





Bun-sgoil Dhùn Bheagain Dun Bheagan An t-Eilean Sgitheanach Dunvegan Primary School Dunvegan Isle-of-Skye IV55 8GU Tel: 01470 521 307

2025 – 2026 Handbook

School website: <u>www.dunveganprimaryschool.com</u> School e-mail: <u>dunvegan.primary@highland.gov.uk</u>

# Foreword / Ro-ràdh

Dear Parent / A Phàrant Chòir,

On behalf of Dunvegan Primary School and Sgoil Araich (nursery) staff, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you and your child. Dunvegan Primary School and Sgoil Araich is a nondenominational establishment which aims to provide a nurturing and safe environment in which your child can develop and learn. We pride ourselves on providing excellent opportunities for all our children.

This handbook has been compiled to answer some of the queries that you may have about the school and nursery. It contains important statements of school policy as well as practical information. Please consider the booklet, therefore, as a source of reference.

This document is not intended to replace personal contact between school and home. We are very much aware of the importance of the parental role in the child's education. We will endeavour to promote an excellent working partnership between school and home and seek your views on matters that concern your child. To this end, please feel free to contact us on 01470 531 207 with any questions, suggestions or concerns that you may have.

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

Please email, pick up the phone or come see me should you have any questions, suggestions or concerns relating to your child's learning and/or wellbeing. I look forward to working closely with you to ensure that your child learns in an environment where they can truly thrive.

Kind regards



Sam Muir Head Teacher / Ceannar Staff / Luchd-obrach

Head teacher (Cluster with Carbost Primary)	Miss Samantha Muir	Additional Support Needs Teacher	Mrs Jennifer Tyronney
Class Teacher EM1-4	Ms Laura Kater / Mrs Josie Allan	Early Years Practitioners	Mrs Catherine Matheson Mrs Jeanette Slater
Class Teacher EM5-7 & Forest Schools	Mrs Marion MacGregor	Pupil Support Assistants	Ms Mayanne MacGregor Mrs Marie Morrison Mrs Marina Munro Mrs Maria Pelletta Mr Chris Cairns Ms Sarah-Jane Stewart
Class Teacher / Principal Teacher GM1-4	Ms Josie MacLeod	Clerical	Mrs Leona Coull
Class Teacher (Probationer)	Miss Ruth Gordon	Cook Kitchen assistant	Mrs Fleur Macaskill Mr Dan Slater
Non Class Contact Time Teachers	Mrs Alice McVicar Mr Bertie Urquhart	Cleaning Facilities	Ms Alison Blair Mrs Larissa Crainet Mr Martin Fozzard

# School Hours / Uairean na Sgoile

School / Sgoil Monday – Friday 9.15am – 3.15pm

Nursery / Sgoil Araich Monday – Friday 9am – 3pm

School term dates for pupils 2025 - 2026

Visit - https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/32/school\_term\_dates

# Facilities and Accommodation / Goireasan agus Togalach

Our school premises consist of:

- the main building which is single storey and has a ramp at one main door, three classrooms, a gym, a resource room, girls' and boys' toilets, an office, a staffroom and staff toilets;
- a demountable unit which has one classroom, a cloakroom, a resource room, a work room, toilets (staff & pupil), and Art cupboard & a large storage cupboard off the classroom;
- a demountable unit which has two large rooms, one is our nursery and the other is our library;
- the canteen where meals are cooked and served;
- the playground which is tarmac immediately round the school leading into large grassed areas.

# School Roll and Organisation of Primary Classes/ Luchd-obrach, Aireamhan is Clasaichean

Dunvegan Primary is a four-class school with visiting teachers - Support for Learning. The present roll is 50 27 English 23 Gaelic

27 <u>English</u>	<u>23 Gaelic</u>	
12 (P1-4)	15 (P1-4)	
15 (P5-7)	8 (P5-6)	

# Attendance/Absence / A' frithealadh na sgoile/Ma bhios tu far na Sgoile

Good attendance is vital if pupils are to achieve their full potential. But if a pupil is absent from school, a parent or guardian should phone the school on the first day of absence, on 01470 521307 before 9.30am.

Permission to leave during the school day: If a pupil needs to leave during the school day for an appointment etc, please either call the school office, send an email or send a signed note from home. Pupils must report to the school office before leaving, if returning the same day, they must report again to the office. Where at all possible, medical and dental appointments should be made out-with school hours.

If pupils fall ill during the day, parents are 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 by pupils;
- could result in pupils missing assessments with consequential impact on pupils and teachers;
- 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.

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

## Pre-School Education / Foghlam fo Aois Sgoile

There is an on-site nursery which operates 5 full days a week as a Gaelic Nursery. Please ask for a separate Nursery brochure.

## Enrolment / Clàra



Children who have reached their fifth birthday by the following February are eligible to start school in August. Parents are invited to enrol their children for Primary 1 during enrolment week which is usually in January and should bring their child's birth certificate to this meeting.

Early in the summer term we have a meeting with parents to familiarise them with the P1 timetable and some of the resources which will be used. We give an outline of the general curriculum along with targets and activities learners will be

involved in. Dates are set at this meeting for nursery induction visits to the school. P1 staff visit the nursery in the summer term. Primary 1 learners attend school full time from the first day of the Session.

For parents moving into the area there is a list of schools and related information on <u>www.highland.gov.uk</u> click on 'A-Z of Council Services' then click on 'School List'.

## **Placing Requests/Parental Choice**

Each school serves its own particular catchment area. Pupils whose homes are located in that area will have priority in being allocated a place in the school. However, parents have the right to specify the school in which they wish to place their child. Application must be made to the Area Manager:

Ms Mhairi MacDonald Care and Learning Office Fingal Centre, Portree, Isle of Skye, IV51 9EE <u>Mhairi.MacDonald3@highland.gov.uk</u> 07918 842021

## Placing request forms can be obtained from

https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/887/enrol\_your\_child\_for\_school/2 to and from school for placing request pupils is a parental responsibility.

## Transfer to Secondary / A' dol dhan Àrdsgoil

Learners transfer to Portree High School after completing their P7 year.

In the spring term prior to transfer, profiles are completed by the school and sent on to the High School.

