

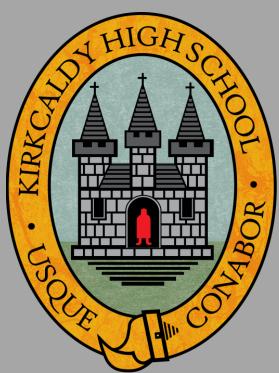




UNITED KINGDOM

GOLD - RIGHTS RESPECTING

Kirkcaldy



High School

Our Prospectus for session 2025-2026



VISION SCHOOLS SCOTLAND

Kirkcaldy High School, Level 1, 2022 - 2025



Improved positive destinations follow-ups 91.7% 2022/23 to 93.5% 2023/24

Improved attendance in school **85.7%** 2023/24 to **86.89%** 2024/25

Continued improvement in literacy and numeracy in S4 **L4 90.49%** 2023/24 to **93.82%** 2024/25

L5 61.64% 2023/24 to **75.64%** 2024/25

S4 Improvements for achieving 5 qualifications in: L3 (up 9% to 90.6%) L4 (up 7% to 81.3%)

\$5 Improvement for achieving 5 qualifications in: L5 (up over 4% to 59.2%) L6 (up almost 10% to 19.58%)

Young people feel safer in school, from **92%** in May 2024 to **97%** June 2025



SAID WE D

- You identified a need for teachers, departments and faculties to be consistent with their use of praise
- You asked for support to prepare for examinations.
- You asked for a School of Rugby.
- You wanted a choice of activities within SI Literacy periods.
- You wanted to be able to choose your subject for S3 short courses.
- You wanted PE as an option for S5/6 core.
- You needed support with wellbeing.
- You wanted clearer feedback more consistently from teachers.

- We introduced a new Recognising Achievement & Celebrating Success policy with pupil awards and wider achievement recognition.
- We added Achieve subscriptions, study support, Easter school, and iPads.
- We launched an S2 School of Rugby.
- We introduced a choice of themed units in \$1 Literacy.
- We introduced choice in S3 short courses with detailed course information provided.
- We have introduced personalisation and choice into senior core, and PE is one of the options.
- We have created ways to understand your wellbeing with this leading to over 97% of young people feeling safe in school.
- We have introduced WOW/NOW/HOW for consistent, effective feedback.



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Please note that this edition of the Prospectus is intended m use by parents/carers of pupils who will, or may, enter the s the beginning of, or during, Session 2025-2026. All informatic is believed to be correct at the time of preparation. Howeve are sometimes liable to change in the course of a session.	chool at on given	N. COT	
Also, please note that the information and photographs utypically from previous sessions, before the time of COVID tancing rules. Some activities are, at the time of publication, rarily suspended or modified.	and dis-	Cover Picture: KHS Prize-winner's for 2024-2025.	

A WARM WELCOME FROM THE RECTOR

It is a real pleasure to welcome you to our Prospectus — a short booklet which gives a flavour of what we are all about here .

Having been the Rector of Kirkcaldy High School for over two years now, I continue to enjoy the challenges that we face every day. As always we to try and improve the experiences that we provide for young people, working closely with all our school community—pupils, parents and staff.

We are a modern, progressive learning community of over 1400 learners and the staff commitment, expertise and resources to match our ambitions; delivering a high quality and very inclusive learning experience with a wide range of partners and employers.

Our curriculum is innovative, responsive and challenging, with attainment, equity, fairness and employability as key themes. We are also known for our work in promoting "STEM" subjects and looking after the health and wellbeing of our learners, and staff.

We are completely committed to equality, and we work hard to "close the gap" for learners from more economically deprived backgrounds. In 2014 and 2018 we were honoured to be the recipients of the COSLA Excellence Award for our work in relation to teenage health and wellbeing, having been recognised for "Improving Health and Reducing Inequality", specifically in reducing teenage pregnancy and in tackling prejudice and homophobia.

We were also selected as the "Kingdom FM" Best School in the "Local Hero" Awards in 2014 and 2019 and featured twice as finalists in the Scottish Education Awards (2014 and 2016).

In December 2019, we became Fife's first secondary school to achieve "UNICEF" Gold Rights Respecting status and this year we have been re-acredited. The following year we became one of the first schools in Scotland to be awarded the LGBTYS "Gold" Charter.

As I say, this booklet serves only as a brief introduction and I would also direct you to our website www.kirkcaldyhighschool.com and our "Twitter" news service @KirkcaldyHigh. We have well over four and a half thousand followers and a very active social media profile.

Welcome to our school ... to your new school. Together, let's "strive to the utmost".



Chris McKay Rector Kirkcaldy High School

WHAT WE ARE ABOUT: Our Vision, Values and Aims

Kirkcaldy High School - Vision, Values and Aims

Vision

At Kirkcaldy High School, our vision is to support every young person to develop their talents and strive to meet their potential—academically, emotionally, and socially—through high expectations, supportive relationships, and shared success. Founded in respect, inspired by ambition, and united in community, we live our motto: *Usque Conabor*—'I will strive to the utmost.'"

Dream big. Work hard. Be kind.

Values

Community, Ambition, Respect

Aims

We aim to:

- Ensure that every young person's rights and needs are met
- Support every young person to improve wellbeing and health
- Engage every young person in learning, regardless of barriers faced
- Maximise every young person's potential and talent through improved attainment and achievement, including in literacy and numeracy.
- Support every young person to gain the skills and qualifications needed to succeed in a positive destination after school.

We have an ancient Latin motto ...
'Usque Conabor'

WHAT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE SAY: Our Head Boy and Girl

Through all the challenges we face on a daily basis, the Prefect Team and Deputes do an amazing job of keeping the school running and supporting the wider pupil community.

Our teachers also work incredibly hard, going above and beyond to make sure every pupil feels safe, supported, and comfortable in the school environment. They strive to help every student develop into the best version of themselves, and their efforts

do not go unnoticed.

