groups of pupils
- better understand some of the factors which influence pupil attainment and achievement
- share good practice
- target resources better
- enhance the quality of research to improve the lives of young people in Scotland

### **Your data protection rights**

The collection, transfer, processing and sharing of ScotXed data is done in accordance with data protection legislation. We also comply with the National Statistics Code of Practice requirements and other legislation related to safeguarding the confidentiality of data. Data protection legislation gives you the right to know how we will use your data. This note can give only a brief description of how we use data. Fuller details of each individual ScotXed survey, including the purpose of each and the published data, can be found on the ScotXed website

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

Scottish Government works with a range of partners including Education Scotland, Skills Development Scotland and the SQA. On occasion, in order to help meet our aim of improving the life of young people in Scotland, we may make individual data available to partners such as the National Registers of Scotland to carry out research relating to the national population census and also academic institutions and organisations to carry out additional research and statistical analysis to meet their own official responsibilities. Any sharing of data will be done under the strict control of Scottish Government, and will be consistent with our data policy. This 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. At all times pupils' rights under the Data Protection Act and other relevant legislation will be ensured.

### **Concerns**

If you have any concerns about the ScotXed data collections you can email the Head of Schools Analysis at [ScotXed@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ScotXed@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) or write to The ScotXed Support Office, Area 2D, Victoria Quay, Leith, EH6 6QQ. Alternative versions of this page are available, on request from the ScotXed Support Office, in other languages, audio tape, Braille and large print.



## **Equality and Inclusion**

For up-to-date information please see:

[http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/751/equality\\_diversity\\_and\\_citizenship/313/equal\\_opportunities](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/751/equality_diversity_and_citizenship/313/equal_opportunities)

In summary, our activities in school should ensure that we:

Eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, promote good relations. Activities should not discriminate against any of the following 'protected characteristics' age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity.

## **Protection of Children**

From time to time, incidents can occur within the school setting which cause concern and could indicate that a pupil is suffering some form of abuse.

In terms of Highland Child Protection Committee Inter-agency Protection Guidelines, 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 the welfare of children their paramount consideration and this will be the priority for Education Service staff.

COPIES OF CHILD PROTECTION POLICY GUIDELINES are available from [http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/1361/childcare\\_and\\_family\\_care/438/child\\_protection](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/1361/childcare_and_family_care/438/child_protection)

## **Military Families**

Our school welcomes and supports families, their children and young people from Forces families: serving, veteran and reservists.

We understand some of the challenges that mobility of service life can bring and we look forward to working with you to ensure a smooth transition for your child/young person coming into or moving on from our school. Please get in touch with us as soon as you can so we can work with you to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible.

Highland Council have proudly committed to the Armed Forces Covenant and as such support our veteran and reservist families as well as those currently serving. There is a dedicated Highland Council Military Liaison Group (MLG) which has been formed to promote and ensure equality and equity for your children and young people in their education.

Visit the Highland Council Armed Forces Website for lots of helpful information and support

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/886/schools -  
additional support needs/833/armed forces -  
support for families and schools](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/886/schools_-_additional_support_needs/833/armed_forces_-_support_for_families_and_schools)

Children and Young People from Armed Forces families in Highland have co-produced a 'Welcome' specifically for your Children and Young People moving into Highland. Click the link below to view

[https://read.bookcreator.com/ouqQMVgtjQfja9nlpgNpUB07b0q2/tQ8N\\_8ViQB  
SW3OqCcXKFpQ/VUCsjBKZQpaMz8tt3Rr16g](https://read.bookcreator.com/ouqQMVgtjQfja9nlpgNpUB07b0q2/tQ8N_8ViQB SW3OqCcXKFpQ/VUCsjBKZQpaMz8tt3Rr16g)

Please get in touch with your child's named person or the Head Teacher if you have any concerns.

***Whilst the information in this handbook is considered to be true and correct at the date of publication (December 2024), changes in circumstances after the time of publication may impact on the accuracy of the information.***