



# Drongan Primary School & Early Childhood Centre



## Curriculum Rationale

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/dronganpsecc2016/>



## Our Context

Drongan Primary School and Early Childhood Centre is a non-denominational school located in the village of Drongan, East Ayrshire. We have a current roll of 241 pupils and Early Childhood Centre provision for 64 children, including two-year-old places. Drongan has a proud mining heritage and a strong sense of community spirit. Although the area faces socio-economic challenges, we work with determination to provide the very best opportunities for our children.

40% of our pupils live in SIMD 1 and 2, with 41% entitled to free school meals. 22% of children are recorded on the ASN log and supported through EAST and classroom assistants. Attendance has returned to 93% in 2024–25, and there have been no exclusions since 2019.

Further information about the local and wider context can be found on the Southern Locality Profile: <https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/Resources/PDF/S/southern-locality-profile.pdf>

## Vision, Values & Aims

Our vision is to have a sense of belonging and pride in our local community where everyone is valued and we work together to be the best that we can be.

Our values, lived daily in school life, are:

- Teamwork
- Mutual Respect
- Trust
- Inclusion
- Self-belief
- Resilience

These values shape everything we do – from learning and teaching, to relationships, to the way our children contribute to their community.

We aim to develop the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence by enabling our pupils to be:

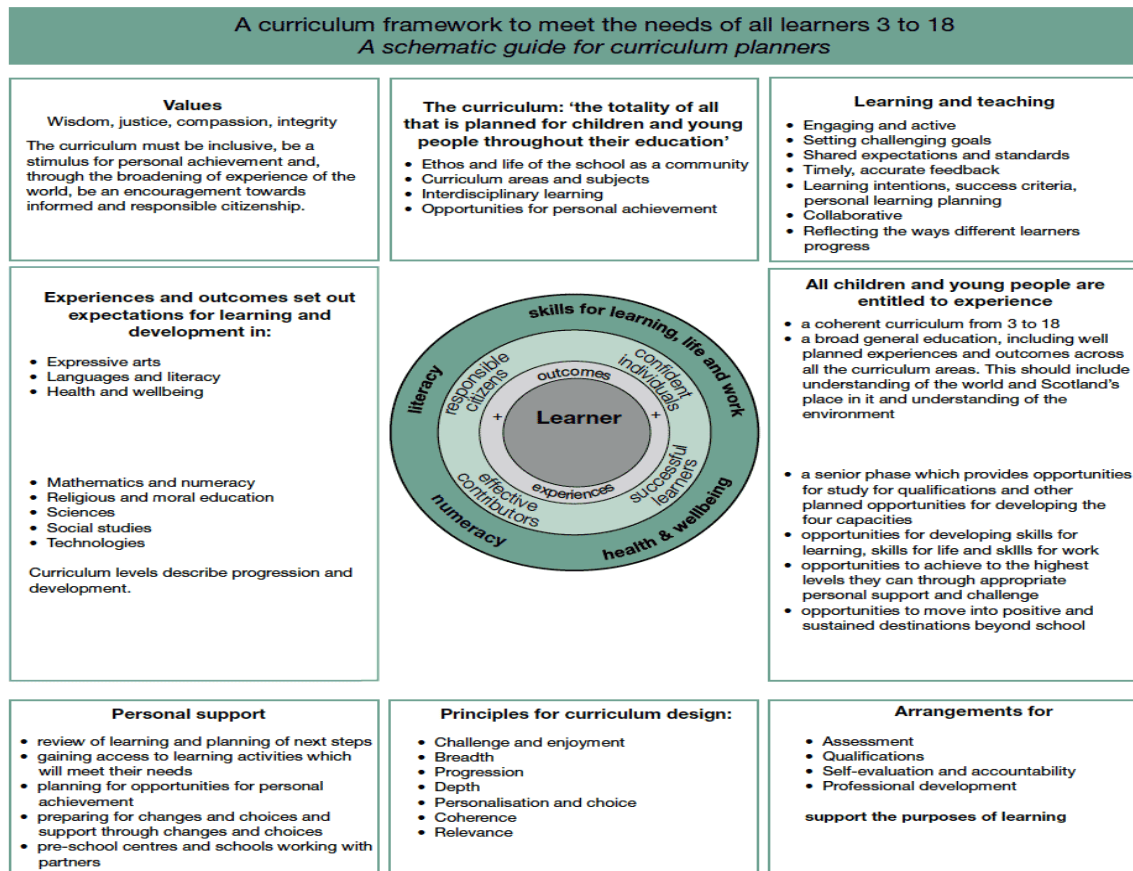
- ✓ Confident Individuals – self-worth, ambition, resilience
- ✓ Responsible Citizens – diversity, communication, confidence
- ✓ Effective Contributors – community spirit, enjoyment, participation
- ✓ Successful Learners – skills development, challenge, engagement



