

Howford Primary School Handbook 2025-2026



Howford
PRIMARY SCHOOL
TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Welcome to Howford Primary School

I would like to warmly welcome you and your child to Howford Primary School. This handbook contains a range of information that you might find helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact the school or check the school website if you need more information.

I hope that this handbook gives you a glimpse of life at Howford Primary School. We look forward to having you and your child work with us and hope that this will be the start of a strong partnership.

Mrs Julia Haugh-Reid
Headteacher

School Vision & Values

VISION

Our children, staff, families and partners will work together to deliver a nurturing culture of mutual respect and lifelong learning where children are happy, motivated and confident to enable them to realise their full potential.

The Vision we have for our school, is encapsulated in our school motto-

“Together we make a difference...”

To each other, ourselves, our school community and to the world

VALUES

The core Values of our school are that everyone will be

- Successful
- Included
- Independent
- Respected and respectful

These are represented by our Values Mascots:

Included Iffah

Independent Issac

Successful Sienna

Respectful Rufus



AIMS

- To work together to ensure high quality, meaningful and progressive curriculum that supports each child in developing to their full potential.
- To provide a welcoming, nurturing and stimulating learning environment that fosters positive and healthy attitudes towards self and others.

- To work in collaboration with colleagues, parents and other partners to fully maximise access to learning for every child developing skills for learning, life and work.
- To acknowledge and celebrate success and achievement at all levels.

School Information

You can cut out the following information and have it on your fridge, purse or work desk etc. for ease of finding the numbers required.

<p>Contact Details: Howford Primary School Gowanbank Campus 1 Craigbank Drive GLASGOW G53 6RA Phone: 0141 881 8135 Email: headteacher@howford-pri.glasgow.sch.uk Twitter: @HowfordPrimary</p>
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Background information:

Howford Primary is a non-denominational, co-educational school which caters for children primary aged pupils who have a range of additional learning needs (ALN), including but not limited to; global developmental delay, Autistic Spectrum Condition, Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Condition, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome and a range of medical needs.

Capacity: 72

Present School Roll: 72

Stages covered Primary 1 to Primary 7

Parents should note that the working capacity of the school may vary. It is dependent upon the number of pupils at each stage and the way in which the classes are organised.

School staff

A full list is available on the school website and parents will be updated on any changes as required.

The leadership team is as follows:

Headteacher: Mrs Julia Haugh-Reid

Depute Headteacher (0.6): Mrs Kirsty Dempster

Principal Teachers: Mrs Claire Rafferty and Miss Rhona Baxter

Enrolment

Pupils are normally referred to the school by Psychological Services following rigorous assessment and planning for individual needs. During this process, parents and carers will be offered the opportunity to discuss their child's additional support needs as well as the potential placement.

However, parents must enrol their child at their local mainstream school as a first step. Registration of Primary 1 children takes place in November and is advertised widely in local press etc. Enrolment is now conducted online. Enrolment forms and more information can be found on the Glasgow City Council website at <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18426>

Organisation of Classes

Class groups are set by the management team based on the age and stage of the children as well as their additional support needs.

The School Day

The school day can be flexible to meet the needs of the children but will normally be:

Morning	09.00 -10.30
Interval	10.30 - 10.45
	10.45 - 12.15
Lunch	12.15 - 13.00
Afternoon	13.00 - 15.00

School Term Dates

Details of school term dates are available on the Glasgow City Council website: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/4276/School-Term-Dates>

Pupil Absence

Within Howford Primary School good attendance is encouraged at all times and children rewarded accordingly. Parents are asked to advise if their son or daughter is going to be absent. This should be done as early as possible on the first day of absence. If the young person is going to be absent for some time, it would be helpful to know at the earliest opportunity. The school uses daily text messaging to inform parents and carers of absence if no contact is made. All unexplained absence is investigated by the school and appropriate action taken. We ask kindly that bus/taxi escorts are not asked to pass information on re absence; rather our school should be contacted directly (this can be done via Seesaw message, email or phone call).