During the spring/summer term members of staff from Portree High School visit the school and meet with P7 learners. The P7s have a three-day induction at the High School during June and parents are invited to attend an open evening at the High School at this time. All relevant work and records are transferred to the High School at the end of the summer term.

Any queries related to the High School can be made to:

Mr Tony Breen, Head Teacher, Portree High School, Portree, Isle of Skye, IV51 9ET More information can be found at: www.portreehigh.highland.sch.uk/

## Parents & Carers as Partners / Pàrantan

We believe that much of the strength of the school lies in the positive relationships between staff, pupils and their parents. These relationships must be nurtured by a healthy exchange of information between teachers and pupils, between home and school. We always welcome parental interest in the welfare of our pupils. Whatever the nature of the issue, you can be assured of our help.

We communicate with parents in a number of ways through our Website, Seesaw, newsletters, email, classroom visits/Open days, text, phone calls and letters home.

Dunvegan Primary has an 'open door' policy and parents/carers are encouraged to come in to discuss any matters regarding their child. We will endeavour to be responsive to any approaches within 24 hours but certainly within 5 days of issues being raised. If a parent wishes to see a member of staff, they should contact the school office to arrange a mutually convenient time. Parents/adults are not to enter the playground areas at any time, even when the gates are open, without firstly reporting to the school office.

School policies are available on the <u>school website</u>. We ask for parents' views through issuing parent questionnaires, asking for comments on Seesaw and through discussing any issues with the Parent Council.

Class Teachers will issue parents with a termly letter that indicates the main learning and teaching activities that your child will encounter during that term. Parents will have access to their child's targets and learning journeys through Seesaw. This can be accessed via an App and provide parents with up-to-date insight on how their child is learning and progressing.

Parents are welcome to participate in school life e.g. at breakfast club, helping in our garden/ polygrub, helping on class outings, contributing towards concert preparations, helping in the school library, sharing skills and interests etc. We often rely on parental help with the transportation of pupils to events around Skye. Please let us know if you are interested in becoming involved. All parents working regularly with children are required to undertake checks by Disclosure Scotland.

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: <u>http://www.parentzone.gov.uk/</u>

## Adverse weather

Should the school be closed e.g. due to severe weather, heating failure etc. parents will be notified via Seesaw messaging and email before 8am. Parents can also access information on school closures via the website at the following web address: http://www.highland.gov.uk/schoolclosures

An announcement may also be made on the local radio station, Radio Skye.

Should there be an unexpected early closure, we will verify that there is someone at home or at emergency contact address before sending any child home.

## Parent Council / Comhairle na Parant

Our Parent Council is very active and supports the school on many matters. It provides an important link between parents and the school. The Council has one staff member and several parent members.

## Parent members

Anna Campbell (Chairperson) Jeanette Slater (Treasurer) Rachel O'Connor (Secretary) Katyana Ranicar Corrie Robertson

# Staff member

Marion MacGregor

The Head Teacher is a non-voting member of the Council. Meetings are held at least once each term. The minutes of the Council meetings are updated to our website. Our AGM is held between September and November when members are elected. Our Parent Council can be contacted at <a href="mailto:Dunvegan.primary@highlandpc.gov.uk">Dunvegan.primary@highlandpc.gov.uk</a>

# Homework / Obair Dachaigh

We welcome and encourage parental involvement with reading, spelling and number work.



Our Homework Policy considers the views of pupils, staff and parents. A varied range of engaging homework tasks are provided each week by the class teachers, which includes literacy, mathematics and topical related research tasks. Although homework is not mandatory, we would encourage pupils to complete assigned tasks. They are designed to further learning in class and develop essential skills. We provide parent classes and a range of resources to support parents of Gaelic Medium pupils in helping their child with homework.

## Complaints & Concerns / Gearain agus Trioblaidean

If a parent has any concerns, please contact the head teacher in the first instance. All complaints and concerns will be dealt with immediately where possible, or as soon after as possible. The school will always endeavour to resolve issues by listening to parents and seeking solutions in partnership.

# Parent Complaint Procedure/ Doigh Gearain Parantan

If a parent has any concerns they should contact their child's Named Person in the first instance, Miss Muir the Head Teacher. 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, the Area Education and Learning Manager

Ms Mhairi MacDonald Care and Learning Office Fingal Centre, Portree, Isle of Skye, IV51 9EE Mhairi.macdonald3@highland.gov.uk 07918 842021

# Please note that transport is not a school responsibility and any queries should be addressed to the Local Transport Officer at:

Transport Development Officer Highland Council Glenurquhart Road Inverness IV3 5NX

Public.transport@highland.gov.uk

# Reporting / Aithisgean Parents' Meetings/ Coinneamhan Pharantan

Parents will be invited to a Pupil-led Conference with their child and their teacher twice in the academic year, usually November and June. Pupils will share and discuss their learning journey and progress with their parents/carers. In May, teachers complete a written report on each learner, which indicates progress and performance in Literacy & Numeracy, progress and achievements in Health & Wellbeing and a general comment

for the other curricular areas of Curriculum for Excellence. A copy of the report will be held centrally in the Pupil's Progress Record (PPR) which is kept in a locked file in the office. The PPR moves with the child on transfer to another school.

Each learner develops their digital Seesaw learning profile on through the year which provides an ongoing chronology of work covered in different areas of the curriculum, as well as achievements and learning targets and aspirations. Parents are invited to engage with the learning profile via the Seesaw for Parents App. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact the school as soon as possible.

## Assessment / Measadh:

As a school we seek to provide information for learners, parents and staff to assist in the effectiveness of the learning and teaching process and in raising attainment.

Teachers use assessment every day as an evaluative, diagnostic and formative tool to inform learning and teaching approaches and to provide evidence of learners' attainment and progress and targets for learners. Assessment is viewed as central to the teaching and learning process.



We encourage learners to view assessment as a key part of their learning experience which takes place within the overall context of a supportive school. They make use of feedback, in all its forms, to inform next steps for the improvement in their own learning.

We assess learners' progress continuously through observation; discussion; sampling work; check-ups; evaluating targets with

learners and regular setting of short tests. This informs us of the next steps in learning and gives learners and parents an idea of the progress being made.

