



Brodick



Corrie



Kilmory



Pirnmill



Shiskine



Whiting Bay



Arran Primary Schools and Early Years Classes Excursions Policy

Background

Curriculum for Excellence recognises that learning is embedded in experience. By taking learning outdoors, we remove the barriers that the traditional classroom can put up between young people and first-hand, real-life experiences. Outdoor learning is hands-on and direct, and the knowledge that pupils gain from it is real, first-hand and unforgettable, be it through a visit to another establishment, a trip to the local park, an adventurous activity or a trip to a foreign country.

Our schools greatly value these opportunities created by staff to enrich the educational and life experiences of children and young people on Arran.

Off-site excursions present the leader with a vehicle to further enthuse, excite and educate their charges.

It is a legal requirement that a 'risk assessment' is carried out.

This means that the leader has to be aware of the hazards associated with the excursion (that they are responsible for controlling) and manage the risk of these hazards affecting the group and the general public.

- **Article 29 (Goals of education):** *Children's education should develop each child's personality, talents and abilities to the fullest. It should encourage children to respect others, human rights and their own and other cultures. It should also help them learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people. Children have a particular responsibility to respect the rights their parents, and education should aim to develop respect for the values and culture of their parents. The Convention does not address such issues as school uniforms, dress codes, the singing of the national anthem or prayer in schools. It is up to governments and school officials in each country to determine whether, in the context of their society and existing laws, such matters infringe upon other rights protected by the Convention.*

Annual Permission Forms

In the case of village outings, risk assessments are carried out at the beginning of the year. This allows classes to venture into the village for educational purposes. Class teachers are responsible for organising enough adult helpers (1:10 ratio). The dates of each trip are to be added to the risk assessment before the visit and signed by a member of SMT. Class teachers are responsible for ensuring that medication for children on the trips (inhalers, insulin etc) are brought on the trip in accordance with the Administration of Medicines policy. Staff will also require to take emergency contact telephone numbers.



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Other Trips

For any other trips out with the local village (including mainland), schools should give parents **at least** one week's notice in writing. In the event of weather disruptions that could lead to boat cancellations, SMT will make a final decision 24 hours prior to departure.

- **Article 24 (Health and health services):** Children have the right to good quality health care – the best health care possible – to safe drinking water, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help them stay healthy. Rich countries should help poorer countries achieve this.

Dress

Pupils should wear full school uniform at all times when representing the school on an excursion. Exceptions to this rule would be where specialist clothing is required (e.g. hillwalking) or sporting events.

- **Article 31 (Leisure, play and culture):** Children have the right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of cultural, artistic and other recreational activities.