## Our Curriculum

Our curriculum is rooted in Curriculum for Excellence and designed around the needs of our learners and the context of our community. Literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing are at its core. All eight curricular areas are delivered through engaging, relevant and challenging learning.

We provide a broad general education enriched by interdisciplinary learning, outdoor learning and play-based pedagogy. Pupils are given opportunities for personalisation, choice and leadership.



## Social Studies / Inter-disciplinary Learning

We continuously review and update our Social Studies topics / Inter-disciplinary Learning contexts to ensure that they are meaningful and valuable, reflecting our local and wider community as well as addressing some of the main global issues and important historical subjects.



Drongan Primary School - Social Studies Topic Grid




	PEOPLE, PAST EVENTS & SOCIETIES	PEOPLE, PLACE AND ENVIRONMENT	PEOPLE, SOCIETY, ECONOMY & BUSINESS
P1	Myself and My Family	Weather	People Who Help Us
P1/2	Castles	Scottish Wildlife	Transport and Travel
P2	Dinosaurs	Reduce/Reuse/Recycle	Food and Farming
P2/3	Little People, Big Dreams	Wonderful Woodlands (Hannahston)	The Global Goals
P3	The Vikings	Frozen Planet - Arctic/Antarctica	My Local Community
P3/4	Pirates	Climate Change / Global Warming	Children Around the World
P4	Inventors/Inventions	The Rainforest	Heritage Heroes (Drongan)
P4/5	Ancient Greece & The Olympics	Physical Scotland	Travel & Tourism
P5	Ancient Egyptians	Wildlife Habitats	Charities
P5/6	Victorians	Blue Planet - Oceans and Seas	Entrepreneurs/Philanthropy
P6	WW1	John Muir Award	Refugees & Immigration
P6/7	Technology Through the Ages	Natural Disasters	The Scottish Parliament
P7	WW2 & Other Historic Events	People, Places and Environment in Ayrshire	P7 Leavers' Legacy Project

## Strengths in Our Curriculum


- Literacy – recent curriculum development has raised attainment across reading, writing and talking & listening.
- Numeracy – sector-leading practice has strengthened understanding and confidence, shared locally and nationally.
- Health & Wellbeing – refreshed curriculum supports needs of pupils and community. Gold accreditation for Rights Respecting and Inclusive Practice.
- Broad General Education – strong interdisciplinary contexts connecting local, national and global themes.
- Wider Achievements – pupils achieve through sports, arts, clubs, John Muir Award, Heritage Heroes and more.

The image below is an example of a yearly overview that is issued to parents at the beginning of every school session to show the curriculum covered for that stage:



**Drongan Primary School**

Year Overview of Subjects      Class: Primary 3



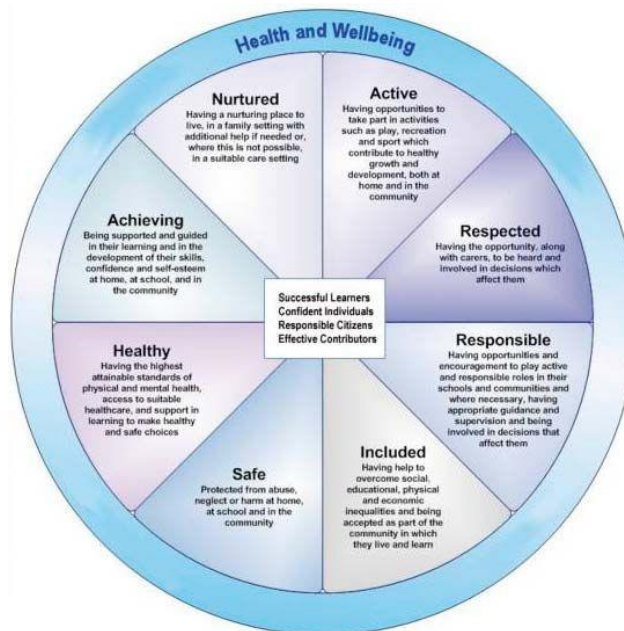
Subject	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
<b>Literacy &amp; English</b>	Active Literacy – phoneme and common words lists from stages 1+2+3 Bug Club – appropriate level for each group SAC Writing – Description and Narrative, vocabulary and openers Grammar – Proper/common nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives	Active Literacy – phoneme and common words lists from stages 1+2+3 Bug Club – appropriate level for each group SAC Writing – Narrative, connectives and punctuation Grammar – Verb tenses, adjectives and punctuation . ? ! , " "	Active Literacy – phoneme and common words lists from stages 1+2+3 Bug Club – appropriate level for each group Class Novel – The Greedy Zebra SAC Writing – Procedure, vocabulary and openers Grammar – A / An, alphabetical order, dictionary skills L&T – Scots Poem	Active Literacy – phoneme and common words lists from stages 1+2+3 Bug Club – appropriate level for each group SAC Writing – Persuasive, VCOP Grammar – Dictionary skills, plurals, compound words, upleveling sentences L&T – Presenting Show and Tell
<b>Numeracy &amp; Mathematics</b>	Number, Rounding and Estimating Measure – Length and Capacity	Addition and Subtraction to 100 Properties of 2D Shapes and 3D Objects	Multiply and divide Fractions	Symmetry and Angles Money to £5 Expression and Equations
<b>Social Studies</b>	Frozen Planet – Arctic/Antarctica		Emergency Services	Vikings
<b>Technologies</b>	Keyboard skills	Using Microsoft Word - bold, italics, underline, font, text colour	Internet research	Graphics Spreadsheets
<b>Science</b>	Living/Non-living	Electricity	Materials	Topical
<b>P.E</b>	Football Hockey	Handball Active Health / Circuits	Gymnastics Target Games	Outdoor Games Athletics
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	Relationships	Planning for Choices and Change Internet safety	Food and health	RSHP
<b>Ex. Arts. Art</b>	Line drawings	Printing Paint	3D	Collage Fabric
<b>Ex. Arts Music</b>	Experimenting to create sounds of the Polar Regions	Christmas Nativity	Carnival of the Animals	BBC Viking Sagas
<b>Ex. Arts Drama</b>	Verbal and non-verbal communication to display emotions		Role play Imaginative corner	Small world Puppet theatre

## Meeting Learners' Needs

Our inclusive ethos ensures that all children are supported to achieve their full potential. We follow the principles of GIRFEC, identifying barriers early and putting tailored supports in place. Child's Plans and ILPs with SMART targets are developed in partnership with families and external agencies. The Nurture Principles are evident throughout the school.



Assessment is robust and holistic, using both formative and summative approaches. Pupils are actively involved in reflecting on their learning and setting next steps.





## Community & Partnerships

Our school is described by parents as welcoming, inclusive and at the heart of the community. We value strong parental involvement through open afternoons, assemblies, workshops and family sessions. We work with local organisations including Dumfries House, Coalfield Regeneration Trust and Rowantree Court.

Pupil voice is central – children shape the life of the school through committees, focus groups, wellbeing surveys and leadership roles.

## Transitions

We provide robust and supportive transitions at every stage. Our ECC to P1 transition programme ensures continuity and pastoral support, with additional sessions for identified pupils. Across the school, teachers work closely together to pass on information. P7 pupils are supported through a comprehensive transition programme with enhanced support for ASN pupils.