Our forward planning focuses on Experiences and Outcomes from the Curriculum for Excellence. Through inter disciplinary planning, learning intentions and success criteria are linked to the experiences and outcomes and these are assessed to determine a learner's progress. Diagnostic tests/assessments are used to determine a learner's strengths and development needs. This enables learning programmes to be adjusted. SNSA (Scottish National Standardised Assessments) are also carried out with children in P1, P4 and P7 in both Gaelic and English medium classes.

All involved should understand and take appropriate account of the three main types of assessment:

Assessment for Learning is essentially formative. It is the process of seeking and interpreting evidence so that learners, parents/carers and teachers can decide, through high quality dialogue, where the learners are in their learning, where they need to go next and how best to get there.

Assessment as Learning is essentially evaluative. It is about using assessment to learn how to learn and thus encourage the development of autonomous learners. In effective assessment as learning, learners through self and peer assessment identify and reflect about their own evidence of learning. Personal learning planning provides a supportive framework for these processes.

Assessment of Learning is essentially summative. It is about measuring, analysing and reporting performance. Effective assessment of learning provides information about individual skills and knowledge leading to awards which are passports to opportunities in life, work and education.

Further information on tracking and assessing pupils' progress and planning future learning can be found at: <u>https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-in-scotland/assessment-and-achievement</u>

## Administration of medicine

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-needsschools/

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 parents/carers 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 unopen, clearly marked with the directions from the pharmacist and administered as part of an agreed medical protocol.

Highland Council policies are available at Search policies and guidance | School policies, procedures and guidelines | The Highland Council

## **Positive Relationships Policy**

It is the aim of Dunvegan Primary School that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The school's Positive Relationships Policy is therefore designed to promote an environment in which everyone feels happy, safe and secure.

The policy is designed to empower pupils to make choices and have autonomy for their behaviour. The school recognises and promotes good choices, as it believes that this will develop an ethos of respect and responsibility. It is a means of promoting good and positive relationships, so that our pupils can thrive in a rich learning environment.

Based on the Zones of Regulation: a framework to foster self-regulation and control, our pupils are empowered with the knowledge, skills and tools to recognise emotion and regulate behaviours appropriate to the context. Where a pupil with additional support needs struggles to regulate their own behaviours, a Child's Plan will be drawn up in consultation with parents and a Supported Regulation Plan will be developed to guide and support the pupil during periods of dysregulation.

## Anti -Bullying

Bullying is unacceptable in all schools and when it arises we have procedures for dealing with it. We try and be proactive and discuss effects of bullying with the children through class discussions and at school assemblies. Parents should make their children aware of cyber-bullying which is becoming more prevalent through social networking sites/texting etc. which many children access from home.

The task of staff is to identify bullying and to take action to remedy the situation. Discussions with pupils of the desirability of considerate behaviour, is a normal part of a teacher's work.

At Dunvegan we:

- Provide the pupils with information on what bullying is and what to do about it.
- Encourage pupils to report genuine complaints of bullying.
- Take prompt action if it occurs.
- Investigate and keep records of bullying incidents.
- Work with perpetrator's parents to try and prevent future bullying from occurring if it arises.
- Support the child who has been bullied.
- •Have our Anti-Bullying Policy available for parents requesting it.

Dunvegan Primary Positive Relationships Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy can be accessed on our school website.

## **School Improvement**

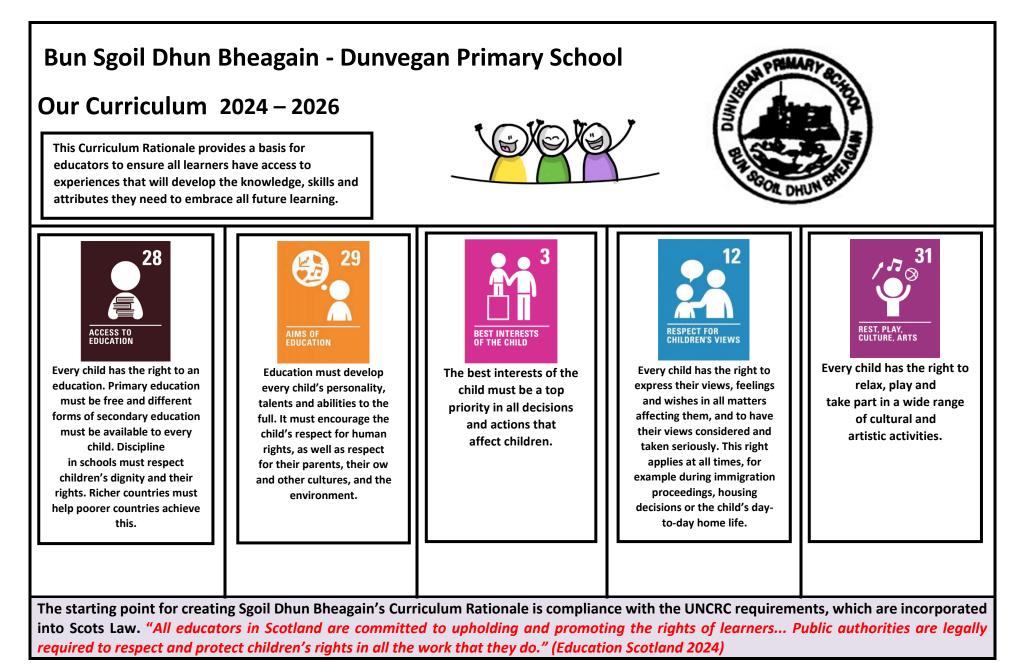
Dunvegan Primary's Standards and Quality Report is available on the school website. From the June 2023/24 document our key strengths are:

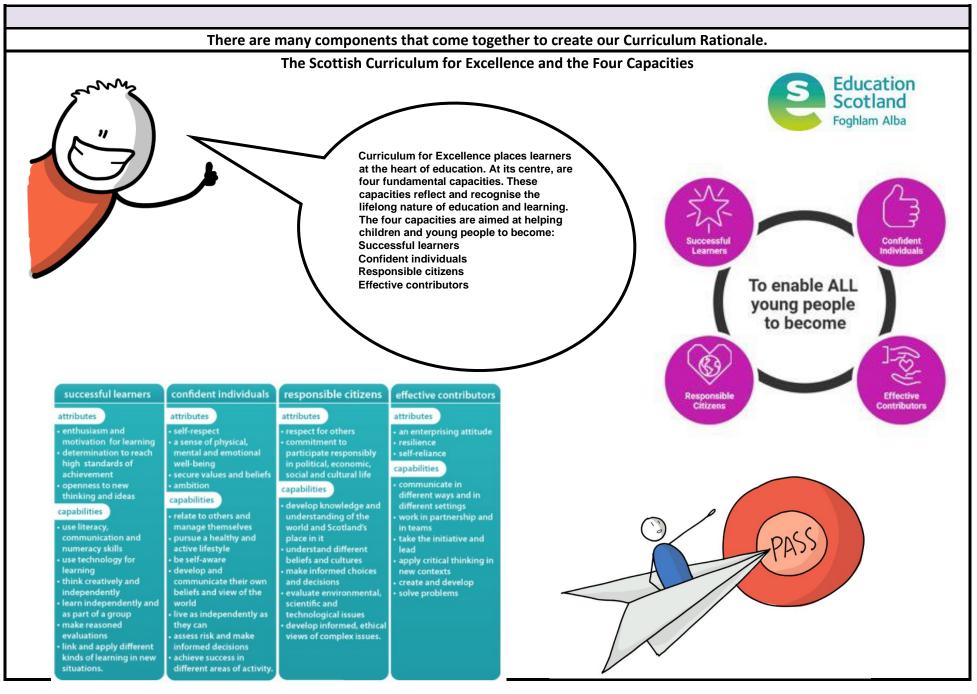
- Our Curriculum was focused on developing fundamental knowledge and skills. Our teaching staff were clear on the priorities and were able to establish shared understandings of the school's overall vision for our learners this year.
- Planning is consistent, manageable, and informed by Highland Council's progression frameworks. Class teachers have reported increased pace and a sharper focus on specific learning objectives. Class teachers are planning for assessment which is providing richer assessment evidence. Teacher judgements have improved.
- > Lesson observations show a marked improvement across the school in delivering better quality teaching.
- School staff have benefitted from peer assessment and collaborative working with colleagues from other small schools sharing practice has increased expectations.
- All pupils in GME have made accelerated progress the majority are on track and almost all are on track to be at the expected level by the end of session 24/25.
- Expectations have increased and teacher judgements improved as a result of the moderation exercises increased use of benchmarks and moderated examples to determine the level of writing and to inform planning of writing.

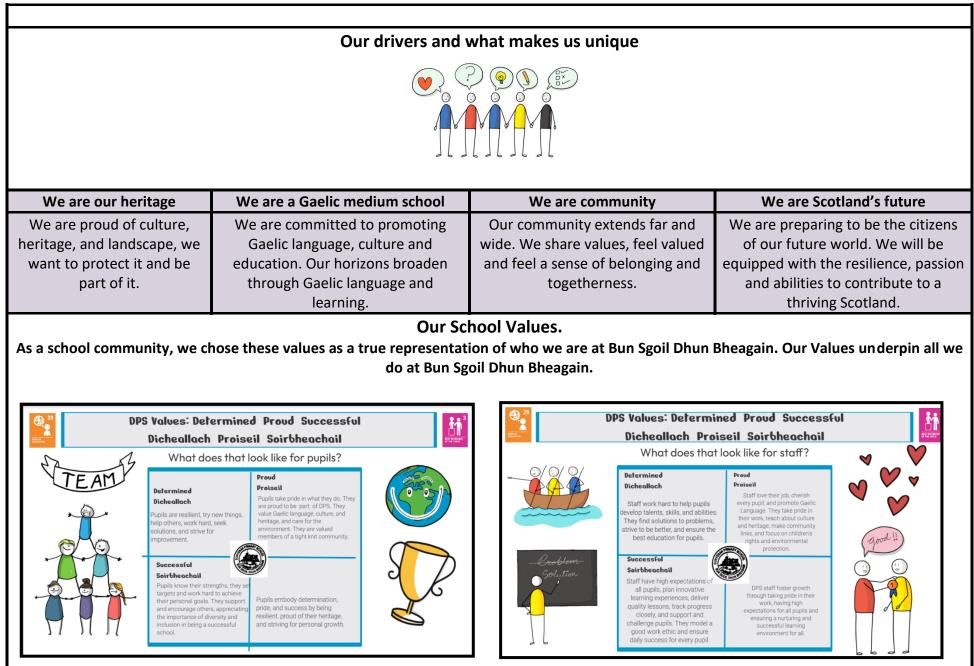
View the full Standards and Quality Report for session 2023/24 on our school website

# Our priorities for improvement in session 2024/25: View the full School Improvement Plan for 2024/25 on our <u>school</u> <u>website</u>.

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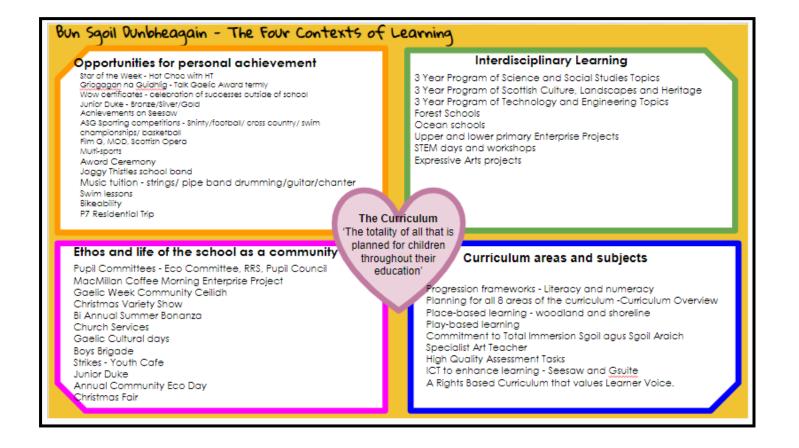




#### The Four Contexts for Learning of A Curriculum for Excellence

Curriculum is defined as the totality of all that is planned for children and young people from early learning and childcare, through school and beyond. That totality can be planned for and experienced by learners across:

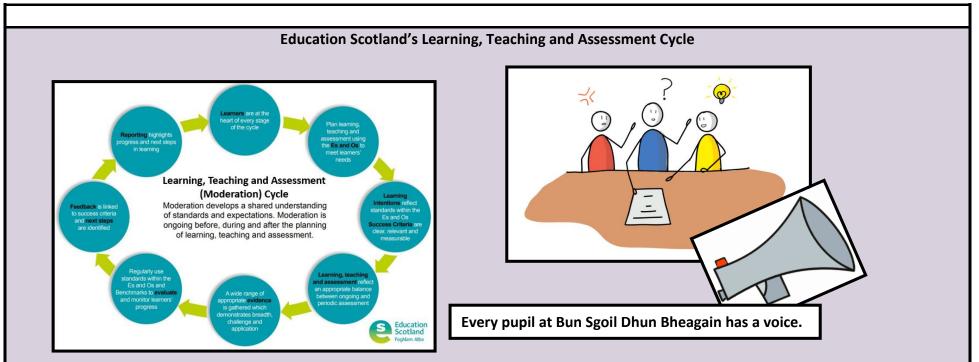
Curriculum areas and subjects - Interdisciplinary learning - Ethos and life of the school - Opportunities for personal achievement



	7 PRINCIPLES for curriculum design
	This is how we embed the 7 Principles of Curriculum Design
1.	Challenge and Enjoyment
$\checkmark$	Lessons are planned to provide suitable challenge and motivation. Staff have high expectations and are aware of individual abilities. Staff provide clear Learning Intentions, Success Criteria and specific feedback.
✓ -	Planned activities and lessons are creative and motivating where learners are fully and actively engaged.
2. ✓ ✓	Breadth Learners are involved in a variety of experiences in a range of environments and contexts, both in the classroom and within the local environment. Staff use Highland Council's Curriculum Frameworks to ensure breadth across all areas of the curriculum.
3.	Progression
✓ ✓ ✓	Staff use planning to show clear progress of skills through experiences and outcomes. Curriculum progression frameworks and end of level benchmarks are used as a reference to ensure progression. Assessment information is used effectively to inform planning and target gaps in learning.
4.	
√	Pupils are able to share what they already know and what they want to find out.
✓	Pupils know what they need to do to achieve next steps.
✓ ✓	Pupils learn through well planned play-based and place-based learning experiences. Higher order questioning is used to encourage depth of learning.
, 5.	
⊃. √	Personalisation & Choice Planned lessons and activities respond to individual needs and support particular aptitudes and talents.
<b>↓</b>	Pupils are aware of learning intentions and what they need to do to be successful.
$\checkmark$	Children set own targets and are involved in agreeing success criteria.
$\checkmark$	Pupils engage in learning conversations about what they wish to learn at the start of each topic and decide on the 'Big Questions' they would like to
√	answer. Pupils are involved in deciding how they are going to evidence their learning in High Quality Assessment Tasks e.g. information poster, power point or presentation.
6.	Coherence
$\checkmark$	Staff plan for assessment
√	CfE Experiences and Outcomes are bundled when planning for coherence across the curriculum subjects.
√ _	Where appropriate, links are made and learning is contextualised.
7.	
✓ ✓	Where possible, learning is linked to real life events
✓ ✓	Pupils are aware of why they are learning a specific skill – they are aware of how it will help them. Where children require individualised programmes, these are made relevant to their interests and specific needs.
<b>↓</b>	Children see the value of what they are learning and its relevance to their lives, present and future.

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At Bun Sgoil Dhun Bheagain, we place the learner at the heart of every stage of learning, teaching and assessment. Our pupils learn best when they know what they are going to learn, recognise when they have succeeded, and know why they should learn it in the first place. Beyond their own individual learning journey, every pupil is part of a Pupil Committee Group; either Gaelic or English Pupil Council / Rights Respecting Schools or Gaelic or English Eco Committee. They make decisions about the life of our school and our local environment.

20 Curriculum Areas					
Curriculum Area What? How? Assessment – What? When?					
Literacy Listening & Talking	<ul> <li>Supporting literacy, Language and Communication: taking a developmental approach to Emerging Literacy</li> <li>Learners are encouraged to contribute to whole class, group discussions, and engage in debate.</li> <li>Planned opportunities to prepare and deliver solo talks on subjects of learners choosing.</li> <li>Opportunities to speak at assembly for a range of purposes.</li> <li>Sharing thoughts and ideas in Pupil Committee groups.</li> <li>Learning Conversations</li> <li>Circle Time</li> <li>Expressing views as part of focus/working groups</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Continual formative assessment using HC Tracking Tools and End of Level Benchmarks.</li> <li>Self/peer/teacher evaluation against specific success criteria.</li> </ul>			
Literacy Reading	<ul> <li>Highland Council Literacy Progression Framework and Roadmap.</li> <li>Progression of phonics and spelling through Wrap Around Phonics/Spelling</li> <li>Supporting Literacy, Language and Communication: taking a developmental approach to Emerging Literacy</li> <li>Key resources Oxford Reading Tree, Read Write Inc and Big Cat</li> <li>Reciprocal Reading Circles</li> <li>Blooms Taxonomy higher order questioning</li> <li>Pupils at all levels have access to a range of novels and genre, with access to class and school libraries</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Planning for assessment using Highland Tracking Tools and End of Level Benchmarks</li> <li>Phonological Awareness Screening P1</li> <li>Continual formative phonics and spelling assessment.</li> <li>Termly common and high frequency words testing.</li> <li>To identify barriers/levels – as required:</li> <li>Blackwell spelling test.</li> <li>Component parts of Reading assessments.</li> <li>PM Benchmarking</li> <li>SOFA assessments P2-7 in August</li> <li>SOFA assessments P2/3/5/6 again in May</li> <li>SNSA P1/4/7 May</li> </ul>			

