

St. Ninian's High School



School Handbook

2025-26



St. Ninian's High School
Let Youth Flourish



St. Ninian's High School

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[@stninianshigh](https://twitter.com/stninianshigh)

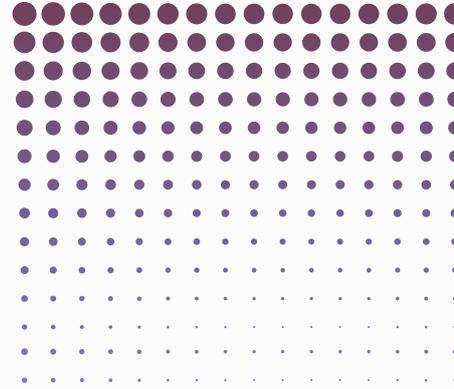


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Welcome



Over the years, our school has developed an excellent reputation within the local community. We are very proud of our academic success, the high standard of pastoral care we offer our young people and the wide range of co-curricular activities offered to our pupils.

We aim to create a learning culture in which we promote the all-round education of pupils, developing articulate young people who are confident in their own ability, have high aspirations, and where young people learn to be leaders for life based on the values, experiences and education promoted in our school. Through the breadth and depth of the education we offer, our young people are stretched intellectually, artistically, aesthetically, physically, musically and spiritually.

We would expect every pupil to achieve their personal best in all that they do. We set no limits to the ambitions of our young people, and the expectations of our parents and carers. We expect the highest standards from our pupils in all aspects of school life, in their attitude to learning, in their personal conduct and in their appearance.

Every pupil offers to our school community something that is distinctive and tangible. The aim of Catholic Education is to educate a child for life, developing the talents of the young person in the fullest possible way thereby transforming their life for the better. I am sure that you will recognise that our school is, above all, concerned with human qualities and the best prospectus for Saint Ninian's High School can be found in our pupils, our staff and our parents and carers.

Our staff are experienced and professional. They are committed to providing a safe, caring and supportive learning environment for all pupils. Links with our associated primary schools ensure that we see the education of our young people as a continuous process. We seek to foster an active partnership with parents and carers to ensure the best possible education for each student.

We are aware that in choosing to send your child to our school you are making an act of trust. Our aim is to ensure that every child entrusted to our care is made welcome and that their time in Saint Ninian's is happy and successful. If you are a parent of a child already at the school, thank you for entrusting us with that job.

If you are considering sending your child to Saint Ninian's, please come and see the school, meet our young people and staff, and talk to me about your own particular interest in Saint Ninian's and my vision for our school in the coming years.

Kindest regards

Gerry O'Neil

Head Teacher



School Prayer

Jesus, as a child you grew in learning and wisdom.

Bless Saint Ninian's High School, a community of faith and love where young people learn, work and grow together.

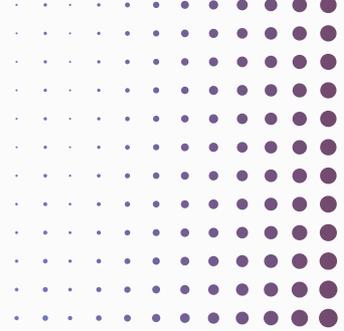
Help us to make our school a place where teachers are valued for their dedication; where pupils are encouraged to develop their talents and where all staff, young people and parents – work together in trust and friendship.

Live among us now and forever.

Amen



Visions, Values & Aims



Visions

Our commitment is to:

- Promote Gospel values as a way of life.
- Foster Christian attitudes, to show respect, tolerance, understanding and care for others.
- Give all members of the school community, pupils and staff, opportunities to develop their talents to the full.
- Provide a wide range of educational courses and resources which will equip our pupils with the knowledge and skills they will require to meet future challenges.
- Advance equality of opportunity and social justice.
- Foster a spirit of partnership among pupils and staff, between home and school, between community and school.
- Provide a supportive, well-ordered, attractive and well-resourced environment for all who use the school.
- Encourage a view of education as a continuous, lifelong project.

Values

As we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the school, one of the areas we decided to revisit was our values. The school's motto is "Floreat Iuventus", which provides a great vision of wanting all of our young people to flourish.

As a school, we strive to develop many values in our young people but we believe that there are certain values which should be at the heart of everything we do, as well as being standards that we measure ourselves against.

We are currently consulting pupils, parents and staff to identify a core set of values that are most important to us.

Aims

Our key aims are to help all of our pupils to fulfil their potential, their ability and aptitudes to the full in each aspect of their development – academic, spiritual, physical, personal, social and emotional.

We work in partnership with parents and carers to help young people grow, celebrate and live their faith.



Faith Life



Our Catholic faith is core to all we do in St Ninian's High School. Pupils are afforded the opportunity to learn about, celebrate and live out their faith, within the R.E. department as well as across other curricular areas and as part of the wider life of the school.

R.E in St. Ninian's

Learning about our faith...

Core R.E. is studied from S1-S6 using our Scottish R.E. syllabus, This is Our Faith. Pupils are given the opportunity to develop and deepen their knowledge and understanding of our Catholic faith, all the while developing their analytical and evaluative skills. They also engage with our Moral and Relationships Education programme, Called to Love, as well as being given the opportunity to learn about other world religions and a range of contemporary moral issues.



Celebrating our faith...

Through R.E. pupils are given the occasion to celebrate and deepen their faith by taking part in various liturgical and devotional opportunities; from class Masses and the Sacrament of Reconciliation to participating in a November Service, a Stations of the Cross service and praying the Rosary. We make great use of our beautiful school Oratory throughout the academic year and invite pupils to go there for prayer during interval and lunch break.

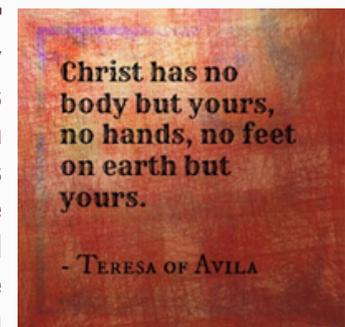


Pupils also participate in retreats. We have a close partnership with FireCloud who deliver whole day retreats as well as a Passion Play during Lent. They use scripture, music, games and testimony to engage with our young people wherever they may be in their faith journey.

Pupils have the chance to take part in the Diocesan Generation Hope residential trip, a five day Summer Camp that provides a unique opportunity for our young people to gather together with their peers from across the Diocese of Paisley and grow in fellowship and faith.

Living out our faith...

Within R.E. pupils learn about and aspire to enact Jesus' call to serve others. All pupils participate in charity periods throughout the year to raise funds for Marys Meals and SCIAF. Pupils are invited to participate in a variety of charitable appeals. S1/2 bring in baby items which are donated to the Sisters of the Gospel of Life who support women and girls who are pregnant and need support. All year groups are encouraged to donate foodbank items during Advent and Easter eggs during Lent for local foodbanks.



Our School Community



Over the years, our school has developed an excellent reputation within the local community. Our pupils take pride in our school environment and the local area. They are aware of the importance of keeping the area in and around our school clean, tidy and safe for themselves and for visitors.

Every pupil in our school offers something to our community that is distinctive and tangible. Pupils are encouraged to engage in a wide variety of community service programmes which are well established within our school and community e.g. Caritas, The Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI), Duke of Edinburgh, S6 Service and many more. Our senior pupils have opportunities to volunteer in our local nursery and primary schools as well as care homes. Our aim is to educate our pupils for life, developing the talents of each and every young person in the fullest possible way.

We work closely with members of the community who help us to educate our pupils and guide our staff. Pupils regularly engage in visits to local organisations and we often welcome guest speakers who deliver talks and workshops to our staff and pupils. The local Police, led by our 'Campus Cop', assist us with crime and drugs prevention education programmes and our varied curriculum supports us in equipping our young people with skills they will need for life in the world of work.