The opportunities offered at KHS are truly special and unique. No matter who you are, there is always a place for you to fit in while still having the chance to stand out. Personally, my high school journey has been a real rollercoaster. Like many others, I've faced my share of challenges, setbacks, and moments of uncertainty. But through it all, KHS has been there, helping me to grow, learn, and find my confidence. These experiences have shaped me into a more independent and resilient person, and I am incredibly proud to serve as Head Boy of KHS. One of the most valuable parts of my time at KHS has been the friendships I've made along the way. The people around you, your classmates, your teammates, your friends, play such a big role in shaping your high school experience. Whether it's laughing through the good times or supporting each other during the hard ones, these relationships are what truly make school memorable. I'll always be grateful for the people I've met and the memories we've made together. Our school motto, Usque Conabor, meaning "I will strive to my

utmost," is something I have lived by throughout my six years here. Whether it's in my studies or through extra-curricular activities, I've always tried to give my best effort. I encourage everyone else to do the same. When you truly put your mind to something, you'll be amazed at what you can achieve and how much you can surprise yourself.

Becoming Head Girl of Kirkcaldy High School was something I had previously assumed an impossible task for me. I had struggled with anxiety and socialising for a long period of time, but I eventually decided to push my limits through many ways, one of those being the attempt at becoming Head Girl.

We have an amazing leadership team this year, and I am more than happy to be working alongside such a hardworking and positive group of people. We have already had a decently full schedule, being assigned tasks like creating the prefect duty rota and attending weekly meetings to discuss how things are going.

The staff at Kirkcaldy High are what really keep the school a positive, productive place to be. In the 5 years I have been here I have always felt comfortable to ask any questions and have felt supported by my teachers in exam seasons and when going through other challenging times.

There are countless positive experiences available at Kirkcaldy High, with our Rector Mr McKay and all of our deputes and guidance teachers putting in an incredibly large amount of time an effort to ensure that every pupil in the school feels secure in their education and gains the skills and experiences they need to have the future they wish to have. Many educational school trips are available, alongside many sports events. We also have the opportunity to volunteer as ambassadors in a range of departments to help out in subjects that we have interest in.

It is important as a pupil to try your utmost, as our school motto "Usque Conabor" translates to, in every part of your school experience. Balancing your education and life outside of school is difficult, but encouragement from teachers and an amazing guidance and PSO team always helps when needed. Awards for effort and achievements are also offered which help pupils continue to push hard in their education.

Kirkcaldy High is an amazing school in many ways, and I am incredibly grateful and honoured to be starting my final year as the Head Girl. Best wishes to everyone for this year.

Sadie Lawrence

Matthew Graham



Pupil Voice @ KHS

The Pupil Voice Forum is a pupil led group which listens to and values every young person at Kirkcaldy High School. The group meets regularly (approximately once per month) to discuss and share ideas on topics linked to learning and wider school life. The aim of the group is to ensure all pupils have their voices heard. Whilst most of the discussions will be informal, SLT will gather specific information relating to HIGIOS and specific aspects of their remit timeously throughout the session.

The Forum is run by members of the Pupil/House Leadership Team who help set the agenda, chair meetings, provide feedback to the Senior Leadership Team and drive ideas and initiatives forward. The Pupil Voice Forum is also supported by a team of S1 and S3 pupils who represent the younger year groups, carryout admin duties and assist in the organisation of meetings and feedback to SLT

The Pupil Voice Team work with a different group of young people each week. We don't run elections or have a lengthy application process to decide who attends meetings. Instead, every pupil of Kirkcaldy High School is automatically a member of the Pupil Voice Forum and pupils are picked randomly to attend. Ahead of each meeting, pupils are randomly selected from across different year groups and Houses. They are then invited to participate in the meeting by sharing their ideas and voicing opinions via any member of Pupil Voice Forum.

If pupils are not selected when a particular topic is being discussed, they can still offer their comments via their tutor teacher or any member of the Pupil Voice team. Feedback and information gathered at the meetings may be published on the school website and newsletter, displayed on the designated noticeboard and shared amongst the wider school staff at Extended Leadership Team meetings. In addition, the Pupil Voice Team may attend Senior Leadership Team meetings who then respond to any issues or questions raised.



THE SCHOOL DAY AND THE SCHOOL YEAR 2025-2026

Our School Day

Start of school day: 8.40am / End of school day (Mon-Thurs/Fri): 3.25pm/1.05pm

Period/break times:

In summary, the school week will consist of:

- \cdot 33 periods of 50-minute lessons Monday to Friday
- · 7 periods per day from Monday to Thursday
- · 5 periods on Friday
- · Total learning time is 27.5 hours

The school week for session 2025/26 and beyond will be:



Sea Story 2025



NPA Jewellery

Monday to Thursday	Times	Friday	Times
Period 1	8.40 - 9.30	Period 1	8.40 - 9.30
Period 2	9.30 - 10.20	Period 2	9.30 - 10.20
INTERVAL (15 MINS)	10.20 - 10.35	INTERVAL (15 MINS)	10.20 - 10.35
Period 3	10.35 - 11.25	Period 3	10.35 - 11.25
Period 4	11.25 - 12.15	Period 4	11.25 - 12.15
Period 5	12.15 - 1.05	Period 5	12.15 - 1.05
LUNCH (40 MINS)	1.05 - 1.45	6	
Period 6	1.45 - 2.35		
Period 7	2.35 - 3.25		



World Book Day



KHS S1 Football

Holiday	Start Date	End Date				
Autumn	Monday 13 October 2025	Friday 24 October 2025				
Christmas	Monday 22 December 2025	Friday 2 January 2026				
Additional	Thursday 12 February 2026	Friday 13 February 2026				
Spring	Friday 3 April 2026	Friday 17 April 2026				
Additional	Monday 4	May 2026				
Additional	Monday 1	June 2026				
Summer	Monday 6 July 2026	Tuesday 18 August 2026				



Fife Cross Country



Christmas Assembly



Young Musician

School Uniform

There is no doubt that the positive ethos of our school, our culture of equality , and our pupils' attitude to work and respect for themselves are all reflected in the wearing of school dress. The uniform also enhances the feeling of being part of KHS and reduces any tendency to flaunt designer wear or labels. We firmly believe in equity and uniform helps

We expect all pupils, at all times, to wear a white shirt or blouse (preferably in a formal "dress" style), school tie, black trousers or skirt and black formal shoes. Pupils are expected to wear a blazer. In S6, the blazer has coloured braid added, with Prefects in gold braid. There is a special S6 tie, which reflects House affiliation. A plain black v-neck jersey or cardigan can be worn, and school branded versions are available.