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Literacy Writing	<ul> <li>Supporting literacy, Language and Communication: taking a developmental approach to Emerging Literacy</li> <li>Highland Council Literacy Framework</li> <li>Daily focus on Tools for Writing</li> <li>Whole School Writing Guidelines</li> <li>Wrap Around phonics/spelling</li> <li>Stephen Graham Principles of Writing</li> <li>Nelson Handwriting</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Planning for assessment using Highland Tracking Tools and End of Level Benchmarks</li> <li>School calendar of specific genre High Quality Assessment</li> <li>Highland Writing Rubrics – end of level</li> <li>To identify barriers – as required:</li> <li>Component parts of Writing</li> <li>SOFA assessments P2-7 in August</li> <li>SOFA assessments P2/3/5/6 again in May</li> <li>SNSA P1/4/7 May</li> </ul>
Gàidhlig Èisteach & Làbhairt	<ul> <li>Strong focus on language acquisition as outlined in Advice on Gaelic Medium Education</li> <li>Total Immersion until pupils are fluent Gaelic speakers</li> <li>Daily songs, rhymes, routines, repetition and commentary.</li> <li>Supporting literacy, Language and Communication: taking a developmental approach to Emerging Literacy</li> <li>Fream Canain language acquisition progression framework early – second level.</li> <li>Speak out Playscripts</li> <li>Go Gaelic</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Continual formative assessment using HC Tracking Tools and End of Level Benchmarks.</li> <li>Self/peer/teacher evaluation against specific success criteria.</li> <li>Fream Canain Trackers</li> </ul>
Gàidhlig Leughadh	<ul> <li>Supporting literacy, Language and Communication: taking a developmental approach to Emerging Literacy</li> <li>Storyworlds</li> <li>Discovery World</li> <li>Novels (upper)</li> <li>Facal agus Fuaim</li> <li>Gràmar na Gàidhlig</li> <li>Fuaimean Feumail</li> <li>Giglets</li> <li>Speak out – playscripts (upper)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Planning for assessment using Highland Tracking Tools and End of Level Benchmarks</li> <li>Phonological Awareness Screening P1</li> <li>Continual formative phonics and spelling assessment.</li> <li>Termly common and high frequency words testing.</li> <li>Component parts of Reading assessments.</li> <li>MCNGs P1/4/7 May</li> </ul>

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Gàidhlig Sgrìobhadh	<ul> <li>Supporting literacy, Language and Communication: taking a developmental approach to Emerging Literacy</li> <li>Whole School Writing Guidelines</li> <li>Nelson handwriting</li> <li>Foundations of Writing Program</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Planning for assessment using Highland Tracking Tools and End of Level Benchmarks</li> <li>School calendar of specific genre High Quality Assessment</li> <li>Highland Writing Rubrics – end of level</li> <li>To identify barriers – as required: Component parts of Writing</li> <li>MCNGs P1/4/7 May</li> </ul>
Languages 1 + 2 Gaelic Learner Education (GLE)	<ul> <li>Sgoil Dhun Bheagain delivers a 1 + 2 approach to language learning:</li> <li>Gaelic learners (English Medium pupils) are taught from P1 – P7</li> <li>The Key resource is Go Gaelic with support and advice from our GM teachers.</li> <li>Gaelic Language is taught to EME 5-7 pupils through an immersive outdoor learning context alongside their GME peers. This is delivered by a GM teacher during a Forest</li> <li>Schools Session. Language acquisition is planned for using Curriculum for Excellence</li> <li>Experiences and Outcomes for P1-7. Our specific GML curriculum framework is designed to promote interaction and communication with pupils across both mediums in their organic learning and play situations.</li> <li>Children celebrate the Gaelic language and culture through events such as Seachdain na Gaidhlig, Gaelic Culture days, the MOD and assemblies. Gaelic Medium Learners speak Gaelic in their daily routines from P1-7. EME and GME pupils understand and appreciate the reciprocal benefits to learning the language within a dual language setting.</li> </ul>	Continual formative assessment GML Tracking of Language Acquisition through learning and play. End of level benchmarks.
Numeracy and Mathematics	All numeracy planning is informed by start of year baseline assessments – HC Diagnostics and SOFA. To ensure appropriate support and challenge, pupils are grouped according to diagnostic information for knowledge and strategy in each of the following areas: <b>Knowledge</b> Basic facts Numeral Identification Grouping and Place Value Forward/Backward Number Word Sequence	Highland Council Diagnostic Assessments Aug/Sep P2-7 SOFA Assessments Aug/Sep and May SNSA/ MCNG P1,4,7 May

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	StrategyAddition and SubtractionMultiplication and DivisionFractions, Proportions and ratiosOngoing assessment continues to inform planning and grouping throughout the year.Highland Council Numeracy Progression Framework and supporting documents informplanning and ensure progression.Mathematical language acquisition is planned for and tracked in GME 1-7.Mathematics is taught through IDL, Forest Schools, play-based learning and real-lifecontexts where appropriate.When learning a new concept, children practice using structured and concrete materialsuntil secure and able to use visual and abstract resources, such as workbooks and textbooks.A broad range of resources and games are used to support learning, including ScottishHeinemann Maths, Tee Jay Maths, Numicon, Peter Patilla Mental Maths and SumDog.15 minutes of mental strategy, practice and review is built into every lesson.	Ongoing High Quality Assessment Tasks Ongoing end of unit tests and formative assessment.
Health & Well- being	The GIRFEC (Getting it Right for Every Child) Well-being Indicators, SAFE HEALTHY ACTIVE NURTURED ACHIEVING RESPECTED RESPONSIBLE INCLUDED, permeate our school ethos and attitudes to ensuring a whole school approach to promoting positive mental health and well-being. The Zones of Regulation Framework underpins our Positive Relationships Policy and forms the basis of how we encourage children to become emotionally self- regulated. The Zones of Regulation Principles are revised at whole school	Termly Glasgow Motivation and Well- being Profile Survey for pupils P1-7 Continual formative assessment.



The Healthy Schools framework (<u>www.healthyschools.scot</u>) provides us with a guide for teaching, planning, tracking & monitoring and the evaluation of Health and Wellbeing. This framework supports practitioners to meet learner needs through cocreation, suggested activities, external resources, web links to additional information and links to relevant physical resources & materials from NHS Lanarkshire Resource Library.

It brings together a Curriculum for Excellence Health & Wellbeing Experiences, Outcomes and Benchmarks at each Level aligned to the Wellbeing Indicators.

PE is taught within a progressive framework.

ľ	Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL)				
	Science	Social Studies	Expressive Arts	Technologies	RME

The above curricular areas are delivered through IDL topics or stand-alone lessons [where no natural links exist]. Wherever possible, staff will plan contextualized opportunities for Numeracy, Literacy and Health and Well-Being within these IDL topics. The cross-cutting themes of Learning for Sustainability [including citizenship, global etc.], outdoor learning, enterprise and creativity education will be woven into themes, as and when appropriate.