As a proud Laudato Si School, we have an obligation to work in a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner. Our school Eco-Club continue to work hard to retain our prestigious Eco-Schools Green Flag award.

In line with the aims of the Scottish Catholic Education Service (SCES) and the guidance of The Charter for Catholic Schools in Scotland, it is our mission to create an open, welcoming and inclusive environment where we prepare pupils to find happiness and to lead lives of goodness, built upon Christian values, personal integrity and moral courage. We strive to promote genuine human growth, not only for Catholic pupils but for all our pupils and staff in our school community.



School Awards



GTCS Excellence in Professional Learning

We are proud recipients of the GTCS Excellence in Professional Learning Award. This was awarded in recognition of our Career Long Professional Learning programme which has had a significant and sustained impact on teachers, classroom practice and the learning experience of our pupils.



Laudato Si School

In November 2020 St Ninian's High signed up to become a Laudato Si' school. This initiative was created by the Scottish Catholic Education Service and SCIAF and is based on a letter written by Pope Francis in 2016. In his letter, Laudato Si', Pope Francis asks us to love God, look after each other and protect the world. As a Laudato Si' school, St Ninian's school community works together to encourage staff, pupils, and their families to make small changes to try to improve the lives of those around us and secure the future of our planet which has been gifted to us by God.



Rights Respecting School

We are proud that we are a Rights Respecting School. We have already achieved the bronze award. The Rights Respecting School Award (RRSA) is an initiative run by Unicef UK, which encourages schools to place the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) at the heart of its ethos and curriculum. As a Rights Respecting School we strive to not only teach about children's rights; we also aim to model rights and respect in all our relationships, whether between children or between children and adults.



Family Centred Approach

East Renfrewshire Council has introduced a self-evaluation framework to support educational establishments in building the capacity of families and communities to positively parent and guide our children and young people. Details are outlined in the ERC Parental Engagement and Involvement Strategy. To date, we have gained our Bronze 'Family Friendly' and our Silver 'Family Centred' accreditations. Our Family Charter can be found [here](#). We will continue to work closely with our parents and community to gain our Gold 'Family Focused' accreditation. Each status is achieved through a self-evaluation and validation process, providing an endorsement of an establishment's capacity to support parents in a comprehensive way.



Vision Schools Scotland

We are thrilled to have received the Vision Schools Level 2 Award in recognition of our unwavering commitment to anti-racist education, citizenship and religious equality. This prestigious award acknowledges innovation and excellence in Holocaust education, as well as the promotion of continuous professional development for staff. Both pupils and staff are regularly engaged in activities that deepen our understanding of historical events and highlight the lasting impact of prejudice in society today.

SUPPORTING HOLOCAUST EDUCATION
VISION SCHOOLS SCOTLAND

St Ninian's High School, Level 2, 2024-2027

Eco-Schools Green Flag

Our school celebrated achieving its 5th consecutive Eco-Schools Green Flag Award in June 2024, highlighting our dedication to environmental sustainability. The Eco Club is now preparing to renew this prestigious award, with the next submission set for June 2026. Previously, we focused on the Sustainable Development Goals Life on Land and Life Below Water, driving positive change in these crucial areas. This is an exciting time as we are about to choose our next Sustainable Development Goal to focus on.



Green Library

St. Ninian's High School is thrilled to be the first school in the UK to receive Green Library Funding. Thanks to the success of our librarian, Mrs. Baird, in securing the funding through her initiative "Seeds to Success," we have been able to create a "nurturing book nook" within our Support for Learning Hub. This grant, provided by CILIPS—the library and information body for Scotland—has enabled the purchase of a wide range of resources, many of which were chosen by our students. These resources support various needs, including dyslexia, autism, and mental health, and are thoughtfully displayed in a kinderbox that can be easily moved into our garden space on sunny days. To complement this, we've added all-weather bean bags for students to relax and read. A key feature of our Green Library is the seed diaries—made from seed-infused paper, these reading and reflection diaries can be planted by students, allowing them to watch their ideas and aspirations grow. This valuable resource is already being well-utilized and will continue to evolve, helping our students to thrive year after year.



Digital Schools Award

We are delighted to be one of the first schools in Europe to achieve the European Digital Schools Award. This is a national award that promotes, recognises and celebrates best practice in digital education and encourages schools to deliver the best digital educational experience for pupils wherever possible.



School Sport Award

St. Ninian's High School provides many opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity. We are proud recipients of the Gold School Sport Award and this recognises our commitment to continuous improvement in school sport & physical activity.



Joining St. Ninian's High School



Catchment Area and School Role

St. Ninian's High School, which opened in 1984, is a six-year co-educational Catholic school. The school serves the communities of Clarkston, Giffnock, Newton Mearns, Eaglesham and Busby in East Renfrewshire. Our current role as of August 2025 is 2020 pupils.

Our associated primary schools are:

- [Our Lady of the Missions Primary, Woodfarm](#)
- [St. Cadoc's Primary, Newton Mearns](#)
- [St. Clare's Primary, Newton Mearns](#)
- [St. Joseph's Primary, Clarkston](#)



School Admission Arrangements

Pupils may join St. Ninian's High School at times other than the start of S1 and from schools other than our associated primaries. Before a child enrolls in St. Ninian's High School, the Education Department will seek documentary evidence to validate a child's entitlement to a catchment place at this school. If appropriate evidence is not submitted, the Education Department will withdraw the offer of a place. Documentary evidence can be submitted to the Education Department via the school office; further detail on required documentary evidence is available in the Education Department's school admission policy which can be found [here](#) on the Council's website.

When a child who was enrolled in the school as a catchment pupil ceases to reside within the St. Ninian's High School delineated catchment area and his/her parents wish the child to continue to attend the school, the parent must submit a placing request to remain. Where it is found that a child is no longer entitled to a catchment place in St. Ninian's High School since they no longer reside in a property in the delineated catchment area associated with the school, and a placing request to remain has not been submitted and approved, the Council may seek to exclude that child from the school.



SNHS Staff Team



Getting To Know Us

We value the importance of our partnerships with families and the support of our parents and carers. Let us introduce you to our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) who will support your child from S1-S6. Each Depute Head Teacher (DHT) is responsible for a year group of pupils. A full staff list can be found [here](#) on our website.



**MRS C
McCREA**
DHT-S1



**MRS C
BOYLE**
DHT-S2



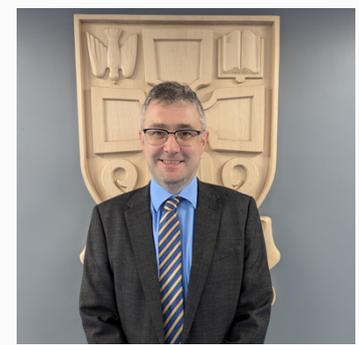
**MRS J
WILSON**
DHT-S3



**MR A
CREIGHTON**
DHT-S4



**MR M
GALLAGHER**
DHT-S5



**MR J
CUMMING**
DHT-S6



Pastoral Support



Each alpha class is allocated a Principal Teacher of Pastoral Support who is responsible for supporting children's wellbeing and academic progress throughout school. Pastoral Support teachers deliver weekly PSHE lessons to their alpha class which are designed to support their social, emotional and academic development. Your child can approach their pastoral teacher in school if they require support. The pastoral teacher is also a point of contact for parents and carers and can be contacted via school mail or by phone call to the school office.