The school tie must be visible at all times. Ties are available from the school office at cost price. Blazers etc are available locally or from Academy Uniforms (online or at events we will arrange) at a low cost, inclusive of the school badge. Please try the weblink; www.academvuniformsltd.co.uk.

Leggings should not be worn to school. For the avoidance of doubt, we regard leggings as being the type of very tight fitting pants which have no pockets. See-through material is also not acceptable. Please help us by ensuring that all trousers are of a reasonably thick material and that no underwear is visible.

The basic kit for PE is a T-shirt or similar; shorts or track suit; sports socks; training/gym shoes; boots as necessary. Clothing should not depict slogans or pictures which could give offence to others or advertise alcohol etc. We cannot allow pupils to take part in sports activities wearing any kind of jewellery.

Parents/carers on lower incomes and entitled to apply for financial assistance (ie a clothing grant) should see our website for details or contact any Fife Council Area Office. Also,

we have a good stock of second-hand blazers donated by leavers, and we are happy to gift a blazer (or other uniform items) to any family facing hardship whenever we can. Please contact Guidance.



WHAT OUR PARENTS/CARERS DO: Parent Council

The KHS Parent Council represents your views, and promotes contact and communication between school, parents, pupils and the community. It reports back to you, the parent/carer community. The current chairperson of the Council is Mrs Susan Watson and she can be contacted through the school. Most of our meetings now take place online using "Microsoft Teams".

As well as the other parent/carer members there are three co-opted members, Chris McKay (Rector), and Sandy Young (Depute Rector) and two representatives of the KHS Learning Council. Local Fife Councillors from the Kirkcaldy Area Committee are invited and often attend meetings, which have recently been held by video conference. All parents are part of the wider parent/carer forum and are welcome to attend meetings and may raise any matters they wish.

WHAT OUR SUPPORTERS DO: Friends of Kirkcaldy High School

Friends of Kirkcaldy High School is a volunteer support group which helps the school in many ways – assisting with school events, driving the minibus on trips, invigilating, fundraising, helping individual pupils, mentoring, sponsorship of awards etc.



Friends of KHS Fund Raising Ceilidh

Newsletter

The group has about 200 members and the current chair is Judith Kerr, former pupil and member of staff of Kirkcaldy High School.

FoKHS also maintains the KHS archives - a collection of documents, photographs and artefacts going back to the nineteenth century.

FoKHS fundraising has supported upgrades to the grounds and the assembly hall, and also helps the school subsidise the cost of school outings. The annual FoKHS Ceilidh is held in March and we add to this a fun race night in November. We organise a raffle which is supported by local businesses and is drawn at the Ceilidh.

If you would like more information or are considering becoming a member of FoKHS, please contact Steven Hay (Secretary) through the school or email fokhs.secretary@yahoo.com

WHAT WE DO TO SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE: Guidance

The Guidance Team at Kirkcaldy High School are highly committed to improving the life chances of young people. They:

work with young people to set targets and make informed decisions concerning personal, curricular and vocational development

Connect with key partners, where necessary, to ensure appropriately and timely intervention

Are a first point of contact for parents/carers

Teach the PSE curriculum, to ensure young people receive the information, and develop the skills necessary as they develop into adulthood

We work within the "Getting it Right in Fife" framework to ensure that all young people thrive. Any worries about attendance, bullying or general progress are addressed thoroughly and efficiently. We organise our Guidance Team in Houses: Oswald, Carlyle and Adam Smith. Each year group is associated with a Depute Rector (Year Head), who oversees progress and social development.

All new S1 classes are teamed with S6 Buddies, who help them settle into life at Kirkcaldy High School. All pupils will have the opportunity to contribute to the life of the school via House activities and Inter-House Competitions.













OSWALD HOUSE Mrs C Kendrick Mr A Farguharson (Team Leader)







Mrs Gibb Year Head **S1**



Mrs S Hamilton Year Head S3



Mrs J Davidson Year Head S5/6



Mr S Young Year Head S2



Mrs K Hume Year Head S4



Mr G Broadway PTC Support For Learning

Supported Learning

Our ambition is to ensure all Young People reach their potential and, in order to do this, we prioritise meeting the needs of all learners, both in class and outwith class. Following the 'Getting It Right in Fife' guidelines, our specialist team adopts a nurturing approach, ensuring that we provide the least intrusive, yet most effective, package that removes or mitigate barriers to learning, engagement and progress.

Our extensive team are adept at recognising and assessing Young People who have an Additional Support Need, and at devising strategies to ensure they can access the curriculum and attain on the same basis as their peers.

We work closely with a number of partners across Children's Services, as well as wider, Local Authority services, 3rd Sector groups and other educational establishments to ensure a team approach to supporting young people, where roles are clear and actions fulfilled.

Within our faculty we have Young People with particularly complex needs, whose plans determine a very individualised approach to learning, teaching, assessment and curriculum. These Young

People benefit from a Named Person who has a specific role in supporting them, in recognition of the enhanced approach to support that their needs require.



Mr M Geissler PT Equity



Pupil Support Officer's Mrs Pamela Buchan Mrs Claire Lister



Pupil Support Team

The KHS Learning Standard

We think it is important for everyone that adults show the leading by displaying calm and consistency at all times with clear expectations of our young people. Our emphasis on COMMUNITY, AMBITION and RESPECT gives us a shared basis for our school. We recently developed this further by simplifying our school rules to reflect our values and to improve our routines.

Those who do not respect our values can expect there to be consequences and/or parental contact. However, we are a collaborative and forgiving school, which promotes repairing damaged relationships rather than punishment.

There is reward and recognition for those who consistently respect our shared values of Community, Ambition and Respect.

The basis of our work in this area is the United Nations Charter on the Rights of the Child, and we are a UNICEF "Rights Respecting School" ... recently recognised as having attained "Gold" standard. This means we are committed to work with young people in their interests. We understand that participation and developing leadership in young people is vitally important in today's world.

We use restorative approaches to conflict and "discipline" issues whenever we can. This involves exploring the harm caused by any situation or incident, allowing those involved to have a say and expecting young people to take responsibility for their actions, to make amends and to learn from mistakes. We find that this is the best way to promote a good feeling around the school.