Progression <u>frameworks</u> developed by Highland Council ensure a BREADTH of opportunity for learners. We take account of the skills children need to learn through each of the areas and we make links to support and enhance learning. This ensures PROGRESSION and COHERANCE. We involve pupils in planning to ensure opportunities for PERSONALISATION AND CHOICE, this allows for areas of interest to be studied in greater DEPTH. This we believe promotes CHALLENGE AND ENJOYMENT and fosters creativity, curiosity and opportunities for cooperative and independent learning. High Quality Assessment Tasks are planned for, in consultation with pupils, at the start of an IDL topic, which brings RELEVANCE to all knowledge learned and skills developed throughout the unit.

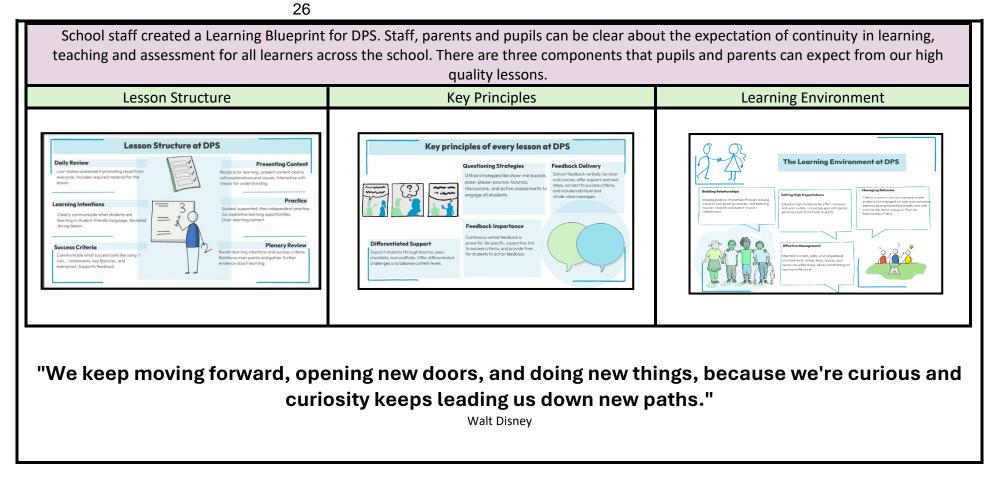
End of level Benchmarks are tracked for each curricular area.

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## **Religious Instruction and Observance**

Dunvegan Primary School is committed to fostering an inclusive environment that respects the diverse beliefs and values of our community. Religious instruction and observance are provided in line with the Highland Council's guidance, promoting understanding and respect for various faiths and worldviews. Parents who wish to exercise their right to withdraw their child from religious instruction or observance should contact the Head Teacher. Alternative arrangements will be made

to ensure that pupils continue to receive meaningful and inclusive learning experiences during these times.



# Informing Parents About Sensitive Aspects of Learning

At Dunvegan Primary School, we understand the importance of keeping parents informed about sensitive aspects of learning. Topics such as relationships, sexual health, parenthood, and drugs awareness are introduced as part of the Curriculum for Excellence in an age-appropriate and sensitive manner. Parents will be informed in advance when these subjects are scheduled, including details of the content and delivery. We value parental input and will provide opportunities to discuss any concerns or questions during scheduled meetings or via direct communication with the class teacher. Parents wishing to view the materials used can request access through the school office.

## Additional Support Needs/ Taic Oideachaidh

Class/Subject teachers, in conjunction with Additional Support Needs Teachers monitor the progress of pupils with additional support. The needs of such pupils are generally catered for within the normal curriculum but with specialist advice and support as required. If necessary, a Child's Plan may be put in place to help plan, organise, monitor and regularly review a 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: <a href="https://hcpc.scot/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Highland-Child-Protection-and-GIRFEC-Guidance-2024-FINAL.pdf">https://hcpc.scot/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Highland-Child-Protection-and-GIRFEC-Guidance-2024-FINAL.pdf</a> Sometimes a Children's Service Worker will be involved in supporting a child. A Children's Service Worker is often based at the school and will generally focus on more social and emotional needs rather than issues about the curriculum or classroom learning. They:

- > work in collaboration with the support team in school
- > work to support families in their own communities
- > work with individual pupils and small groups offering a further level of support.

Parents/Carers will always be involved in discussions about any additional support being suggested for their child and any need that may be identified within the school. Highland Council would seek to work in partnership with parents at all times, but sometimes you will have a concern that you don't feel is being addressed or will want to talk to someone out-with the school. Should you have any concerns that your child's additional needs are not being met, you should contact your child's named person, Miss Muir. If your concerns continue, there are a number of means of resolving difficulties and disputes and information on this can be found at:

http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/886/schools\_additional\_support\_needs/1/support\_for\_learners

The following websites provide advice, further information and support to parents of children and young people with additional support needs.

Enquire – the Scottish advice and information service for additional support for learning <u>http://enquire.org.uk/</u> My Rights, My Say – an advocacy and advice service for young people over 12 with additional support needs <u>http://enquire.org.uk/myrightsmysay/</u> <u>Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance</u>, an advocacy service to support parents and children <u>Scottish Child Law Centre</u>, an organisation providing free legal advice to young people

## **Child Protection / Dion Chloinne**

From time to time incidents occur within the school setting which cause concern and could indicate that a child 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. At times this might involve information being passed to these agencies without immediate reference to a learner's parents or guardians.

The Head Teacher is the designated person for dealing with Child Protection issues in Dunvegan Primary.

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. More information about Child Protection Procedures in Highland can be obtained from: http://www.forhighlandschildren.org/2-childprotection/publications\_90\_87636571.doc; http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/1361/childcare and family care/438/child protection

## Health Care / Slàinte

**Medicals:** All new entrants will receive a medical questionnaire. The school nurse will then decide whether the child should have a medical examination during primary one. Parents can be present at this examination. The same procedure applies to primary seven pupils.

**Nurse:** The school nurse visits the school from time to time. Should you wish to contact her please phone the school and we can arrange contact with her.

**Dentist:** The school dentist visits the school periodically. All children are examined and parents are notified if their child requires treatment. Parents can choose to have this treatment carried out by the school dentist or by their own family dentist.

**Speech and Language Therapist:** The speech and language therapist (Alexis Oates) visits school to work with children who have been referred for Speech and Language Therapy. Parents will be consulted prior to any referral being made.