Pastoral teachers provide support to pupils in a range of different ways, by:

- Developing close links with P7 pupils and their teachers to ensure a smooth transition.
- Building relationships with all pupils.
- Monitoring the academic progress of all pupils.
- Offering advice on options choices.
- Checking on attendance and timekeeping.
- Supporting pupils with a range of wellbeing challenges – social, emotional, physical etc.
- Preparing reports on pupils—for employers, universities, colleges, etc.
- Contacting parents of individual pupils—by letter, telephone, interview, meeting.
- Linking with supporting agencies such as Educational Psychologists, Healthier Minds, Skills Development Scotland, Social Work Department, community organizations, etc.

Our Pastoral Support Team



**MR R
KERR**



**MR A
LOW**



**MRS S
MARTIN**



**MR M
McKEAN**



**MR S
McMASTER**



**MRS V
NEWLANDS**



**MRS C
WARD**



**MRS E
WARD**



**MRS R
WEIR**



Support for Pupils



Support for Learning

Support for Learning (SfL) is regarded as the responsibility of all teaching and support staff at St. Ninian's High School. We recognise each pupil as an individual and work together to provide a supportive and loving environment where each pupil can flourish. Where pupils may require more specialist input, this is provided by the Support for Learning department. This team is led by:



MR J YOUNG
PT Support for Learning



MRS C McCALLUM
PT Wellbeing

There are a number of members of staff across the school who work closely with the SfL department to proactively engage with young people who require further support. This includes SfL teaching staff, pupil support assistants and the pastoral team. Working with pupils and parents, it is important that young people feel valued, respected, included and supported to achieve and succeed. Our learning conversation programme ensures pupil voice is at the heart of discussions around their support.

Each classroom is inclusive to ensure the needs of all learners within it are being met, allowing each and every young person to learn, grow and flourish equitably. Support profiles and strategies for identified pupils are shared with teaching and support staff to aid in removing barriers to learning.

The SfL and Pastoral teams work closely with, and can make referrals to, a number of partner agencies such as Educational Psychologists, Health and Social Care Partnership, Healthier Minds and the Community Learning and Development team from East Renfrewshire Council. The SfL and pastoral team may also arrange and attend Joint Support Team meetings to discuss identified pupils where necessary. We also receive input from visiting specialists who may assist pupils with certain barriers to learning e.g. hearing or visual impairment.

SfL Groups

A range of SfL groups run throughout the academic year aimed at supporting young people with specific barriers. The groups include dyslexia strategies, communication comics, reading for comprehension, exam and revision techniques, resilience and mindful coping art. The aim of each group is to teach young people a variety of strategies that they can access across their curriculum.



Joint Support Team (JST)

The Joint Support Team is made up of representatives from the school senior management team, pupil support staff, teaching staff, social work department, Psychological Services, Careers Service, and any other appropriate agency. It is coordinated by a member of the Pastoral Support Team. One of the important functions of the JST is to develop and implement strategies to help our young people.

Support Arrangements

Through the S1 transition programme, details of support arrangements are passed on and shared with teaching and support staff. Pupils may find that as they progress to secondary school, their support arrangements change and that some subjects may require certain supports that others do not. Learning conversations with SfL staff should help pupils identify which support strategies may best remove barriers to learning in each of their subjects. We are committed to getting it right for every child and will work closely with them to identify the best support strategies to allow them to reach their full potential.

Alternative Assessment Arrangements

Alternative Assessment Arrangements (AAA) allow pupils who have been identified as having additional support needs and barriers to learning, appropriate arrangements to access their assessments without compromising the integrity of the assessments. All staff have knowledge of the details of the AAA available for learners with additional support needs and barriers to their learning. Potential arrangements should be discussed with parents and learners at the earliest possible time, in order that decisions can be made about what may best alleviate a barrier to learning. AAA should reflect, as far as possible, the pupil's normal way of learning and producing work. AAA for pupils may change throughout their time at St Ninian's, depending on the barriers that a pupil may face. Learners should have opportunities to practice for external examinations using the necessary support and so it is important that this support is in place at the earliest possible time.

Further information on Alternative Assessment Arrangements can be accessed [here](#) on the SQA website.

Enquire – The Scottish Advice Service for Additional Support for Learning

Enquire provides a range of clear and easy-to-read guides and factsheets including The parents' guide to additional support for learning. Enquire also offers independent, confidential advice and information on additional support for learning through:

Telephone Helpline: 0845 123 2303

Email Enquiry service: info@enquire.org.uk

Advice and information is also available [here](#).



Mental Health & Wellbeing

Mrs C McCallum, the Principal Teacher of Wellbeing, is part of the Pupil Support Team and leads the strategy outlined below:



This is based on a framework for improvement that includes adapting the St Ninian's strategy to our specific context, building on strong engagement with students, staff and a robust evaluation of need. A key priority is to provide targeted, timely and individualised support to pupils based on the indicators set out in Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) through bespoke support programmes and one to one support. This happens in partnership with parents, the local community, and support agencies and through staff working together to provide support and promote positive mental health and wellbeing. In addition, innovative approaches to resilience education, emotional wellbeing and mental health literacy through transitions and in S1 have been adopted.

Child Protection

Child Protection is a main priority in our school. The daily ongoing safeguarding and wellbeing of every child is very important to us. We want all of our young people to feel that they are loved, nurtured and safe at home and in our school community. Within our school we strive to provide a safe, secure and nurturing environment for our pupils, which promotes inclusion and achievement and fully embraces the values of Getting it right for Every Child.

Every member of staff participates in annual Child Protection training and are able to identify and put support in place if child protection concerns are identified. We have procedures in place if we have any concerns about a child's well being or safety or we believe a child is at risk of abuse. Along with all schools in East Renfrewshire, we have comprehensive Pupil Support systems in place and we work closely with our partners in Social Work, Health and the Police. The school operates a multi agency Joint Support Team to ensure that the best possible supports are available to pupils when they need them.

Our Child Protection coordinator is Mr Tony Creighton who is one of the Depute Head Teachers. If you wish to discuss this important matter further, please make an appointment to see your child's Pastoral Support Teacher.



Practical Information

| Period 1 | Period 2 | Interval | Period 3 | Period 4 | Lunch | Period 5 | Period 6 | Period 7* |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 08.45 - 09.35 | 09.35 - 10.25 | 10.25 - 10.40 | 10.40 - 11.30 | 11.30 - 12.20 | 12.20 - 13.00 | 13.00 - 13.50 | 13.50 - 14.40 | 14.40 - 15.30 |

The School Day

First bell rings at 08.40 each morning, allowing pupils to get to class for 08.45. *Period 7 only applies to Monday, Tuesday and Thursday – the school day finishes at the end of period 6 on Wednesday and Friday.

The Cafeteria

St. Ninian's operates a cashless cafeteria. This means that pupils, staff and visitors have a PIN for purchasing items from the cafeteria. The PIN number is issued to pupils when they join St Ninian's. Parents/Carers can upload money via parentpay to their child's school lunch account. We also have 2 machines located in school to load money into your child's account. Pupils can also pre-order their lunches using the Fusions App. Using the Fusion app, pupils can pre-order their food one week in advance and up until 11am on the same day. Information and application forms for free school meals can be found [here](#) on East Renfrewshire's website. The cafeteria serves a range of hot and cold snacks and meals. The cost of a meal is £2.60. Pupils who bring packed lunches to school may use the cafeteria seating area for eating them.

ParentPay & ParentsPortal

Parents/ Carers will require a Parentpay account to be able to pay for your child's school meals, make payments for school excursions/trips and to purchase items e.g. the St Ninian's Hoodie. Details on creating a ParentPay account can be found [here](#). [ParentsPortal](#) is used to keep parents/Carers up-to-date with information throughout the year. Please click [here](#) to find out more and to set up an account.

Co-Curricular Activities

We attach a high priority to our co-curricular activities as a way of enriching pupils' education and bringing teachers and pupils together in an informal setting. There is a wide range of activities and trips on offer. Information about these can be found [here](#) on our school website.