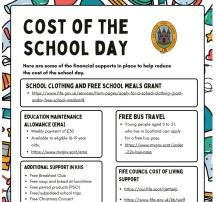












CONTACT

A A



Our learners



The Trade Hub



Tree Planting



The Trade Hub

KIRKCALDY HIGH SCHOOL - STAFF LIST AT JULY 2025

Management	D 4	RE	77	Guidance	700 (0)
Mr C McKay	Rector	Mrs S Whyte	PT	Mr A Farquharson	PTC (G)
Mrs J Davidson	Depute Rector	Mrs D Gauffre		Mrs C Donaldson	PT (G)
Mrs K Gibb	Depute Rector	Mrs L Logue	PT (A) Mat	Mrs C Kendrick	PT (G)
Mrs S Hamilton	Depute Rector	Mrs J Taylor		Mrs J Kerek	PT (G)
Mrs K Hume	Depute Rector	Mr J Conners		Mrs E Sim	PT (G)
Mr S Young	Depute Rector	Mathematics		Mrs R Christie	PT (G)
Mr A Reekie	Business Manager	Ms H Low	PTC	Supported Learning	
Business Education & Co		Miss S Barclay	630,000	Mr G Broadway	PTC
Miss Y Nessel	PTC	Mr G Cromb		Mrs M Stewart	PT
Mr C Caldwell	710	Mrs A Docherty		Miss H Black	PT
				Mrs A Caims	FI
Miss K Lipton Miss A Samfat	PT	Ms V Fedor-Szabo Mr M Geissler	PT	Ms M Currie	
	PI				
Mr S Tumbull		Mrs S Hamilton	DR.	Mrs L Foster	
Mr J Walsh	0.200.200	Miss M Law		Mrs G Lindsay	1222
Design, Engineering & T		Mr R MacDonald		Mr J Melville	PT
Mr N Ritchie	PTC	Ms C McMahon		Mr R Mooney	
Mrs K. Czudek		PE/HE		Mrs C Scott	
Mr M Fulton	PT	Mr M Stewart	PTC	Mr G Stewart	
Mr B Gallagher		Physical Education		Miss R Thomson	
Mrs M Geissler		Mrs J Davidson	DR.	Miss R Wilkie	
Mr A Hamilton	PT	Mr A Farouharson	DR (A)	Pupil Support Assistan	ts
Mr P I'Anson		Mr S Harrower	Dat (A)	Ms C Chisolm	
		Miss E Johnston		Mr B Dow	
Ms A Schulz					
Mr G Scott		Mrs L Poynter		Miss L Downey	
Expressive Arts		Mrs L Little	PT Mat	Ms M Faulds	
Art & Design		Mir J Permel		Ms E J Flockhart	
Mrs E Cowie	PTC	Mrs M Steedman	PT	Miss J Gordon	
Miss L Crichton		Mr S Young	DR.	Mrs V Hall	
Mrs C Kinloch		Mr S MacMorris		Ms J Halleron	
Mrs L Jack		Home Economics		Mrs K Kirk	
Drama		Miss K Moerman	PT	Miss J McBride	
Ms E Bruce		Ms S Akers		Mr S McIntosh	
Mr L McPherson		Miss E Brown		Miss L Morris	
Music		Ms E Dewar		Mr B Naismith	
	TATE .		DE 400		
Mrs R. Simpson	PT	Mrs C Donaldson	PT (G)	Mrs A Phillips	
Mrs M Duckett	PT	Ms K Smith		Miss C Prentice	
Miss L Clark		Support Assistant - 1	HE	Mr R. Pirie	
Mr B Wilkie		Ms S Gordon		Mrs A Wallace	
Music Instructors		Science		Ms L Winters	
Mr I Christie		Miss J Tennant	PTC	Clerical Staff	
Mr K Irwin		Biology		Mrs H Lowson (Adn	nin Co-ordinator)
Mr K Letham		Mrs N Dempsey	PT	Mrs C Cook	
Mr A James			PI	Mrs A Forber	
Mrs G Kelso		Mrs I Gannon		Miss D Jack	
		Ms R Geddes			
Mr A Macdonald		Miss D Irvine	PT	Mrs A Johnston	
Mrs A Ranieri		Miss L McFall		Mrs W Noone	
English	0225	Mirs L Scott		Mrs F Ross	
Mrs H Thompson	PTC	Mrs E Sim	PTC (G)(A)	Miss A Stratheam	
Mrs C Archibald		Chemistry	(-)(-)	Mrs F Waddell	
Mrs K Campbell		Dr K Black		Miss C Forsyth	
Mrs P Mackenzie	PT	Mr A Dick		Janitors	
Mr E Davis	33			Mr R Dow	
Miss A Dickson		Dr R. McNab		Mrs L Lister	
Ms G Ellis		Dr P Murray			
	DD.	Physics		Library	
Mrs K Hume	DR	Mr M Robb		Mr R Kirkcaldy	
Ms R Kelsey		Mr K Morrice		Pupil Support Officers	
Mrs C Kendrick	PT (G)	Mrs M Solowczuk		Mrs P Buchan	
Mrs J Kerek	PT (G)	Social Subjects		Miss C Lister	
Miss G Lamont-Boyce	1	Mr A Jones	PTC	Miss J Preece	
Mrs G Patton		Geography		Ms A Brown	
Mir T Wadsworth		Mrs J Gibson		Technicians	
Mrs K Gibb	DR.	Ms E Wallace		Mr A Samson	(Senior Technicia
Humanities				Dr K Bell	100000 1000000
	DTC	History			
Mrs P Morris	PTC	Miss A Dalziel		Mr A Smith	
Classical Studies		Mrs M Harrower		Mrs L Szmitz	15 BEF
Mrs E Brown		Mr E McCowan		Skills Development Sco	
Languages		Mr M Sanderson	PT (A)	Ms N Drysdale/Mr O	
Miss S Coggill		Ms F Smart	, ,	School Crossing Patrol	
Mrs A Docherty		Modern Studies		Kitchen Supervisor - M	
		Miss L Millar		Cleaning Team Leader	
Mr O Spink				CICUMINE LEURI PEROEI	mas o cromote
Mr O Spink					netor -
Mr O Spink		Miss L Reston Mrs J Young	PT	Active School Co-Ordin Ms K Crawford	uator -