Medical & Healthcare

If a child becomes ill during the course of the school day, he/she may require to be sent home. Please ensure that you keep the school informed of all contact details.

Parents should inform the school of any medical requirements relating to their child. If a child requires medication during the school day, parents must complete the appropriate medical form. This is available on request from the school office.

Emergencies

We make every effort to maintain a full educational service, but on some occasions, circumstances arise which lead to disruption. Schools may be affected by, for example, severe weather, temporary interruption of transport, power failures or difficulties of fuel supply.

In such cases, we shall do all we can to let you know about the details of our closure or re-opening by using letters, texts and the local media etc.

School Uniform

The school uniform is:



Blue polo shirt



Navy sweatshirt



Navy cardigan



Navy jogging bottom/leggings



Navy pinafore



Navy skirt

Dark Velcro Shoes/Trainers (unless able to tie own laces)



Can we kindly request that your child comes to school in **comfortable, washable clothes, with sleeves which roll up easily and trousers which allow independence.** Jogging bottoms

with elasticated waists are much easier for children than zips or buttons (this also assists with the undertaking of personal intimate care).

Please ensure **ALL** items of clothing **are labelled with your child's name**, otherwise they may be lost, or mixed up with another child's clothing.

The supplier below stocks items with our logo and can be visited in store and online:

Gilmour Sports
24 Clark Street
Paisley
PA3 1RB

0141 889 7206

<https://schoolwearmadeeasy.com/collections/howford-school>

There are forms of dress that are unacceptable in school, such as items of clothing which:

- Potentially encourage factions (such as football colours)
- Could cause offence (such as anti-religious symbolism or political slogans)
- Could cause health and safety difficulties (such as loose-fitting clothing, jewellery)
- Could cause damage to flooring
- Carry advertising particularly for alcohol or tobacco
- Could be used to inflict damage on other pupils

PE Kit

It is important that pupils come prepared to learn and for PE this requires appropriate clothing. All jewellery should be removed. Pupils who are not participating in PE must have a note or a medical certificate. Pupils who are unable to participate in practical PE should still bring their kit to allow them to assist in the lesson by refereeing, keeping scores or assisting with the distribution of equipment. This ensures that they are still able to take part in some way in the work of the class and do not miss out on the knowledge and understanding of the course.

Clothing & Footwear Grants

Parents/Carers receiving Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based), Working Tax Credit (with a total annual income of less than £15,860*), Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit or Universal Credit (where the total income is less than £7,320) will normally be entitled to monetary grants for footwear and clothing for their children. Information and application forms may be obtained from schools and at <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17885>

School meals

Our school provides a lunch service which offers a variety of meals and snacks. Medical diets for children can be provided. Further information can be found here:

http://www.fuelzoneprimary.co.uk/UserFiles/files/Medical_Diet_Leaflet%20-%20June%202017%20WEB.pdf. Please inform the Headteacher.

Children who prefer to bring packed lunches will be accommodated in a suitable area.

All children in P1-4 are entitled to a free school meal.

If you plan to send your child/children to breakfast club, you should inform the staff of any medical dietary requirements.

Children and young people of parents/carers receiving Income Support, income-based Job Seekers Allowance, Working Tax Credit (where income is less than £7920*), Child Tax Credit only (where income is less than £16,500*), Universal Credit (where income is less than £7,320) and income-related Employment and Support Allowance are entitled to a free midday meal. Information and application forms for free school meals may be obtained at <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17885>

Transport

The education authority will normally provide free home to school transport for pupils who have been assessed to attend specialist school provision to meet the requirements of his or her Additional Support Needs.

Where free transport is provided, it may be necessary for children to walk to the vehicle pick-up point. It is the parent/carer's responsibility to ensure that their child arrives at the pick-up point on time. It is also the parent /carer's responsibility to ensure that the child behaves in a safe and acceptable manner whilst using school transport. It is expected that no child/young person with additional support needs will be on transport for more than one hour.