School Trips

Saint Ninian's High School offers a range of exciting trips for pupils, including residential and day trips. Residential trips allow students to enjoy outdoor adventures and explore historical and cultural sites. Residential trips include: Salamanca, Ardeche Water sports, Valencia, Ski trip, Gen Hope, and many more. Day trips support classroom learning with visits to museums, theatres, and local landmarks. These experiences help pupils develop new skills and create fantastic, lasting memories.

School Travel

Transport

East Renfrewshire Council provides free transport to all secondary pupils who live more than three miles (by the recognised shortest walking route) from their local school. If free transport is provided, pupils may need to walk a certain distance from home to the vehicle pick-up point. It is the responsibility of parents to make sure their child is at the pick-up point on time and that they behave in a safe and acceptable way getting on and off and travelling on the bus. Children on placing request who travel to an East Renfrewshire school from another council area will not receive free school transport except in exceptional circumstances. Click [here](#) to find out more about travelling to school.

Walking To School

If you live within walking distance of St. Ninian's High School, we would ask that parents and carers avoid driving pupils to school if possible. Eastwood Park, where our school is located, can be congested in the morning and at the end of the school day. Walking to school can be healthier for you and your son or daughter and could mean a more relaxed start to the day for you, your child and for other parents.

Medical Matters

First Aid & Medication

We aim to prioritise the health and safety of everyone in our school community. We have a number of staff who are trained in First Aid and will attend incidents where First Aid treatment is required. Fortunately most cases are straightforward and the pupils return to class after receiving first aid. In some instances where a pupil has sustained an injury the First Aider may advise to seek further medical advice. Parents/ Carers will be contacted in all First Aid incidents. In order to administer medicine to pupils during the school day the relevant pro-forma should be completed, signed by a parent/carer and returned to the school office along with the medicine, stored in its original packaging.

Pupil Illness

If a pupil feels unwell in school, they should report to the school office in the first instance. If necessary, staff in the school office will contact parents/carers to make arrangements to collect the pupil. It is in the interests of our pupils that we ask parents/carers to inform us of any medical issue or condition affecting their children. Details of this nature are of course handled with sensitivity and in confidence.

Immunisations

Routine immunisations for Flu, HPV and Teenage Booster are carried out by the NHS school Immunisation Team throughout the course of the school year. Information will be communicated to parents/carers via email and social media. Parents/ Carers will receive a NHS consent pack prior to any immunisations taking place. These should be returned to the school office at the earliest possible convenience.

Appointments

Students with medical/dental appointments during the school day should inform their pastoral support teacher to allow a permission to be recorded on our registration system. Parents/Carers can also email school mail with appointment details – SchoolMail@st-ninians.e-renfrew.sch.uk. We ask that you give as much notice as possible regarding appointments.



Educational Maintenance Allowance

Senior pupils who remain at school beyond the statutory leaving age of 16 may apply for an Educational Maintenance Allowance (E.M.A.). This is a means tested allowance made on a sliding scale, which takes into account family income and other circumstances. Application forms are available online or can be collected from the Pastoral Support Base in school.

Promoting Positive Relationships

As a school community, we look to build our relationships based on the Gospel Values of Love, Tolerance and Respect. We want our learners to flourish in a positive environment where they feel safe, included and respected. We look to create an environment in which pupils can learn and achieve their full potential and teachers can teach in an environment in which the welfare of everyone in the school community is safeguarded.

The learning experience of our pupils is focussed on;

- Positive pupil–staff relationships based on mutual respect, treating each other with kindness, respect, forgiveness and dignity.
- High quality teaching and learning experiences.
- Ensuring the well-being of all our pupils.
- Allowing our pupils to develop in the fullest sense; academically, emotionally, socially and spiritually.
- The support of parents / carers and working in partnership.
- The clear communication of standards and expectations.

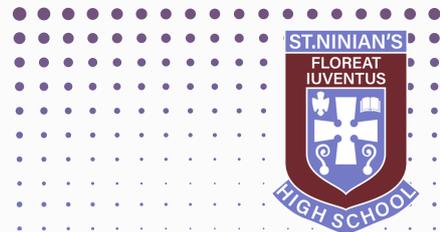
Religious Observance

Guidance from the Scottish Government states that “Religious Observance has an important part to play in the development of the learner’s four capacities: a successful learner, confident individual, responsible citizen and an effective contributor. It also provides opportunities for the school community to reflect upon and develop a deeper understanding of the dignity and worth of each individual, and their contribution to the school and wider communities.”

While the Scottish Government states that parents have the right to withdraw children from participation in Religious Observance on the grounds of religion or belief, it also recognises that: “Where a parent chooses a denominational school for their child’s education, they choose to opt in to the school’s ethos and practice which is imbued with religious faith and religious observance. In denominational schools, it is therefore more difficult to extricate a pupil from all experiences which are influenced by the school’s faith character.” Curriculum for Excellence: religious observance section 24.



Dress Code



As a school, we are extremely proud of our young people and the St. Ninian's High School uniform. The wearing of school uniform is invaluable in conveying a sense of community, wellbeing and purpose. Our uniform helps to establish our identity and reinforces the values embedded in St. Ninian's, a community of faith, love & learning.

Wearing of school uniform:

- Indicates a sense of pride in the school and helps pupils to form positive attitudes to the school and to their school work.
- Protects children from the harmful effects of social distinction and competitive dressing.
- Promotes the school's identity in the community, with our immediate neighbours, local business and industry.
- Assists staff in the task of supervising pupils and keeping pupils safe in our school community.
- Supports parents/ carers with the cost of the school day

Boy's Uniform

- Maroon blazer with school badge
- Grey v-neck jumper or cardigan
- Pale blue or white shirt
- School tie
- Black shoes (not trainers)
- Grey dress trousers (not black)



Girl's Uniform

- Maroon blazer with school badge
- Grey v-neck jumper or cardigan
- Pale blue or white shirt
- School tie
- Black shoes (not trainers)
- Grey school skirt of an appropriate / modest length and comfort
- Grey dress trousers



P.E. Kit

- Sky blue polo shirt
- Black or navy shorts/tracksuit trousers
- Trainers
- School hoody is optional and can be purchased on [ParentPay](#), if desired

Some families may be entitled to a clothing grant and free school meals. Information on this can be obtained using [this link](#) to the East Renfrewshire website.

Uniform items may be ordered from several outlets locally and there are mainstream stores which also carry stocks of uniform items.

As a proud Laudato Si school, we have an obligation to work in a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner. With this in mind, we have established a blazer recycling program that will allow good quality blazers to be reused by pupils in the school. Find out more [here](#).



Attendance & Timekeeping

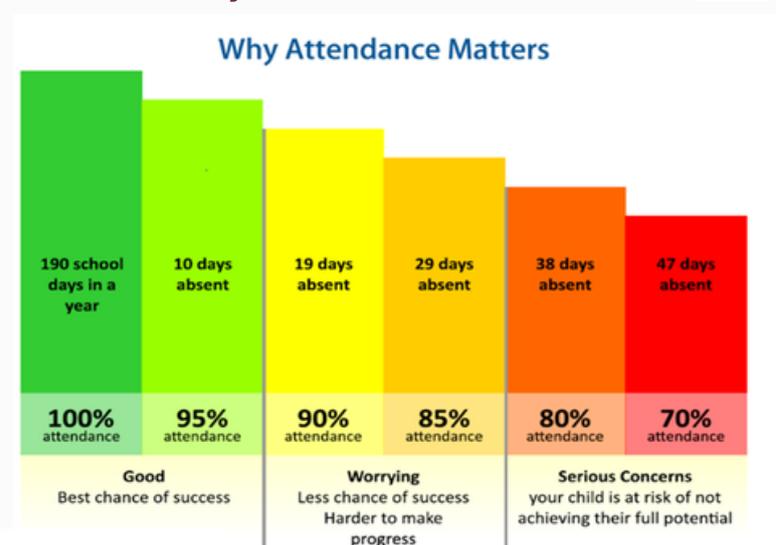
Attendance

Evidence and data tells us that good attendance at school is fundamental in allowing pupils to access a wide range of opportunities in order that they reach their full potential. Good attendance at school is a key factor in a pupil's wellbeing and positive outcomes in attainment and achievements. The diagram below highlights the impact that absence can have. A pupil with 90% attendance has in fact had 19 days of absence.