A = Acting DR - Depute Rector PT (G) = Principal Teacher (Guidence) PTC = Principal Teacher Corriculum R = Ractor Mer = Mesonity

 $\mathit{FT} = \mathit{Principal Teacher}$

Key:
DR: Depute Rector
PTC: Principal Teacher (Curriculum),
PT: Principal Teacher PTG: Guidance

KHS House Leaders 2025/2026

Adam Smith House Leaders



Mr Sanderson



Miss Johnston



House Captains

Max Hogarth & Luisa Dalgleish

Vice Captains

Kyle Simpson & Ellie Salmond



Carlyle House Leaders



Mrs Poynter



Mr Dick



House Captains Kara Marshall & Leona Weepers

Vice Captains

Kristyn Marnoch & Emma Whitehill



Oswald House Leaders



Miss Wallace



Miss Millar



House Captains

Matthew Balsillie & Cerys Ronald

Vice Captains

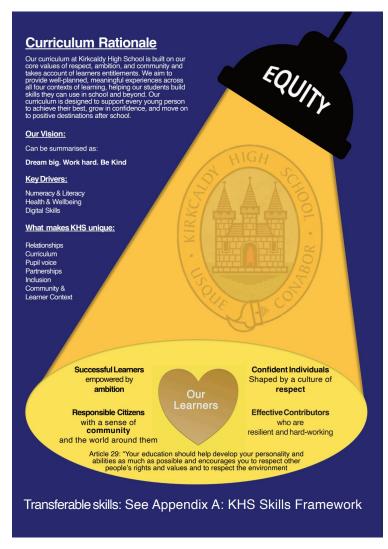
Max Laing & Violet Campbell



Curriculum at Kirkcaldy High School

'Transforming our curriculum...creating our future...improving life chances'

Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) has been in place for a number of years and national guidance has been used to develop a curriculum model to meet the needs of our young people in Kirkcaldy High School. The last national guidance for the curriculum was published in 2011. The arrival of our new Head Teacher in August 2022, provided Kirkcaldy High School with the opportunity to review and evaluate key aspects of learning and teaching, including the rationale and design of the curriculum, and the way this is delivered to pupils. In session 2022-23, we updated our curriculum rationale and have used this as a guide for our curriculum changes which have gone through a rigorous consultation during session 2023-24 and will take effect in session 2024-25.

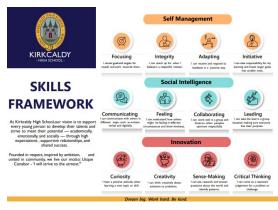


The changes to our curriculum have considered the values, diversity, history, community, and geographical context of our school. The following transformational changes aim to result in learning experiences that meet the aspirations of our young people and community:

- Increased learning time for all young people from 27 hours to 27.5 hours per week.
- Increased learning time will allow us to deliver PSE and RME (national entitlements) across all year groups.
- Introduce a 33 period week, with all periods being 50 mins long.
- The redevelopment of our S1 curriculum to engage our young people in exciting, enjoyable and relevant learning experiences.
- Ensuring that young people get their BGE entitlements until the end of S3 by ensuring that all 8 curriculum organisers are met.
- Wider achievement and targeted support classes introduced.
- Improved progression between S3 and S4 with all elective subjects having more balanced and equal learning time.

Skills Framework

Our curriculum has been designed to create opportunities for our learners to develop skills for learning, life, and work. Our KHS Skills Framework has been developed in consultation with learners, parents/carers, staff, and local employers.





Skills Framework

The Broad General Education

This stage of the curriculum encompasses the first three years in our school (S1-3). The first two years at KHS are designed to allow pupils to build on their primary school experience and to benefit from a broad general education in line with "Curriculum for Excellence" guidelines.

During the latter stages of S2, pupils are asked to select their personal choices for seven courses to be studied in S3. These will be Curriculum for Excellence Level 3 or 4 courses for most learners. Guidance staff will help to ensure learners are choosing appropriate courses which cover all 8 curricular areas (Languages and Literacy, Health & Wellbeing, Mathematics and Numeracy, Technologies, Science, Social Subjects, Expressive Arts and Religious and Moral Education).

Towards the end of S3, most learners will progress to qualifications at SCQF levels 3 to 5. Most of the qualifications will be 'Nationals' at either National 3 (SCQF Level 3), National 4 (SCQF Level 4) or National 5 (SCQF Level 5) level. However, we also offer alternative qualifications such as National Progression Awards and Skills for Work Awards.

The Senior Phase

A strong focus on achieving qualifications is the main feature of the Senior Phase (S4-6). In S4, pupils are expected to build on achievements in the Broad General Education Phase and work towards SQA qualifications. An especially wide range of course options is available so that learners can link their course choices as closely as possible to their career interests. Usually, 7 or occasionally 8 qualifications are taken in S4. In S5, new opportunities are available to progress to Higher (from National 5) and up to 5 Highers may be studied, as well as the possibility of starting a Foundation Apprenticeship, National Progression Award or gaining further National 4/5 qualifications. In S6, we introduce the chance to sit Advanced Highers, as well as providing leadership and volunteering opportunities. The Senior Phase also brings opportunities for our learners to attend Fife College as part of our School College Partnership. This gives learners the opportunity to study courses that are not available within the school context.

Employability becomes a strong focus and increasingly pupils have individual negotiated pathways, which allow depth of study and a focus on strengths. Work placements, school and community service and participation in a wide and varied range of opportunities are encouraged. Employability skills are built into our curriculum, and this helps our learners to identify their skills and strengths as they make decisions about next steps after school. Working with school staff and Skills Development Scotland (SDS Careers Service) can help young people get ready for this exciting stage in their lives and prepare for their future. SDS provides a range of support to help pupils to develop career management skills which they'll need all their lives and to make well-informed decisions about their career pathways. My World of Work is a very useful resource for young people to explore and make decisions about careers. (My World of Work).



