

Caerlaverock Primary Curriculum Rationale

Our Vision

We are given the opportunity to achieve our full potential and develop our skills for learning, life and work. Through learning in a caring, stimulating, enterprising and safe environment, and through working with our partners, we shall have the self belief and motivation to prepare us for our next chapter.

Our Aims

- To take responsibility for our own learning in health and wellbeing, literacy and numeracy
- To self evaluate our own learning in order to celebrate our successes and find next steps
- To improve and use team work and co-operation, in school and out
- To be responsible and caring, in school and out
- To share our thinking and ideas with others

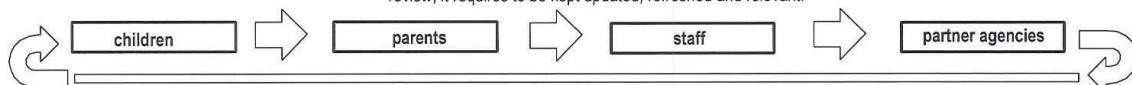
Our Partnership Mission Statement

We are aware that it is important to see our school as one piece in the jigsaw that makes up the wider community. There is a huge range of people involved in the day to day life of our school, and only when we work in partnership can our school be fully effective.



Review and Improvement of the Rationale

As putting the curriculum into practice is not a once-and-for-all task, but an on-going process, this is the beginning of a cycle of review; it requires to be kept updated, refreshed and relevant.





CAERLAVEROCK PRIMARY

CURRICULUM RATIONALE

Context

We are a small, rural school on the outskirts of Dumfries. Glencaple sits on the banks of the River Nith, overlooked by Criffel. These natural surroundings are reflected within our school setting – the building, the playground and the learning environment. Our current role is 18 pupils, thus making us a one class school incorporating all stages and promoting a family atmosphere.

Partnerships

Caerlaverock Primary works in partnership with our pupils, parents, partner agencies and our wider community. Our pupil and parent councils are an integral part of our school and ensure that all views are shared and valued. Our location lends itself to working alongside a diverse range of partners from Wetlands Trust, Caerlaverock Castle, local farms and businesses to our local police, partner health care providers and social and education services. We also have strong links with Dumfries High School which help to provide rich learning experiences as well as aiding the transition from primary to secondary for our pupils. We are partnered with Brownhall Primary School thus promoting a positive climate for collaborative learning and teaching.

Learning Ethos

Our unique setting lends itself to outdoor learning and this is promoted within our school. Our children are actively involved and are encouraged to appreciate that learning takes place in a multitude of environments - from spotting local wildlife to growing our own fruit and vegetables.

Caerlaverock is a one class school in which we endeavour to create an environment where everyone is living and co-operating happily with others in a *family atmosphere*. We promote personal and community responsibility, self discipline and reliability which help in the development of skills for learning, life and work. Personalisation and choice are promoted through children being involved in the planning process.

We are an enterprising school and our pupils are confident in discussing and leading their own learning. From enterprise projects to roles and responsibilities in daily class life, children are learning the skills they will need for their future success.

Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing underpin our curriculum. In addition to these permeating through other curricular areas, they also stand alone within the curriculum, as clear progression must be evident in the teaching of core skills. Interdisciplinary learning takes place within our class, ensuring children are experiencing a range of curricular areas, making relevant links across these and acknowledging prior learning.

Achievement and Assessment

We believe every child is an individual and must be encouraged to make the most of their talents. We therefore place great emphasis on achievement across a wide range of attributes from academic, social and emotional to physical skills.

Our children are encouraged and gaining confidence in discussing their learning and their next steps. A range of active strategies are used in class to promote peer and self assessment. Teachers use a range of summative, formative and standardised assessments to monitor and track pupils' learning and progress; these can be used with children and parents to highlight next steps.