



# **Brodick Primary School**

***1 April 2026***



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## **News in Brief**

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***Allison Conner  
Head Teacher 6 Arran Primary Schools  
Brodick/Corrie/Kilmory/Pirnmill/Shiskine/  
Whiting Bay Primary Schools and EYCs  
Isle of Arran***



## *What's on...*

**Mon 30 Mar – Thu 2 Apr 2026**  
**P7 AOEC Residential**

**Thu 2 Apr 2026**  
**Dress Down Day**  
**14:30 School closes**

**Mon 20 Apr 2026**  
**09:00 School opens**

**Wed 22 Apr 2026**  
**11:00 - 12:00 Woodwind lessons**

**Thu 23 Apr 2026**  
**Bike Check - Fiona Cameron**  
**10:45 - 11:20 N5 Transition 2/6**

**Fri 24 Apr 2026**  
**13:00 - 15:00 Think About Plastic accreditation**

*Our full Google Calendar is available to view/share:*  
[\*BrodictPS Calendar\*](#)



# Staffing Update

**We send our very best wishes to Miss Mooney, Depute Head Teacher, who is getting married in Portugal over the Easter break.**

**On her return, Miss Mooney will be known as Mrs Kelso.**

**We wish her a fantastic wedding day and send our warmest, best wishes.**

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**NAY16983 Early Years Practitioner has been published on myjobscotland with a closing date of 15/04/2026.**

**If you wish to find out more, please contact Allison Conner or Mandy Aitken.**

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**We would also like to welcome our two new Pupil Support Assistants.**

**Ms Laura Tomlinson started in March and Mr Alisdair Brown will join us after the Easter holidays.**





# ***Screen Time***

**Dear Parents/ Guardians,**

**Across all Early Years setting there is evidence of a decline in some of our youngest children's communication skills. There is growing evidence that supports the view that overall, the overuse of technology is having a detrimental impact on children's speech and language development.**

**By working together in partnership with our parents, we can take positive steps to reverse this trend. Please find attached a very helpful infographic that outlines key information on this important topic.**

**If you wish to discuss this further or require any support, please do not hesitate to contact our Early Years staff.**

***Allison Conner***  
**Head Teacher**



# How Screen Time Affects Young Children's Language Development

Young children learn to talk through **real interaction, not screens.**

When a child is watching a screen, they miss out on important skills like:

- Making eye contact
- Reading facial expressions
- Taking turns in conversation

These back & forth moments help build strong language pathways.



## Why Early Years Matter

The first years of a child's life are a time of extraordinary brain development.

During this period, children are rapidly building the foundations for learning, behaviour, and emotional wellbeing.

Positive interactions, play, and real world exploration play a crucial role in helping their brains grow and thrive.

## Screen Time Recommendations

The World Health Organization advises the following to support healthy development:

- Under 2 years: Avoid screen time entirely, except video calls.
- Ages 2-5: Limit screen use to no more than 1 hour per day – and less is even better.

## If your child uses screens

Screens are part of everyday life - what matters is how they're used.

Try to:

- Co-view with your child
- Talk about what you're watching
- Ask questions and link it to real life
- Keep screen time interactive, not passive

## Boost real world learning

Balance screen use with plenty of:

- Face-to-face play
- Books and stories
- Music and singing
- Outdoor time

**The more children connect with people—not screens  
—the stronger their brains grow.**



# Screen Time Tips for Parents

Supporting healthy habits for our little ones starts with balance. Here are some gentle, practical tips to help guide screen use at home:

- Under 2s: Try to avoid screen time except for video calls with family and friends.
- Ages 2–5: Keep screen time to around one hour per day.
- Balance is key: Mix screen use with lots of play, movement, reading and chatting.
- Screen free mealtimes: Use this time to talk, laugh and connect.
- Tantrums: Instead of handing over a device, try a cuddle, song, game or book.
- Before bed: No screens for 1–2 hours to help children wind down.
- Bedrooms: Keep them screen free—share a bedtime story instead.
- Out and about: Avoid devices in buggies or trolleys—chat about what you see together.
- Put devices away when not in use to stop them becoming the default activity.
- Choose calmer shows: Slower paced options like Bluey, Little Bear, Curious George, Kipper, Winnie the Pooh, Arthur and Sesame Street support attention better than fast paced, high stimulation videos such as ‘Cocomelon’.
- Small changes can make a big difference in helping children learn, explore and thrive.





# APRIL 2026

## ZERO WASTE CAFE SCHEDULE



**Pop-up  
Zero Waste  
Cafe**

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			<b>Corrie</b> 1 <b>11-1pm</b> Corrie & Sannox Hall	2	3	4
5	6	<b>Kilmory</b> 7 <b>12-2pm</b> Kilmory Hall	<b>Shiskine</b> 8 <b>12-2pm</b> St Molios Church Hall	9	10	11
12	13	<b>Kildonan</b> 14 <b>12-2pm</b> Kildonan Hall	<b>Corrie</b> 15 <b>11-1pm</b> Corrie & Sannox Hall	16	17	18
19	20	<b>Brodick</b> 21 <b>12-2pm</b> Ormidale Pavilion	<b>Shiskine</b> 22 <b>12-2pm</b> St Molios Church Hall	23	24	25
26	27	<b>Lochranza</b> 28 <b>12-2pm</b> Lochranza Hall	<b>Corrie</b> 29 <b>11-1pm</b> Corrie & Sannox Hall	30		



# Child Protection

Education Services has a fundamental duty to contribute to the care and safety of all children and young people in North Ayrshire.

All staff, parents and visitors of Brodick Primary School have a responsibility to protect the welfare of our young people. If you have a concern for a young person or a disclosure is made by a young person, you should report this to a school staff member immediately. This will be passed on to the Child Protection Officer.

The Arran Social Work Team is based at the Council Offices, Lamlash. They can be contacted on 01770 600742.

If you are worried about someone during the night or at the weekend an 'out of hours' team is available to deal with emergencies.

Please contact:

[North Ayrshire Council 'Out of Hours'](#)

Tel: 0800 328 7758



**Child Protection Co-ordinator  
Head Teacher  
Allison Conner  
6 Arran Schools**



**(in HT absence)  
Depute Head Teacher  
Claire Mooney  
Corrie/Shiskine/Brodick  
Schools**