The school records attendance for each pupil in every class. Parents / Carers should let the school know about any authorised absence which could include family illness, religious observance or bereavement, among others. This allows us to ensure the safety of our young people and we will alert parents/carers via text message of any absence that has not been notified.

We would ask that parents avoid taking holidays during term time. Even towards the end of term, staff will continue with lessons and activities which are an important part of the school experience and education of all pupils.

East Renfrewshire school holiday dates 2025–26 can be found [here](#).



Timekeeping

We encourage our pupils to arrive at school on time every morning before 8.45am. Our classes begin promptly and we reinforce the importance of excellent attendance and timekeeping at assemblies and in PSHE. We understand that, on occasion, pupils may arrive late for a variety of reasons.

If your child arrives late at school due to sickness, medical appointment or any other reason, please ask them to sign in at the School Office. This allows the office to update their attendance to 'confirmed' and will avoid a text alert to their parent/carer.



Curriculum



Our curriculum is designed to offer our young people a broad and balanced education which meets the needs of all learners. Curriculum for Excellence, Scotland's national curriculum, aims to enable all young people to become successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors, and responsible citizens.

The curriculum is defined as all that is planned for and experienced by learners across: curriculum areas and subjects; interdisciplinary learning; the ethos and wider life of the school and opportunities for personal achievement. Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing are recognised as a responsibility of all teaching staff across the school. More can be read about Scotland's curriculum [here](#).

In S1 to S3, pupils follow the Broad General Education (BGE) phase of the Curriculum for Excellence. Through this, they develop their knowledge, skills and experiences across a wide range of curricular areas. In S3, most pupils will be making progress towards National Qualification courses.

In the Senior Phase (S4–S6), pupils study for formal National Qualifications and gain experiences to prepare for life beyond school. Our vocational programme offers an array of courses at our partner colleges.

Pupils experience a broad curriculum throughout their time at St. Ninian's High School and departments offer a range of courses and qualifications which ensure that pupils can experience a personalised pathway through school. More information about each department and the courses on offer can be found [here](#).

Pupils will be timetabled for Religious Education (RE), Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Physical Education (PE) at all stages throughout their journey at St. Ninian's High School. These core subjects are a crucial part of every pupils' curriculum and contribute to their social, emotional and spiritual development.

Our school curriculum makes links to the Meta-skills which we encourage our pupils to practice and develop. Meta-skills have been described as 'skills for the future' and defined as timeless, higher order skills that create adaptive learners and promote success in whatever the future brings.

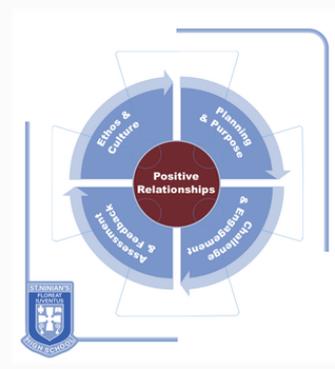


S1 Curriculum

Pupils in S1 will spend most of their time in mixed ability settings as part of their alpha class. In Maths and English, pupils are broad banded to ensure the appropriate level of support and challenge within their class. Pupils will experience a range of different subjects to support their subject choices at the end of S1.

The S1 timetable is structured as follows:

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| English | 5 periods |
| Mathematics | 4 periods |
| Modern Languages | 3 periods |
| Science | 3 periods |
| PE | 3 periods |
| RE | 2 periods |
| PSHE | 1 period |



History, Geography and Modern Studies – 3 periods per rotational block 3 times per year.

Home Economics, Music and Computing – 3 periods per week for half of the year.

Design & Technology, Art & Design Business Management, and Drama – 3 periods per week for half of the year.

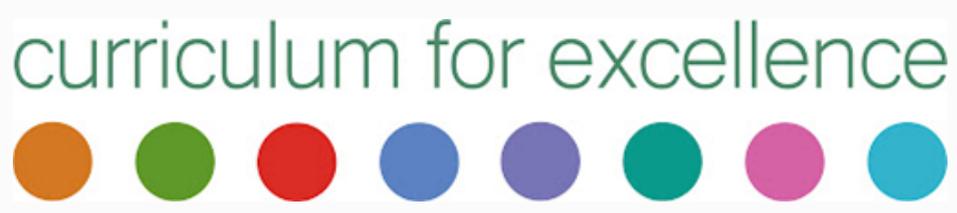
Mandarin and Spanish lessons are inserted into the S1 curriculum throughout the year.

S1 Subject Choice

At the end of S1, most pupils will choose 8 subjects which they will take forward into S2, S3 and S4. Pupils and parents/carers are supported to make these choices through the PSHE curriculum, Information Evenings and one to one Pastoral interviews. Our S1 into S2 option choices booklet 2025–26 can be found [here](#).

S2/S3 Curriculum

Pupils in S2 and S3 continue to develop their knowledge and skills under the BGE phase within their chosen subjects.



“ Employers in every sector of our economy are increasingly prioritising the behavioural or “meta” skills of their employees. Technical know-how, job specific content and business operating environments change quickly. Meta skills offer organisations greater adaptability and responsiveness to change...

Universities Scotland



S4 Curriculum

As pupils enter the Senior Phase of the Curriculum for Excellence, many will complete National Qualifications from the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) in the 8 subjects they have chosen. Most pupils will undertake a week of work experience during their time in S4.

S5 & S6 Curriculum

In S5 and S6, pupils may progress with their SQA subjects at National 4, 5 and Higher Grade. In S6, Advanced Higher courses are available to those who have passed the relevant Higher qualification. Our S5/6 option choices 2025–26 can be found [here](#).

S6 is seen by the school as a bridge between school and all future pathways. Some pupils may have study periods during the week which they are encouraged to remain in school for, making use of the S6 social area. There are a range of opportunities available for S6 pupils to get involved in. Pupils have, in the past, been involved with activities such as working in local nurseries, play groups, primary schools, helping in local nursing homes, supporting the Faith life of the school, prefect duties, assisting with pupils with additional support needs, assisting in library, student tutoring, student mentoring, Caritas award, year book committee, charities committee, Young Enterprise, organisation of discos and much more!

Pupils are supported to make choices about the most suitable pathway and each pupil is provided with the "S5 and S6 Pathways booklet". This details higher educational, further educational and vocational opportunities, and explains the National Qualification courses offered.

Vocational Programme

In S5/S6, pupils have the opportunity to apply for and take part in the East Renfrewshire Vocational Programme, which runs throughout the academic year and is delivered within the school week. These vocational courses are designed to provide pathways into employment, training, or further and higher education. Vocational qualifications follow the same structure and are governed by the same arrangements as school-delivered subjects. The courses have been developed with input from industry sectors to ensure they meet the needs of future employers. For more information about the Vocational Programme and the available courses, visit: [East Renfrewshire Opportunities for All](#).