Transfer from Primary to Secondary School

Children and young people normally transfer between the ages of 11 ½ and 12 ½, so that they will have the opportunity to complete at least 4 years of secondary education. Parents and carers will be informed of the school arrangements no later than December of P7. Children from our school normally transfer to:

1. A Glasgow ASL Secondary School
2. A Glasgow Mainstream Secondary School Co-located Unit
3. Other specialist provision

A Transition Planning Review takes place during the last year of primary education to allow parents/carers and professionals the opportunity to discuss the most suitable placement for their child.

Links will be established with the appropriate secondary provision to ensure a smooth transition for all young people.

Transition into Howford Primary School

All transitions take a learner centred approach in partnership with parents and carers, partner educational establishments and partners from Educational Psychology, Statutory Agencies and Third Sector Organisations. Our aim is always for our learners to develop secure feelings of attachment with us whilst saying a healthy goodbye with appropriate closure to their previous establishment. We also support our learners, particularly in primary one, to feel secure in being away from family during the day in the knowledge that they will return home safely. We may use photographs and other concrete objects to support this.

Our transition process is supported by Glasgow's Policy on Every Child Is Included and Supported:

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=19456>

Communication with Parents

At Howford Primary School we use a variety of ways to keep in touch.

Open Door Policy – the senior leadership team are available for all parents and carers at any time providing they are not teaching or in another meeting. Please either pop in to the school office or phone for an appointment.

Seesaw/Class Diaries – let families see what their young person has been engaging with during the school day and is also used to communicate between the class teacher and parents.

Letters – further information which requires a response may be sent out in letter form.

School website – will contain a great deal of information about the school. It is a good idea to check this regularly.

Text messaging – You may also receive text reminders about events/school closures etc.

Meetings - Parents and carers are welcome in the school to discuss any aspect of their child's development and progress. To avoid disappointment, it is advisable to make an appointment. There are various opportunities throughout the year when parents can discuss their child's progress with the class teacher and view the child's work. Parents and carers are welcome at other events throughout the school year e.g. workshops, information evenings, class performances, religious and other assemblies.

Emergency Contact Information

At the start of each school session, parents will be issued with the annual data check form. Please ensure that this is completed and returned to the school. It is also important that you let us know if there are changes to your telephone number(s) or to those of your emergency contacts throughout the year.

Data Protection – use of information about children and parents/carers

We collect information about children attending school (and also about parents/carers, emergency contacts etc. provided in the annual data check) to allow us to carry out the Council's functions as the education authority for the City of Glasgow. This may sometimes involve releasing personal information to other agencies and other parts of the Council, particularly in relation to child protection issues or criminal investigations, and it may also be used for research purposes (see the link below for more details regarding this).

Information held by the school is, in legal terms, processed by Glasgow City Council. The Council is registered as a data controller under the Data Protection Act 2018 and all personal data is treated as confidential and used only in accordance with the Data Protection Act, the General Data Protection Regulations and the Information Use and Privacy Policy approved by the City Council. For more information on how we use personal information, or to see a copy of the Information Use and Privacy Policy, see <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18010>

Education specific privacy statements can be accessed at <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=22069>

Appointments during school hours

If your child has an unavoidable appointment, please give them a letter for their class teacher and then collect them from the school office at the specified time.

Comments & Complaints

In Howford Primary School we aim to have positive relationships across our school community. However, if you have a comment or complaint about any aspect of school life, please contact the Headteacher in the first instance.

Glasgow City Council complaints procedures are available: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=16133>

Customer Care Team
Customer & Business Services
Glasgow City Council
City Chambers
Glasgow G2 1DU

Tel: 0141 287 0900

e-mail: customercare@glasgow.gov.uk or education.customercare@glasgow.gov.uk

The above website also includes information on data protection and freedom of information.

Curriculum

Curriculum for Excellence 3-18

Curriculum for Excellence has been introduced to raise standards of learning and teaching for all 3 to 18 year olds. It aims to help prepare children and young people with the knowledge and skills they need in a fast changing world. As part of Curriculum for Excellence all children from pre-school to the end of S3 will receive a rounded education known as a Broad General Education(BGE). Curriculum for Excellence is all about bringing real life into the classroom and taking lessons beyond it.

