

RESPECT NURTURE CREATIVE ACTIVE

## Gateside Primary Standards & Quality 2021-22



This leaflet has been prepared to give you information about our school's progress and achievements as well as our plans for 2022-23.

Miss Dunlop  
Headteacher

*"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world"*  
*Nelson Mandela*

**Gateside Primary School** is a non-denominational school with a roll of 46 pupils across 3 classes. The school was built in 1878 and is situated in the village of Gateside, near Beith. The catchment area of the school consists of the village itself and the outlying houses and farms. All classes are composite. The present structure is P1/2, P3/4/5 and P5/6/7. The Early Years Class can accommodate up to 16 full time, term time places in the Early Years Playroom.

The current staff structure includes the Head Teacher, Miss Dunlop, Depute Head Teacher, Mrs Logan, 4 Class Teachers, 2 Early Years Practitioners, 1 Early Years Assistant and a Classroom Assistant, working varied hours across the week. They are supported by Mrs Banister, Education Assistant, to provide an excellent service to our community.

We endeavour to create a relaxed, caring and safe environment in which modern teaching methods encourage children to become independent and successful learners. We aim to assist them to develop into mature, responsible citizens with an awareness of working life and thus ready to meet the challenges of today's society.

Attendance is consistently above North Ayrshire averages year on year, with 93.5% attending in 2021-22 and no exclusions.

The School Improvement Plan is a document that sets out the activities we will be undertaking as a school over the coming session. When writing this document we take into account a number of factors:

\* National Priorities and directives as set out by the Scottish Government.

\* Local Priorities and directives as set out by North Ayrshire Council

\* Our self evaluation procedures and development needs identified for our own school.

In 2021-2022 we worked together to improve the following areas:

- Prioritise and promote positive health and wellbeing through nurturing and restorative approaches.

- Enrich the quality of teaching and learning experiences in Literacy, Mathematics and Numeracy, assessing and countering any gaps due to Covid 19.

- Enhance community partnerships and engagement through the use of digital technology.

Our Vision, Values and Aims underpin all our actions and staff are supported by our curriculum rationale in ensuring breadth and depth across learning. During the session we promoted focus weeks to sustain interest (British Science Week, Fairtrade Fortnight, Rights Respecting Week, Eco Week). Learning has been made visible by the pupils self-assessing their learning in their Seesaw Journal and identifying their next steps in learning. Investment in decodable readers for our middle school was made, positively impacting on our readers across the school. Building on number sense in all classes is evident and children continue to grow in confidence.

The school is committed to ensuring children's rights are at the heart of everything we do.

We focus on individual learner's needs, wellbeing and rights, promoting positive relationships and interactions through a nurturing and restorative environment. Health and Wellbeing is central to all our actions ensuring children can keep themselves safe, healthy, active, nurtured, achieving, respected, responsible and included. This was particularly important as we returned to full time education whilst still dealing with Covid 19.

Staff continued to build on the Visible Learning strengths, with a strong focus on questioning and self-reflection. High quality teaching features in all interactions and digital technologies are integrated effectively to enrich pupils' experiences.

Pupils attain well at Gateside, where all P1 children were performing higher than the national average in Literacy and Numeracy, with P4 achieving the same in Reading and Numeracy. Almost all P7s achieved above the national average in Numeracy.

All identified pupils receiving additional support for learning have regular Team Around the Child (TAC) reviews enabling families to actively support their child in school.

Strong partnerships exist between service providers and the school. We are looking forward to continuing with these partnerships in session 2022-2023.

Links with Dalry Community Wind Farm, Beith Trust and Beith Community Gardens provide relevant and meaningful learning experiences for our young people, developing their sense of citizenship and belonging.

We are very proud of our achievements in session 2021 - 22. We continued to face the challenges together as a whole team. Here are just a few of our successes:

- \* The school nativity once again used green screen technology and careful planning and preparation to bring our school together safely. This was shared with parents online.

- \* The choir successfully participated in the Ayrshire Music Festival, winning the Kathleen Dippie Memorial Shield for the best Small Singing School. They also won the Savile Challenge Cup for the overall best junior choir in the event.

- \* The ECO committee were successful in achieving Green Flag status yet again, working on Litter, Biodiversity and Food & the Environment. Activities across the year included the Road side litter campaign, planting, regular litter picks, RSPB Bronze Award, Sustainability Inventions, What's Under your Feet Campaign and Global Goals exploration linked to the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

- \* Our families were involved in lots of Family Learning activities both at home and in school. The Family Outdoor Club was a firm favourite, making use of Spiers School Grounds to engage with families in fun activities. We also managed to gain 5 Young STEM leaders, engaging 3 of our families. The models created were exceptional.

- \* Our after school Sports Clubs returned and the netball team took the overall Cluster win this year. Both our football teams worked brilliantly together in all their tournaments too.

- \* P3-7 participated in 'If you were an Engineer' competition linked to British Science Week, with all of them achieving certificates for their innovative ideas and designs.

Throughout the year we gather lots of information on how our children are progressing in their learning. To monitor their progress we watch children working together, listen to what they say, ask important questions, set challenges and use some standardised assessments. Teachers get together and look carefully at the significant aspects of learning / pathways from Curriculum for Excellence to ensure children are working to their full potential. We measure ourselves against 'How Good Is Our School?' and as a result of thorough self-evaluation we would rate ourselves *VERY GOOD in Leadership of Change (1.3), Learning, Teaching & Assessment (2.3), Ensuring Wellbeing, Equality & Inclusion (3.1) and Raising Attainment & Achievement (3.2).*

Our rigorous analysis of our attainment data and teacher judgement for session 2021-2022 means we are very aware of our strengths and areas for improvement. We will be continuing with Literacy and Numeracy developments, focusing on spelling & consistence in writing standards, active numeracy and pedagogy around attainment for boys. Health & Wellbeing & Rights based learning will continue to feature highly.