Duke of Edinburgh



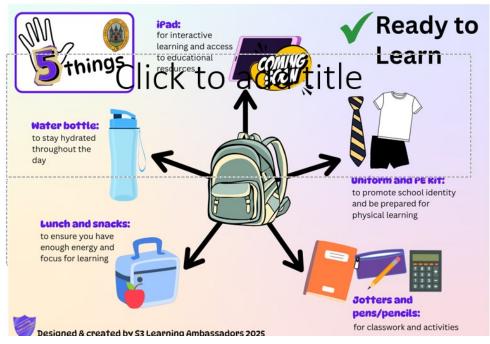
Mock Election



Bake Sale

Our Curriculum Plan 2025/2026

T		1 2 3 4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
v (BGE) S1-3	S1	English and Literacy (4)	14	odemi Ali yo experi ench ai	ong pe ence t	ople oth	٠		natics a tracy (4		Biol and	Science (3) Biology, Chemistry and Physics taught through rotations Social Subjects (4) Geography, History, Modern Studies and Rights taught through rotations Expressive Arts (3) Comprised of Art, Drama and Music (1 period each) Expressive Arts (3) Comprised of DET (1), Digital (1) and Business Tech (1)							f DET) and	Comp Liter	lls and chment (2) prised of racy (1) and eracy (1)	Comp	rised of	HWB ((1) and PSE (1)					
BROAD GENERAL EDUCATION (BGE) 51-3	25	English and Literacy (4)		Model nguage All you people experies oth Fre nd Spar	s (3) ng no no non		lather Nume			Blok and	ogy, Che Physics	Social Subjects (3) Geography, History and Modern Studies th rotations Social Subjects (3) Geography, History and Modern Studies taught through rotations Technologies (4) Comprised of DET (1), Digital (1) and Business Tech (2) Skills and Enrichment (2) Comprised of Art (1), Orama (1) and Music (2) Skills and Enrichment (2) Comprised of DET (1), Digital (1) and Business Tech (2) (1) and Classics (1)									Comp	rised of	HWB (PE (3), F	5) 4E (1) and	RELIGIOUS AND MORAL						
BROAD GENER	23	English and Literacy (4)		Aatherr Nume				Personalisation, Choice and Depth (5 subjects x 4 periods) Continuation of BGE and all Curriculum areas 2 Comprised of												HWB (3) mprised of PE (2) and PSE (1)		EDUCATION (1									
S4-6	84	English and Literacy (4)	,	Aatherr Nume				Personalisation, Choice and Depth (5 subjects x 4 periods) Continuation from \$3 subjects Personalisation, Choice and Depth (5 subjects x 4 periods) Continuation from \$3 subjects HWB (3) Comprised of PE (1) and PSE (1)													PE (2)	period)									
SENIOR PHASE (SP) S4-6	S2	English and Uteracy young people to co English Qualificati equivalent at level 5	omple ion o		All	young p	hematics and Numeracy (6) ng people must achieve level 5 meracy by end of \$1 if not saing Malta Qualification or equivalent Personalisation and choice 3 subjects from \$4 courses studied 3 subjects x 6 periods = 18 periods: Opportunities to study Foundation Apprenticeships, College course, work experience etc.											Personalisati	HWB: PSE												
SENI	98	Mathematics and Numeracy (6) All young people must achieve level 5 numeracy by end of 5s if not chousing Mathe Qualification or equivalent. Personalisation and choice 3 subjects from 54 courses studied 3 subjects x 6 periods: 18 periods: Opportunities to study Foundation Apprenticeships, College course, work experience etc. Personalisation and choice 4/5 subjects x 6 periods = 24 / 30 periods: Opportunities to study Foundation Apprenticeships, College course, work experience etc.										PSE (1)																			





LITERACY AND NUMERACY

By the end of S4, almost all learners achieve at least Level 4 Literacy and Numeracy passes.

S4 Literacy and Numeracy passes exceed National and Fife averages at levels 4 and 5.

By the end of S3 most learners achieve at least third level in Reading, Writing, Listening and Talking and Numeracy.

WELLBEING AND RIGHTS

Assemblies focused on rights throughout the year to highlight issues such as the impact of poverty on young people.

Attendance has increased by 5% in 2 years.

All young people in S2 have a greater understanding of hidden disabilities, and the challenges faced by those who have

All young people in S1 can confidently discuss Wellbeing, and have participated in creating a shared understanding of Wellbeing.

EQUITY

Over 30 young people furthest from achievement who attend the YM have achieved Dynamic Youth Awards or Youth Achievement Awards.

We have worked with The Big Hoose charity to combat poverty by providing our families with access to free toiletries, household items, food and clothes.

Access to Cost of School Day Support



ATTAINMENT

The percentage of S4 achieving 5@ National 5 rose by almost 4% and the percentage of S5 achieving 5 Highers rose by 2.75%.



JUNE 2025



DESTINATIONS

The recent follow-up figures show that 93.5% of KHS school leavers sustained a positive destination, exceeding national figures.



We continue to broaden our curriculum to include additional Level 5 qualifications and college courses. This has been recognised through achievement of a Gold SCQF Award.

All S2 took part in sustainability focused Sea Story - a project based learning opportunity to develop creativity and communication skills.

SUPPORT/PARTNERSHIPS

Set for Success - S3&4 young people have worked with athlete mentors to improve confidence and life skills through sport.

Our young people have completed courses at the Community Trade Hub in cooking, construction and mechanics, leading to 110 National 4 awards achieved.

WIDER ACHIEVEMENT

Saltire Volunteering
Emergency First Aid at Work
Duke of Edinburgh
Career Ready
Work Experience
School Musical - Matilda
Sports Day
First Chances

Lift Off Abertay University



Respect

Ambition

Community



EID Party



S2 Netball



Duke of Edinburgh

WHAT YOU MIGHT WANT TO KNOW

sult our website or contact the school directly if you require more will contact you to confirm authorisation where appropriate. information. We would be happy to hear from you.

Admissions from Within our Catchment Area

Young People who reside in our catchment area and attend one of our Associated Primaries (Torbain, Capshard, Fair Isle & Valley) will be allocated a place at Kirkcaldy High School. However, all parents/ carers must engage in Fife Council's enrolment process, instructions for which will be shared by the primary schools at the appropriate time during the school year.

Admissions from Outwith our Catchment Area

enrol their child at Kirkcaldy High School must make this clear via Fife Council's enrolment process, instructions for which will be shared by your child's primary school at the appropriate time during the school year.