Through the experiences we provide at Howford Primary School we want our children to become Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors. We are committed to providing children with a broad general education and focus on eight curriculum areas.

Expressive Arts	Health & Wellbeing	Languages	Mathematics
Religious & Moral	Sciences	Social Studies	Technologies

Progress in learning is indicated through curriculum levels as detailed below.

Level	Stage
Early	The pre-school years and P1 or later
First	To the end of P4, but earlier or later for some
Second	To the end of P7, but earlier or later for some
Third & Fourth	S1-S3, but earlier for some

Expressive arts: The inspiration and power of the arts play a vital role in enabling our children and young people to enhance their creative talent and develop their artistic skills.

Health and wellbeing: Learning in health and wellbeing ensures that children and young people develop the knowledge, understanding and skills which they need now and in the future to help them with their physical, emotional and social wellbeing.

Science: Science and its practical application in healthcare and industry is central to our economic future, for our health and wellbeing as individuals and as a society.

Social Studies: Through social studies, children and young people develop their understanding of the world by learning about other people and places both past and present, societies, their beliefs and values.

Religious and moral education: Religious and moral education includes learning about Christianity, Islam and other world religions, and supports the development of beliefs and values.

Languages: Knowing other languages and understanding other cultures is a 21st century skill set for students as they prepare to live and work in a global society.

Mathematics: Mathematics equips us with the skills we need to interpret and analyse information, simplify and solve problems, assess risk and make informed decisions.

Technologies: The range of subjects in technical education has changed significantly over the last two decades and now includes craft, design, engineering and graphics.

There will be opportunities throughout the year for parents and carers to learn more about aspects of the curriculum and to be consulted about significant changes if appropriate.

Useful websites

www.curriculumforexcellencescotland.gov.uk
www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone/index.asp

Religious Observance

Our school is fortunate to have a close link with the local church. The minister assists with the Christianity element of Religious and Moral Education and provides opportunities for religious observance. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from religious observance and should inform the school in writing.

In addition, parents and carers from religions other than Christianity may request that their children may be permitted to be absent from school in order to celebrate recognised religious events. Only written requests detailing the proposed arrangements will be considered. Appropriate requests will be granted on up to 3 occasions in any 1 school session.

Assessment & Reporting

All children are assessed both formally and informally throughout the year. This allows children and their teachers to identify their strengths and areas for improvement. A variety of assessment methods are used to enable staff to pass on information to parents about the progress of their child. Assessment records are kept by the class teacher and form the basis of discussion at Annual Review Meetings and Parents' Evening in Term 3. An annual report is sent to parents towards the end of each school year.

If you have any concerns about your child's progress do not hesitate to contact the school.

Support for Pupils

The school has a duty to ensure that all pupils have equal access to the curriculum, with appropriate support for their needs if required. This applies to the content of lessons, teaching strategies and minor adaptations to the school environment. There are a wide range of factors which may act as a barrier to learning. We are committed to working closely with parents and carers to ensure that they are fully involved in any decisions about support for their children's needs.

Any parent or carer seeking further advice regarding this policy should contact the Headteacher in the first instance.

Further information relating to additional support needs is available on the Glasgow City Council website –

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18941>

Information on the Glasgow City Councils' Parental Involvement Strategy can also be found at <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17870>

Nurturing City

The Glasgow City Council vision 'towards the nurturing city', puts building positive, trusting relationships at the core of our work. We ensure children, young people and families feel they belong, they are listened to and they are valued by embedding the principles of nurture across our early years, primary and secondary establishments. Staff are trained in attachment and nurture which deepens understanding of child development and enhances effective practice by responding to the needs of all children and young people in a consistent and caring way. Nurture is a universal approach which builds resilience, helping to reduce the impact of adversity. Effective communication and collaboration with parents and carers builds an ethos of partnership working putting the child at the centre, fostering high quality learning contexts.