Careers Advice

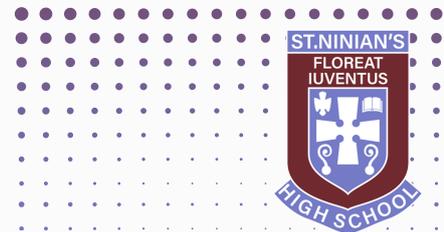
Skills Development Scotland support pupils in school at all stages by offering career advice, guidance and information. All pupils have access to Careers Advisers during their time in school. After they have left school, they can access similar supports at the Skills Development Scotland Centre in Barrhead. We have two Skills Development Scotland Career advisers here in St. Ninian's High School.

Pupils are invited to attend a careers interview at key stages such as option choices and before leaving school. The careers interview rooms are situated in the pastoral support base and pupils are provided with a note of where and when to attend

The Careers Advisers offer 1-2-1 guidance sessions and group sessions as well as drop in sessions at lunchtime. They are also available at all parents' evenings, many information evenings and at the school careers convention. Referrals to our careers advisers can be made by parents, subject teachers, pastoral support and by students themselves.



Our Library



The school library is a vital and dynamic resource designed to support pupils' academic success and foster a lifelong love of reading. We offer a wide selection of fiction, non-fiction, Manga, comics, graphic novels, dyslexia friendly titles, games, jigsaws, zines and digital resources that cater to diverse interests and subjects of our pupils, making it an ideal place for research, independent study, and exploration of new ideas.

Whether you need to finish your homework, prepare for a test, or simply enjoy reading for pleasure, the library provides a quiet and welcoming environment to do so. In addition to books, the library is equipped with computers and a printer for pupil use to assist with academic projects and research. Our knowledgeable librarian Mrs Baird is available to guide students in finding resources, navigating databases, suggesting that perfect read and improving their research skills. Students are encouraged to visit the library regularly, whether to borrow materials, engage with new topics, take part in competitions or quizzes or seek help with schoolwork. We also have a fortnightly reading group #BooksNBiscuits named by the pupils.

Pupils benefit from library lessons in S1-S3 through the English department on topics such as Critical Thinking, Scots language, AI and Comics. The upper school involves more tailored and targeted sessions with a variety of departments on referencing, bibliographies and search strategies.

The library holds c6500 books available for students to borrow on site, however, pupils are able to borrow from any secondary school library and any community library in East Renfrewshire simply by making a request through Mrs Baird – that's over 100,000 items! Pupils are encouraged to become library members and can borrow by using their East Renfrewshire All Access card.

As mentioned on our awards page earlier in the handbook, through her initiative "Seeds to Success," Mrs Baird secured 'Green Library' funding which has been used to create a "nurturing book nook" within our Support for Learning Hub. These resources support various needs, including dyslexia, autism, and mental health, and are thoughtfully displayed in a kinderbox that can be easily moved into our garden space on sunny days.

The library is open from 8.30-4.00PM and at every break and lunchtime when Mrs Baird is available.

Please note that Mrs Baird is shared with another school in the authority. Check the library or our X account @stninianslib for an up-to-date timetable for access.

“Never trust anyone who has not brought a book with them.”

Lemony Snicket



Digital Platforms & Homework

Digital Platforms

At St. Ninian's High School, we use Digital Learning and Teaching to support and enhance the educational experience of young people. Please click [here](#) to access our Digital Learning and Teaching guide. Glow is the online portal through which pupils can access many digital supports including OneDrive, Scholar, Microsoft 365 and Microsoft Teams. We use Microsoft Teams as our digital learning platform and when pupils come to the school in S1, they will receive an introductory lesson on how to use Microsoft Teams. Through this software, pupils can access class resources and be kept up to date with important information via their class Teams and their year group Team.

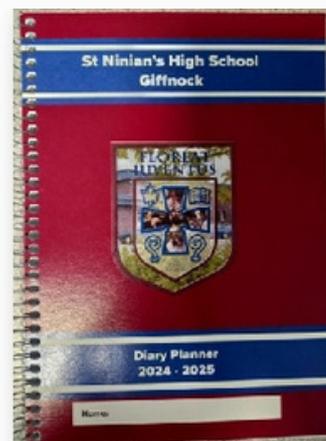
Pupils should ensure that notifications for each of their class Teams are turned on so that they are kept up to date when their class teacher or year group head makes a post. If a pupil is unsure of how to do this they should seek support from their class teacher. Similarly, if a pupil forgets their Glow password this can be changed easily by any class teacher.



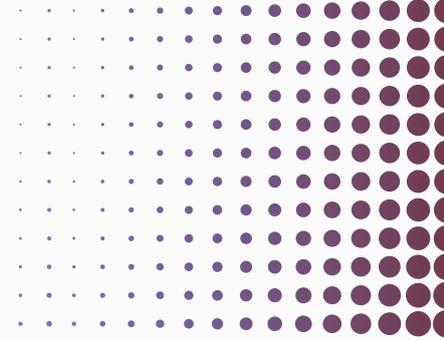
Homework

Each pupil is issued with a St. Ninian's homework diary which should be brought to school daily. They are encouraged to use their diary to make a note of key dates such as the date homework tasks are due and upcoming assessments. Class teachers may also make use of Microsoft Teams to share key dates and assignments with their class.

Homework is designed to encourage pupils to practise new learning and reinforce taught skills. The frequency of homework provided will vary within each stage and subject. Homework tasks may take a range of different formats including written, practical and oral tasks. Some tasks may be set to reinforce learning that has been taught in class recently, whereas others may require pupils to develop their critical thinking skills through undertaking research. We encourage parents to take an active interest in the completion of homework tasks to support pupils' engagement with these tasks.



Transitions & Progression



The majority of pupils enrolling in St. Ninian's High School come from our associated primary schools: Our Lady of the Missions Primary School; St. Cadoc's Primary School; St. Clare's Primary School and St. Joseph Primary School. The primary/secondary transition programme begins in November when the Head Teacher visits each primary school to meet with Primary 7 pupils. As the year progresses, further staff including Year Head, Pastoral and Support for Learning teachers also visit our associated primaries.

Primary 7 pupils in our associated primaries also have the opportunity to visit St. Ninian's. Pupils attend for a 2 day visit where they are involved in classes in Science, Technology, Art & Design, Business and Computing. These visits allow pupils to experience classes in the secondary school, as well as familiarising themselves with the school environment. Furthermore, Primary 7 pupils attend two St. Ninian's Induction Days in May where they meet with other pupils who will be joining the school in S1 and take part in a variety of curriculum based activities.

Parents of Primary 7 pupils are also invited to attend an information evening in May where they will have the opportunity to meet the Head Teacher, the S1 Year Head and other key staff and see the school community at first hand. Arrangements and details of this meeting will be communicated to parents by letter via the primary schools.

To support senior pupils with the transition from secondary school to apprenticeships, university, college and employment, the school works closely with Skills Development Scotland and our Developing the Young Work Force (DYW) Officer. As mentioned previously, the Pastoral team are supported by a careers officer who arranges appointments with pupils to help with career planning. Further support is provided through the DYW Newsletter and Teams page. Parents are invited to vocational and UCAS information events to support their child with future choices and to help with transition progress.



Assessment & Reporting



At St. Ninian's High School, reports detail a pupil's strengths and areas for development within each subject. This ensures that parents have a clear indication of their child's progress through the experiences and outcomes of the Curriculum for Excellence programme.

From the very beginning, the school takes into account prior attainment from their associated primary schools to assess needs and possible support. As pupils progress through St. Ninian's, they are assessed as appropriate in all subjects using a variety of different approaches. In addition to school assessments, all pupils in East Renfrewshire currently sit standardised tests in literacy and numeracy during S2 and the Scottish National Standardised Assessments in literacy and numeracy in S3. Pupils in fourth, fifth and sixth year will sit prelim assessments to help them prepare for their final SQA examinations.

Formal reports are issued to pupils three times per year. Pupils are given a paper copy of these and they are also made available to parents via ParentsPortal. Teachers will then discuss progress regularly with pupils through learner conversations to ensure that each individual is praised where appropriate and next steps and support are identified where required.