## National & Local Policy Links

Our curriculum aligns with Curriculum for Excellence entitlements and principles, the East Ayrshire Service Plan, the National Improvement Framework, Developing the Young Workforce and the UNCRC.





## Our Commitment

At Drongan Primary and ECC we are proud of our inclusive, values-driven curriculum. We raise attainment, support wellbeing and inclusion, and celebrate success in many forms. Our values of Teamwork, Mutual Respect, Trust, Inclusion, Self-belief and Resilience are evident every day in our classrooms, playground and wider community.

Regardless of the challenges they may face, all children at Drongan can achieve their full potential and live a healthy, happy and successful life.

## Our Vision

In Drongan Primary School and Early Childhood Centre our vision for all is:

**To have a sense of belonging and pride in our local community where everyone is valued and we work together to be the best that we can be.**

## Our Values

Within our school, ECC and local community, the values that we feel are important to instil in all are:

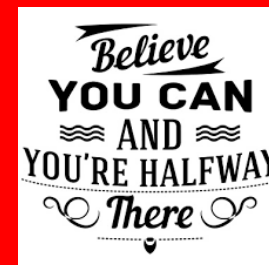


Teamwork  
Mutual respect  
Trust  
Inclusion  
Self-belief  
Resilience





# Drongan Primary School & Early Childhood Centre Curriculum Rationale



## VISION & VALUES

- Belonging & pride in community
- Everyone valued
- Be the best we can be

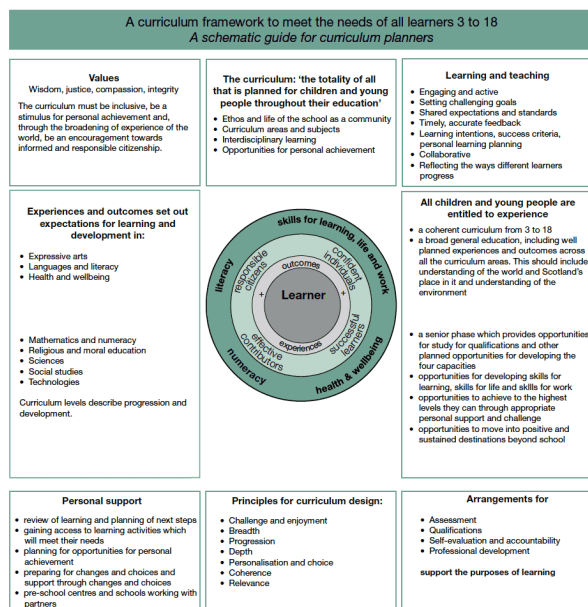
Values:

Teamwork • Respect • Trust • Inclusion • Self-belief • Resilience

Four Capacities:

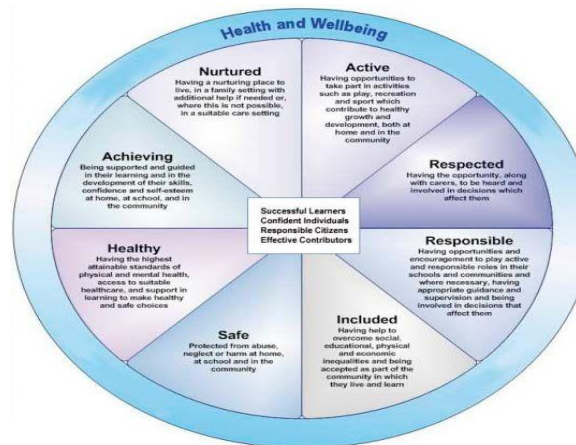
- ✓ Confident Individuals
- ✓ Responsible Citizens
- ✓ Effective Contributors
- ✓ Successful Learners

## OUR CURRICULUM



## WELLBEING & COMMUNITY

- Gold Rights Respecting & Inclusive
- GIRFEC & SHANARRI support every child



- Family-like ethos
- Strong parental involvement
- Partnerships with Dumfries House, Coalfield Regeneration Trust, local groups
- Pupil voice shapes school life

**All children at Drongan can achieve their full potential and live a healthy, happy and successful life.**