Each of our nurturing establishments contribute to the development of Glasgow as a nurturing city, creating safe environments which allow our children and young people to flourish by raising attainment and promoting positive mental health and wellbeing.

School Improvement

On an annual basis, you will receive a copy of our Standards and Quality report. Copies from previous years are available on the school website. The Standards and Quality report highlights progress in key curricular areas such as literacy, numeracy and health & wellbeing. Our priorities for improvement are detailed in our School Improvement Plan which is discussed with our Parent Council. Any parent or carer seeking a copy of the plan can contact the school office or check out our website.

Child Protection - Keeping Children Safe

Educational establishments and services must create and maintain a positive ethos and climate which actively promotes child welfare and a safe environment by:

- ensuring that children are respected and listened to.
- ensuring that health and wellbeing is central to the curriculum.
- ensuring that staff are aware of Management Circular 57 and child protection procedures and concerns.
- ensuring that any CP or Safeguarding concerns are progressed as per MC57 guidance.
- establishing and maintaining close working relationships and arrangements with all other agencies to make sure that professionals collaborate effectively in protecting children.
- ensuring the name of the Child Protection Coordinator and Depute Child Protection Coordinator(s) is on display within the establishment.

Name of CP Coordinator: Julia Haugh-Reid
Name of Depute CP Coordinator(s): Kirsty Dempster

All educational establishments and services must take positive steps to help children and young people by ensuring that safeguarding is promoted through all elements of education including leadership, values, vision, the curriculum, learning and teaching, positive relationships, ethos and building resilience in our learners.

Safeguarding supports the development of learner's knowledge, skills and resilience to keep themselves safe and to protect themselves and develop an understanding of the world so that they can respond to a range of issues and potential risky situations arising throughout their lives.

Safeguarding and wellbeing issues are addressed through our personal, social and health education curriculum and care should be taken to ensure our children have opportunity to develop such knowledge and understanding within our establishments.

As with other areas of the curriculum, you will be kept informed of the health and wellbeing programme for your child's establishment.

Promoting Positive Behaviour

Children's Rights as outlined in the UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child) are fundamental to a good school ethos. Adults in our school will work with children to ensure they are aware of their rights and develop respect for the rights of others. Therefore, our aim within Howford Primary School is to build a positive and safe ethos that demonstrates care, empathy and respect for all through nurturing approaches and nurturing communication and the development of emotional literacy, including self-regulation through co-regulation support.

In accordance with Glasgow City Councils Policy on Promoting Positive Behaviour Howford Primary School uses the C.A.L.M. framework [Crisis and Aggression Limitation Management] to manage challenging behaviour in the school.

This is a whole school approach in which selected staff are engaged. This training is designed to keep both child/young person and staff safe.

In line with Council policy all violent incidents are recorded and also logged with the Council's Corporate Health and Safety Services.

Home Learning

Continuing to learn at home helps children to achieve more and is a vital part of our partnership with parents. Please check your child's schoolbag for communication about home learning and specific tasks. A copy of our home learning policy is available on the website and on request from the school office.

Useful Contacts

Parentzone Scotland is a unique website for parents and carers in Scotland, from early years to beyond school. The website provides up-to-date information about learning in Scotland, and practical advice and ideas to support children's learning at home in literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing and science. Information is also available on Parentzone Scotland regarding additional support needs, how parents can get involved in their child's school and education. Furthermore, the website has details about schools including performance data for school leavers from S4-S6; and links to the national, and local authority and school level data on the achievement of Curriculum for Excellence levels. Parentzone Scotland can be accessed at <https://education.gov.scot/parentzone>.

Enquire

Contact the Enquire Helpline on 0345 123 2303

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

<https://reach.scot/>

Scottish Autism

Tel: 01259 720044

Email: autism@scottishautism.org

Glasgow City Council

Education Services
City Chambers East
40 John Street
Glasgow G1 1JL

Tel: 0141 287 2000

www.glasgow.gov.uk