After each report is issued, pastoral teachers meet with respective year heads to monitor the overall progress of pupils within their caseload.

There are two different formats of reports issued to parents: two interim tracking reports and one full detailed report. The interim tracking reports provide a brief overview on how a pupil is progressing in each subject based on his/her ongoing performance in class allied, where applicable, to internal assessments. In all report formats, teachers will provide ratings using a four point scale to reflect a young person's effort, behaviour and homework. As pupils progress through the BGE reports begin to provide further detail regarding a child's progress. From third year onwards, pupils will be given a 'working grade' and a 'negotiated target' grade. The working grade reflects the grade that the young person is on track to achieve based on evidence. Whilst the negotiated target grade is an aspirational target agreed by both the pupil and the teacher.

The main purpose of this reporting system is to ensure there that pupils and parents/carers are fully informed about the progress of a young person. During the school year, every pupil will be issued with two tracking reports in addition to one full report. The full written report is comprehensive evaluation of each pupil's academic progress, personal development and overall school experience.

After the full report has been issued parents' evenings take place with each respective year group. These meetings give parents an opportunity to meet with one of their child's teachers to discuss their child's progress and development. Listed on the following page are the times when year group reports are issued and when parents' evenings take place.



Reporting Calendar

S1

Interim Tracking : October
Interim Tracking : February
Full Report & Parents' Evening : May

S2

Interim Tracking : September
Interim Tracking : January
Full Report & Parents' Evening : June

S3

Interim Tracking : October
Full Report & Parents' Evening : March
Interim Tracking : May

S4

Full Report & Parents' Evening : October
Interim Tracking : January
Interim Tracking : April

S5/6

Full Report & Parents' Evening : November
Interim Tracking : February
Interim Tracking : April

PSHE Booklets

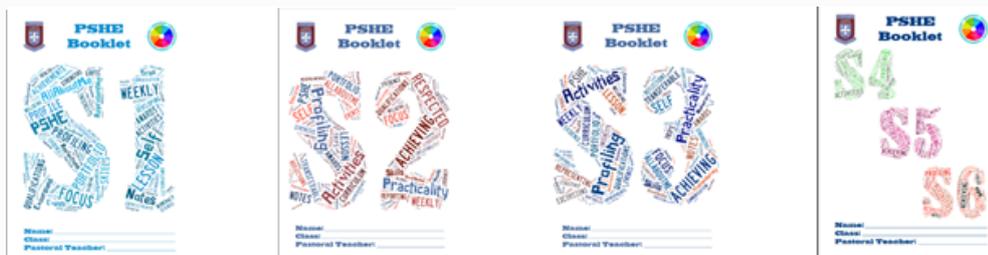
Pupils complete a booklet in PSHE which allows them to document their development journey. This booklet encourages them to keep a journal of their academic achievements as well as their skills development, co-curricular and personal achievements, qualifications and awards. Pupils are taught how to identify the transferable skills and attributes which are enhanced with each achievement.

The booklet allows pupils to identify their achievements and experiences which have prepared them for employment using the Developing the Young Workforce 'I Can' statements.

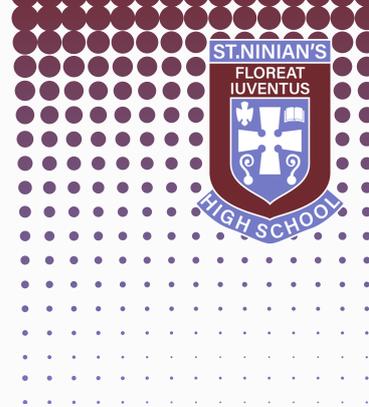
Pupils are also encouraged to use this booklet to reflect on their reports and parents' evenings. This encourages them to write an 'Action Plan', detailing how they make the required changes/developments and continue to perform to their full potential.

The last section in the booklet focuses on 'Getting it Right for Every Child'. Pupils are asked to use the SHANARRI indicators to identify how they are feeling at different points throughout the year using a link to a wellbeing evaluation. This helps pupils to share their feelings, as well as supporting pastoral teachers in identifying pupils who may require some additional support and encouragement.

We recognise the knowledge, skills and attributes that children and young people need to acquire to thrive in our interconnected, digital and rapidly changing world.



Recognising & Celebrating Achievements



We are proud of our pupil achievements and look to celebrate their many talents and successes. We focus on helping young people to understand the skills they have developed through these activities and enable them to better describe to others how they can demonstrate and build on those skills.

We have many existing methods of recognising achievement in our school, both formally and informally. Included are announcements & presentations at weekly assembly, wall displays, achievement boards, newsletters, medals, badges, certificates, prizes, school website and X. On leaving school pupils will be provided with a reference outlining their attainment, personal achievements and skills development.

Through PSHE pupils will be provided with the opportunity to reflect on what they have learned, experienced and achieved to date. This will be recorded in allocated pages in their PSHE booklet.

Achievement Opportunities

- In departments
- Co-curricular activities
- School clubs
- School trips/excursions
- School Teams
- Skills & Talents – debating/musical/sporting etc.
- Faith life of the school
- Out with school

Celebrating Achievements

- Weekly Assembly
- PSHE
- Departments
- Classrooms
- Wall displays
- Corridors
- Excellence boards
- Website
- Sports day awards etc
- Excellence badges



Pupil Leadership



Saint Ninian's High School is proud to have a number of elected representatives chosen from within our pupil body. There are leadership opportunities available at all stages from S1-S6, giving pupils the chance to take action for change while developing and demonstrating excellent leadership skills.

S6 Head Team

Head Girl – Chizitalu Umeh

Head Boy – Matthew Leung

Depute Heads

Calum Dick
Sergio Di Ciacca
Eva Gourlay
Eve Harvey
Reuben Johnstone
Erin Kelly

Jonny King
Kim McCarthy
Iva McDaid
Patrick McLaughlin
Kelsie Mooney
Michael Walsh



SNHS Pupil Council and Pupil Voice

At the beginning of each academic year each Pastoral class will elect two representatives to serve on each year group council. Candidates are required to meet certain requirements with regard to commitment, attendance, conduct and uniform. The pupil council meets to discuss themes which have been explored through PSHE. These themes include Learners Experience, Teaching for Effective Learning, Impact of Staff and Opportunity and Chances, along with specific views that are raised by pupils. This gives representatives the opportunity to discuss agenda items which have been put forward by pupils in their year group through PSHE. Year Group Representatives will then report back to their peers through the year group assembly.

Young Leaders of Learning

The YLL Programme is a West Partnership initiative which has been developed by Education Scotland as a way to get pupils involved in their education, the improvement cycle and taking action for change. In St. Ninian's High School, we currently have a group of S1 pupils involved in the programme. Throughout the year, our pupil representatives will be carrying out reciprocal visits with Barrhead High School. Visits will be designed to explore an agreed theme from How Good Is OUR School? and will result in groups delivering feedback to SLT at the end of the visit.



One St. Ninian's Group

The One St. Ninian's group is a group of pupils, supported by staff, who work on initiatives aimed at educating young people to avoid discriminatory behaviour of any kind and celebrate the diversity of our school community. Pupils work through a calendar of activities and decide how best to shine a light on their chosen topic or event that month. This has included, but is not limited to; Black History Month, Dyslexia Awareness Week, UN Day of Peace and International Women's Day.



S6 Service

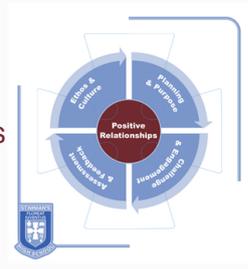
At St. Ninian's High School, participating in S6 service provides students with a unique opportunity to give back to the school community while building essential life skills. Through volunteering, pupils develop leadership, teamwork, and communication skills as they engage in meaningful activities, whether mentoring younger students, organising events, or supporting school initiatives. This experience fosters responsibility, empathy, and resilience, preparing S6 pupils for life beyond school while making a positive impact in their community.