We have a high number of these requests and, as a school, we will do all we can to make what can sometimes be a complicated process as streamlined as possible.



Christmas Carol Singing

Assessment of Learning

Assessment no longer means only tests and exams. Assessment for Learning (AFL) is an approach to teaching and learning that creates feedback which is used to improve learners' performance. AFL encourages learners to become more 'hands-on' with their learning, encouraging them to think about where they are now, where they are going and how to get there. As well as using ongoing assessment strategies, we will also use more traditional assessments which are likely to be in the form of a test and normally done at the end of a unit of work.

In S1-3 we assess progress against "Curriculum for Excellence" levels and from S4 onwards the focus shifts to SQA courses and exams. Our prelim exams for S4-6 are normally held in January.

Attendance and Absence

If your son or daughter is unwell please inform the school right away so that we know not to expect him/her that day. We welcome phone calls and emails from parents/carers to let us know.

If a pupil is not in school and we have no explanation, we usually send out a brief text message to a mobile number provided. Please note that we do not assume that such cases are necessarily truancy, but it helps us ensure our young people are safe. A response from you is appreciated.

The themes covered here are those which typically arise when we session. This can have a serious effect on success in school and we engage with new pupils and their parents/carers. Please also con- will not usually officially authorise holidays taken in term time. We

> Please note that when medical appointments etc cannot be made outside the school day, you should give your son/daughter a note with the reason, and details of time needed out of school. Advance notice of such appointments is greatly appreciated.

Bullving

Bullying is unacceptable, and includes a range of behaviours that have a negative impact on an individual Young Person or group or Young People. The range of reasons for bullying behaviour is vast, from Equalities-based bullying to bullying behaviours that have no We welcome "placing requests" and any parent/ carer wishing to apparent reason underlying them.. The damaging effects of bullying should never be under-estimated.

> We take bullying very seriously and have a tiered approach ensuring that our young people are safe and happy in school, and includes a range of proactive and reactive strategies, as well as a range of reporting options, so young people feel as secure and supported as possible as they navigate this often very unpleasant experience.

As a Gold "Rights Respecting" school, we ensure that the United Nations Charter on the Rights of the Child is upheld. We also firmly believe in equality-this is embedded in our values. We have a pupil-led, pupil-centred group which supports and pro-

motes the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual or intersex young people (our LGBT+ Group) and we are especially alert to incidents which are motivated by racist or sectarian attitudes.

Child Protection

Sometimes children or young people live in fear because of abusive situations in their lives so much so that their emotional needs can be a barrier to learning. We work with parents/carers and partners

> to ensure the safety of all young people at all times and have robust processes in place to ensure we are both reactive and responsive across all levels within our school.



- changes in attitude/appearance
- signs of distress or anxiety
- unusual lethargy or illness
- signs of physical injury
- signs of abuse/harm of any kind
- · Signs of neglect
- frequent changes in residence
- things children say which might be disturbing.

Our staff will always follow the Fife Child Protection Guidelines and these can be found on the "Fife Direct" website.



Deer Centre Visit 2024

Please do avoid term time holidays whenever possible. Missing school for a holiday can sometimes ruin progress for a whole

WHAT YOU MIGHT WANT TO KNOW: Continued

Clubs, Activities, and Trips (including Fair Access)

Please see our website or Twitter service for an up to date information on the vast range of opportunities on offer. Our regular sports clubs include netball, badminton, basketball, football etc. We also offer frequent theatre visits, maths competitions and creative writing and we even have our own weekend show on Radio K107FM, presented by pupils.

Our St Andrews "First Chances" programme and Edinburgh "Your Ed" and "Lift-Off" (Dundee) are excellent "wider access" collaborations between KHS and Universities. They are targeted at young people from working class backgrounds with no tradition of Higher Education. We also have a vast range of external speakers and visitors in school. Every year, the school organises foreign trips with an educational, cultural or sporting focus. Recent trips have included Austria, Spain, Rwanda and France. We have a trips to France, Belgium and Austria planned. All our trips are subject to a strict risk assessment process, overseen by our Business Manager (pictured).

To assist lower income families who qualify for free meals we have a special fund from which we can offer a grant to assist participation in trips or activities. We are very grateful to "Friends of Kirkcaldy High School", which supplements this fund.

Homework

Homework helps pupils understand and practise what they learn in class. Departments issue regular homework throughout the year and support from parents/carers is appreciated to ensure completion of homework. Staff now use Microsoft "Teams" for this purpose.

Illness/Accidents and Health Issues

In the event of a serious accident or illness at school, we will attempt to contact parents/carers or the emergency contact. Sometimes, the pupil may be taken home or to the Victoria Hospital by a school Emergency First Aider, who will stay with the pupil until the parent/ carer arrives at the hospital. Please note that we cannot administer medicines, painkillers etc, except by prior formal arrangement.

The School Nurse team runs frequent themed drop-in sessions or "workshops" on issues such as mental well being and alcohol awareness. We also operate a sector leading sexual health, contraception and pregnancy testing clinic on Fridays.

Immunisations are offered in line with current public health guidelines, including BCG vaccination. Diphtheria, tetanus and polio vaccination is also offered to all pupils.

HPV immunisation (which reduces the risk of cervical cancer) is also Office offered, and we will support new public health initiatives as appropriate eg Covid, influenza etc

Mental Health and Wellbeing

We take the mental health of our learners, staff and wider community very seriously. Our mental health can change throughout the day,

and from week to week depending on our circumstances and ability to access support and information. Whether at home or in school it is important that we all nurture our mental health.

We support learners to do this by teaching about The Five Ways of Wellbeing. These are five steps we can all take to improve our mental health.

Evidence suggests that these things can help you feel more positive, improve self-esteem and ability to get the most out of life. The Five Ways of Wellbeing include connecting

with others, being active, taking notice, learning and giving.

We encourage our young people to speak with their Guidance Teacher if they are struggling with their mental health who will help them to plan their next steps.

KHS has a variety of support groups and programmes, including Seasons for Growth, Anxiety Management, Personal Development with our Personal Support Officers, LGBT+, Mindful Activity Clubs, Outdoor Clubs and Physical Activity Clubs. We also offer Counselling and Art Therapy opportunities with DAPL for young people who need to talk about complex issues and explore their emotions.