**Injuries:** When a child is injured at school they will be administered to by any member of staff who is on the scene. If it is felt that the injury is serious then the parents will be informed and arrangements made to take the child to the Medical Centre or a Doctor will be called. Some members of staff have full First Aid training.

**Medical Requirements:** If your child has any medical requirements, please inform the school. If medication has to be administered by the school, please could you inform us in writing detailing the name of the medicine, the quantity of the medicine to be given and the time it has to be given.



Road Safety: Every effort is made by staff to develop good habits in road safety with everyone.



**Fire Drill:** Fire drills are carried out once a term and children are taught to respond quickly and calmly. In the event of a real emergency where the school building has to be evacuated, children will be escorted to Dunvegan Village Hall. Once there, the Emergency Planning Officer and the Area Education Office take responsibility for giving out information, contacting parents and arranging transport.

## Swimming / Snàmh

All pupils have one or two weeks of swimming during a year. The swimming session lasts for one hour a day.

# Trips/Outings/Photographs/Internet & Email Access/Mobile Phones



- When you enrol your child you will be asked to complete a consent form which is included in the data capture form. This allows you to agree or not to the following for your child:
- taking part in any trips or visits organised by the school teaching staff within the area local to the school
- their work being published on the school website
- being photographed/videoed whilst attending education facilities provided by Highland Council and for any such photographs/videos to be processed
- appropriate images and videos of them accompanied by name retained in Profiles and school archives
- appropriate images of them accompanied by name published in classroom/school displays
- · appropriate images and videos published in school publications provided that photographs will not be accompanied by names
- appropriate images and videos published on the school website provided that photographs will not be accompanied by names
- appropriate images and videos published in the Press publications provided that photographs will not be accompanied by names
- appropriate images and videos published in non-school publications provided that photographs will not be accompanied by pupil names
- using the Internet and email at school

If we are going on a major excursion, we will ask you to complete a separate permission slip detailing the outing and asking for your permission to allow us to administer medication or involve a doctor if a need arises.

If children need to make contact with home for any reason they are able to use the school telephone therefore they do not need their mobile phones in school.

# School Meals / Biadh na Sgoile

The school has a canteen where meals are cooked and served. Meals cost £2.40 each for P6 - 7 Money for school meals should be brought in by Thursday for the week with any cheques made out to 'Highland Council'. The canteen offers a choice of meals and menus are sent out to all parents at the beginning of each school session and run in a 3 weekly cycle. Children are able to make their choice the day before each meal. <u>Free school meals</u> - if you are in receipt of Income Support; Income-Based Job Seekers Allowance; Child Tax Credit, but not in receipt of Working Tax Credit, and income of less than £16,105; Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit and income of less than £6,420; Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 your child is entitled to free school meals. Application forms are available from the school or <a href="http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools">http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools</a> -

grants and benefits/10/free\_school\_meals\_and\_assistance\_with\_clothing

Children may bring packed lunches if they wish and join those having school dinners in the canteen. We ask that you do not send anything in a glass container. All children will be supervised.

**Breakfast club**: Toasted bagels, cereal and fruit juice is available every morning at 9am in the school canteen. Parents, grandparents and friends of the school help us to run breakfast club.

## School Transport / Còmhdhail

Children under the age of 8 years who live more than two miles from the school are entitled to free transport. Children who are 8 years and over are entitled to free transport if they live more than 3 miles from the school. Application forms for school transport may be obtained from the school or the Area Education Office or from <u>https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/12/school\_transport</u>

## School Uniform / Èideadh na Sgoile

We encourage learners to wear a navy blue school fleece or sweatshirt with the Dunvegan Primary badge printed on it, a white or blue blouse/polo shirt/shirt and dark trousers/skirts. School uniform can be ordered through the My Clothing website at

https://myclothing.com/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIleLEsNyk7AIVM4BQBh1Z8gKYEAAYASA AEgKIsfD\_BwE

We operate a school uniform swap which can be accessed in the gym hall at the start or end of the school day – any time.

<u>Clothing assistance</u> - if you fulfil the criteria above for free school meals you are entitled to footwear and clothing assistance for your child. Application forms are available from the school.

<u>P.E.</u> - Learners are requested to have shorts, t-shirt and a change of trainers or gym shoes for twice weekly sessions of PE. Please could your child's articles of clothing be identified by a name tab or their name written in permanent ink on the clothing's own labels this helps us return 'lost' property.

**Forest and Ocean Schools** – Children in our school spend a lot of time outdoors! Children are requested to have their own set of waterproofs in school every week along with a change of clothes, lots of layers and wellies.

## Dismissal Procedures / Deireadh an Latha

At the end of the school day learners are escorted to the buses, taxis and to parent transport. When learners are settled on the taxis these will depart followed by the buses. When the buses have left, then parent car drivers may leave. Cyclists will depart next, followed by walkers.







## School Fund/ Maoin na Sgoile

Money is raised for the school fund in various ways e.g. commission from the sale of photographs and books; concerts; enterprise activities.

The Parent Council helps to raise funds in a variety of ways for supporting the school. The school fund is used to finance transport for trips, Christmas parties, visiting groups presenting workshops and events where the Village Hall is required. The accounts are audited annually, and a statement submitted to the Highland Council.

## Extra-Curricular Activities/ Cur-seachadan

Our learners have opportunities to participate in after school clubs such as multi-sports, shinty and music tuition with our Jaggy Thistles band. A wide range of sports and activities are available through Highlife Highland and the Active Schools Co-ordinator. Clubs and events with sign up information is shared with parents each term.

## Area Education Manager West / Oifigear Foghlaim na Sgìre

Ms Mhairi MacDonald Area Education Office, Fingal Centre, Viewfield Road, I Portree, Isle of Skye IV51 9EE Email: Mhairi. Macdonald3@highland.gov.uk Tel: 07918 842021

## Transferring Educational data about pupils:

The Scottish Government and its partners collect and use information about pupils through the *Pupil Census* to help to improve education across Scotland. This note explains why we need this information, how we use it and what we do to protect the information supplied to us.

## 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

## 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.

## 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 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 (<u>https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-exchange-of-data-school-pupil-census</u>).

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 Scotlish 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 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

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.

Thank you for taking the time to read our school handbook. We look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Sam Muir