Pupil Learning & Teaching Working Group

A range of pupils in S4-S6 are involved in the Pupil L&T Working Group. Pupils work closely with staff to evaluate learning and teaching, with the aim of identifying and sharing examples of excellent practice. Pupils have recently been involved in the development of the SNHS L&T Framework.

Participation in pupil leadership opportunities serves to develop pupils' interpersonal and presentation skills whilst endeavouring to enhance their sense of citizenship and responsibility. It is the intention of each group to provide an unbiased and cohesive forum through which pupils can voice opinions, issues and ideas which will improve and enhance their experience of Saint Ninian's High School and to positively impact the educational development of future year groups.



Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke of Edinburgh award at St. Ninian's starts in S3 with the Bronze award and allows pupils to progress through Silver and Gold by the end of S6. Pupils undertaking the award have a huge impact on the local community through their volunteering hours and also develop new skills, make new friends and face challenges they never thought they could. Full information on the DofE Award at St. Ninians' can be found [here](#).



SNHS Digital Ambassadors

The digital ambassadors work to support both pupils and staff with their digital skills. They run digital CLPL sessions for staff, are available to pupil drop in sessions and support pupils with additional support needs in using digital platforms and assistive technologies to support Alternate Assessment Arrangements (AAA).



Mentors in Violence Prevention

The Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) programme is an effective bystander intervention programme which gives young people the opportunity to take a leadership role in challenging gender based violence and other forms of harmful behaviour. As part of the Scottish Government's Equally Safe strategy, it provides opportunities for young people to explore healthy relationships and is an important tool in supporting wellbeing and positive mental health. Here in St. Ninian's High School, we currently have over 130 S5 & S6 mentors who are trained in 'MVP'. They visit S2 & S3 PSHE classes throughout the year to run workshops and activities which focus on issues such as bullying, gender based violence and social media use. MVP gives an excellent opportunity for our senior mentors to be leaders both inside and outside of the classroom, within our school and wider community. Our mentors develop a wide variety of leadership skills while encouraging our younger pupils to become active bystanders.



The Caritas Award

The Pope Benedict XVI Caritas Award encourages and promotes the ongoing faith journey of young people. It recognises that some are already active and committed within their homes, schools, parishes and dioceses and it invites others to respond to God's call of love. Each year, members of S6 gain their award by being involved in many events which take place in our school. These events include Primary Retreats with our future S1, reading or being a Eucharistic Minister at Mass in the school and contributing to many evening and fundraising activities in school and local parishes. Candidates who successfully gain their Caritas Award also gain the SQA Religion, Belief and Values Award at Level 5 or 6. This award helps learners to deepen their knowledge and understanding of how religion and values can shape and contribute to the lives of individuals and communities. It encourages learners to explore and reflect on their personal faith or values, and to deepen their understanding of this through practical engagement in local, national or global communities. During their final year our young people are encouraged to live the Gospel Values by giving of their own time and gifts to support others.



Parental Involvement



Scottish School (Parental Involvement) Act 2006

School Boards were replaced in August 2007 by a new system of parent councils. The Act makes provision for all parents to be members of the Parent Forum at the school, and to have their views represented to the school, education authority and others, through a representative Parent Council for the school.

The legislation supports parental involvement in a much wider sense than before. It aims to help all parents to be:

- Involved with their child's education and learning
- Welcomed as active participants in the life of the school
- Encouraged to express their views on school education generally and work in partnership with the school.

The Parent Council also has a role in the appointment of Head Teachers and Depute Head Teachers.

St. Ninian's High School Parent Council

Our school's Parent Council brings together parents, staff and co-opted members, with the head teacher as professional advisor.

The role includes:

- consulting with parents and reporting on matters of interest
- encouraging the development of links between school and parents
- taking part in selection of senior promoted staff to the school
- receiving reports from the head teacher and East Renfrewshire Council

The Head Teacher and local councillors may attend all meetings as advisors to the Parent Council and have the right to speak although, not being members of the Parent Council, no right to vote.

Find out more [here](#) on our school website. Should you wish to join the Parent Council, please contact the school office.



School Performance

“St. Ninian’s High School is very successfully sustaining high standards over time. Young people achieved outstanding outcomes.”

St. Ninian’s Summarised Inspection Findings, 2019

SQA 2025

| S4 Nat 4+ Pass | | | S4 Nat 5 Pass | | | S5 Higher Pass | | | S6 Higher Pass on leaving | | | S6 AH Pass | | |
|----------------|-----|-------|---------------|-----|-------|--|-----|-------|---------------------------|-----|-------|------------|-----|-------|
| 9+ | 196 | 57.6% | 9+ | 166 | 48.8% | 6+ | 6 | 2.0% | 6+ | 151 | 47.5% | 3+ | 37 | 11.6% |
| 8+ | 281 | 82.6% | 8+ | 231 | 67.9% | 5+ | 162 | 53.6% | 5+ | 217 | 68.2% | 2+ | 101 | 31.8% |
| 7+ | 309 | 90.9% | 7+ | 259 | 76.2% | 4+ | 207 | 68.5% | 4+ | 229 | 72.0% | 1+ | 169 | 53.1% |
| 6+ | 319 | 93.8% | 6+ | 277 | 81.5% | 3+ | 235 | 77.8% | 3+ | 238 | 74.8% | | | |
| 5+ | 323 | 95.0% | 5+ | 299 | 87.9% | All percentages are of the S4 end of year roll | | | | | | | | |

| S4 N5 % of Presentations | | | S5 H % of Presentations | | | S6 AH % of Presentations | | |
|--------------------------|------|-------|-------------------------|------|-------|--------------------------|-----|-------|
| A | 1821 | 70.5% | A | 669 | 54.6% | A | 174 | 51.5% |
| PASS | 2418 | 93.6% | PASS | 1122 | 91.5% | PASS | 332 | 98.2% |
| Tot | 2584 | | Tot | 1226 | | Tot | 338 | |

“The school is making significant progress in raising attainment for all of its young people”

St. Ninian’s Summarised Inspection Findings, 2019

School Improvement

St. Ninian’s consistently strives to improve on its successes. The current School Plan sets targets on a number of priorities, with an emphasis on enhancing pupil attainment and achievement and encouraging their wider involvement in school with an emphasis on opportunity for all and service to others.

The School Improvement Plan 2025–2028 can be accessed [here](#).



Education Privacy Notice



The Education Privacy Notice is provided by East Renfrewshire Council for clarification on what information Education Services need in order to process information regarding pupils, parents, carers and other individuals. It's necessary for Education Services to gather, collect, store and process personal information to help in the running and provision of an Education Service to communities throughout East Renfrewshire including primary and secondary schools, supported learning centres, and early learning centres. Information about this can be found here on the ERC website.

Useful Links

Anti-Bullying:

<http://respectme.org.uk/>

Clothing Grants & Free School Meals:

<https://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Complaints:

<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/complaints>

Educational Maintenance Allowance

<https://www.mygov.scot/ema>

Emergency Closure of Schools and Establishments – Severe Weather Conditions:

<http://bit.ly/SevereWeatherSNHS>

Health & Wellbeing:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/HealthandWellbeingWebsite/about/>

Inclusion:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/curriculumlinks/inclusion/>

Information for Parents:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StNinians/information/parents-2/>

ParentPay

<https://www.parentpay.com/>

ParentsPortal

<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/parentsportal>

School Transport:

<https://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/getting-to-school>

School Holidays Dates:

<https://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/school-holidays>