Our Mental Health Ambassadors in S3-6 are peer educators who mentor and signpost other support in

We share support websites and resources which young people. which staff and families can access at home, with learning opportunities to learn more about mental health and supporting young people (eg our "Padlet" Toolkit).

Mobile Phones & Earphones

We understand that most young people are likely to carry a mobile phone. As long as it is clear that the school cannot be held responsible for loss or damage, this is acceptable.



Mr A Reekie, **Business Manager**

To ensure that mobiles & earphones do not disturb learning, they are banned from use or from being in sight during lessons unless the teacher asks that they be used for an educational purpose, for example to photograph a science experiment or a work produced in an art

Mobile use, personal music and the use of earphones is also banned in corridors for reasons of health and safety.

Please do not attempt to make direct contact (eg by text message) with your son or daughter during lesson times. Should you have a strong need to make contact, simply call the school and we will bring your son or daughter to the office to speak with you.

We hope that you always receive a warm welcome at the School Office. We are open from 8.30am until 4.10pm daily and are always willing to help answer any questions or queries.

Advance notice about pupil absence or appointments (preferably in writing or by email) is greatly appreciated.



Japanese Club Visit



Fife Festival of Music

WHAT YOU MIGHT WANT TO KNOW: Continued

Please remind your son or daughter that they should keep passwords and personal details securely and respect the details of others as private data. They should never share intimate photographs and be cautious and tech-savvy when using social media, pictures

Cyber-bullying and internet "grooming" awareness feature as part of our curriculum and we take this issue very seriously. Please contact us if you are concerned about your child's online activities or their use of social media. This can be used inappropriately and, subsequently, can be harmful to others' wellbeing.

Primary to Secondary Transition

We are developing a detailed programme of activities and processes to ensure the transition from primary schools to Kirkcaldy High School is streamlined and successful.

In October, we run a very well attended "open evening" in KHS. A meeting in each Primary is arranged in January so that parents/carers can meet the Rector, Senior Staff and pupil representatives, ask any questions they wish and receive a copy of our Prospectus.

Each May, we have our Sports Festival and, in June, all our new pupils

spend two days in school and follow their timetable for the first day of term. This is fol-

staff, whilst pupils enjoy a welcome disco/party run by the Prefects. In the first week of term, all staff and S6 Buddies help our new pupils find their way around and settle well.

Reports and Parent/Carer Evenings

All parents/carers will receive at least one formal report each year. However, this is also backed up by Personal Learning Planning and "On-track" reporting letters, posted throughout the year to allow early contact and any concerns to be shared with home. One theme we have developed is making sure that each teacher gives very popular with around 4500 followers. Please follow

an indication of how each young person can improve his/her work in the coming year and build on strengths. For information, here are the dates for Carer Evening dates for a recent, typical session;

- · P7 Information Evening: 10 Nov and 10 June
- · S1 Parents' Evening: 5 Nov
- · S2/4/5 Learning Fair: 2 Feb
- · S2 Parents' Evening: 14 Jan
- · S3 Parents' Evenings: 17 Mar
- · S4 Parents' Evening: 23 Sep

Please note that pupils are not permitted to consume their own sugary drinks such as Coca Cola, Red Bull and Irn Bru within our building. Please do not include these as a packed lunch item.

We strongly discourage visits to bakeries and takeaways at lunchtime. The ASDA supermarket (including the McDonalds restaurant) is "out of bounds".

Free school meals are an entitlement for families on lower incomes and details of how to apply online are available on our website. Please contact the school for help and advice.

Our busy "Breakfast Club" operates from 8.15am each day and is

subsidised by Stephen's Bakery Foundation. Also, healthy home made soup, with bread, is completely free to all pupils at lunchtime.



We have a detailed School Travel Plan, prepared by a pupil committee and we encourage walking and safe cycling to school. Cycle storage facilities are available and bike lockers can also be hired. We would ask that parents avoid parking or picking up at the school gates, the Golf Course Road or on Dunnikier Way.

KHS is also part of the Fife Council bus contract, providing transport for

lowed by another chance for parents to visit the school and meet pupils, and we have 3 school buses covering 3 different routes (please see our website for details). Pupils are entitled to free school transport if they live more than two miles from the school and are in the catchment area. This arrangement mostly affects pupils living in Redcraigs. Those not eligible for free travel can pay cash for each journey, or purchase a season ticket from Stagecoach, the current operators.

Web and Digital Communications

The Kirkcaldy High School "Twitter" news service is proving to be

@KirkcaldyHigh to keep up with all the latest news. Pupils can access the daily announcements and parents/carers can be kept well informed of all news and developments.

With the use of Microsoft Teams, a weekly news email home from the Rector. Twitter and our excellent website, KHS is using modern media to communicate very effectively. The website also has good study support resources and past papers for those studying Highers and other SQA courses. Please also keep an eye out

for the monthly update we publish in the Fife Free Press and our termly newsletter.

Pupils receive a print copy and this is also emailed home and is

We also use the "Parentcall" message service for urgent/important messages (eg about school closure or a young person missing from school unexpectedly). These are sent directly by text message.



Senior Football Team,

· S5/6 Parents' Evening: 4 Dec

ed our normal scheduled engagements.

619 Following 4,422 Fo Tweet @KirkcaldyHigh These dates are given as an illustration. Recent events have disrupt- available on our website.

School Meals

KHS has a top class refectory and outdoor servery staffed an award winning catering team, supplying a wide choice of healthy balanced meals. The tills accept cash or prepaid cards. All pupils can use their "MyFife" card which can be topped up remotely.

The standard price for a school meal is £2.40. Packed lunches may be brought to school and these can be eaten in the refectory.

WHAT WE ARE DOING TO CONTINUE IMPROVEMENT: Our Improvement Priorities 2024-2025

Our School Improvement Plan





Matilda the Musical



Matilda the Musical





Careers Fair









Holocaust Memorial

Fife School Athletics





This is Kirkcaldy High School

Respect for Self Respect for Others Respect for Learning

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Email: kirkcaldyhs.equiries@fife.gov.uk Website: www.kirkcaldyhighschool.com

Twitter: <a>@KirkcaldyHigh