

Braco Primary School



School Handbook Academic Session 2026 - 2027



Education and Learning
Improving Lives Together
Ambition | Compassion | Integrity



School information

The purpose of this handbook is to communicate the ethos of Braco Primary School and provide a welcome for parents to the school. This document should also be used to prepare your child for attending, and act as a reference tool while your child is at our school. Furthermore, we hope that parents gain valuable insights into their child's learning journey at Braco Primary, how they can support their child at home and be involved within school life.

The information contained within this handbook meets the requirements of the Education (School and Placing Information) (Scotland) Regulations 2012. If you or someone you know requires this document to be available in an alternative format or language, please contact the school office.

In this handbook for Braco Primary School, you shall find the following sections:

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Introduction

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to extend a warm welcome to you. As a school, we look forward to getting to know you and your child, and to working in partnership with you.

We welcome and encourage active parental support and involvement in school life because we believe that this enhances the educational experience of your child. Every stage within school and nursery is of equal importance to your child's development and we aim to provide the best possible experiences for all learners from Nursery to Primary 7. Throughout these stages your child is valued, encouraged, and has equal opportunities to develop and learn to his/ her potential in a supportive and caring environment.

Braco Primary School is at the heart of village life, and we welcome opportunities to become involved with local organisations and groups. We recognise that community involvement enriches the learning experiences of the children, and allows us to give something back to the community which we are part of.

It is our aim to provide a safe, nurturing and trusting environment where our learning experiences are enjoyable ones.

This handbook will give you the basic information required to understand the procedures and practices in our school. However, should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or the Headteacher. It is important that any query or concern regarding your child is addressed quickly through a meeting, telephone call or letter. We will always acknowledge your concerns and work together to arrange next steps in resolving any issues.

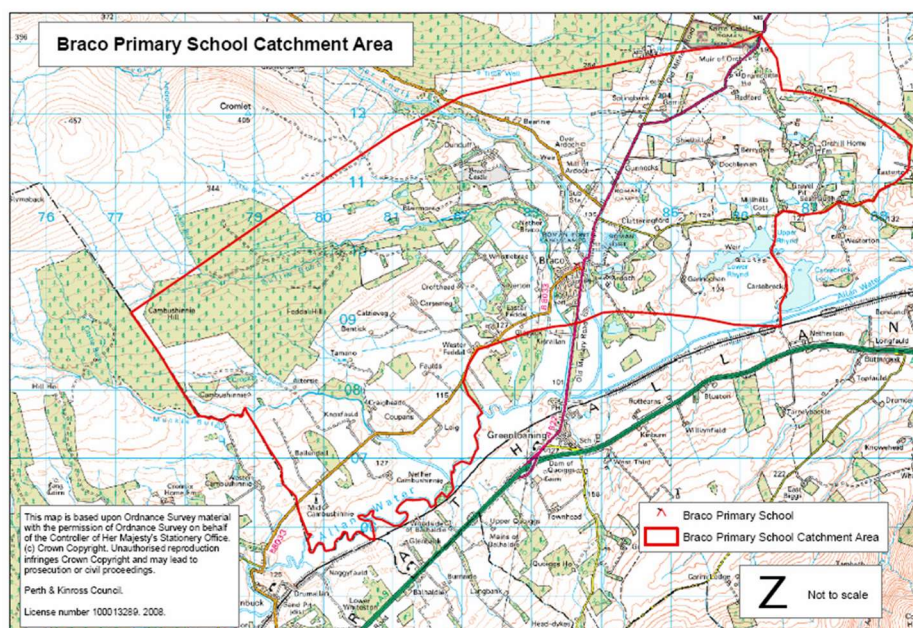
The information contained in this school handbook was accurate at the time of publication (December 2025), but changes may have occurred since then.

Kind regards,

Craig Torrens
Headteacher

Delineated Area

Braco Primary School was opened in 1815 and provides Primary Education and Early Learning and Childcare for the children residing in Braco, Greenloaning and the surrounding area. It is approximately eight miles south of Crieff and eight miles north of Dunblane.



Contact Details

Braco Primary School
Feddal Road
Braco
Perthshire
FK15 9QD

Telephone: 01764 661420

Email: Bracoparents@pkc.gov.uk

Local Authority Website: Braco Primary School - Perth & Kinross Council

Website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/BracoPrimaryWebsite/>

Braco Primary School is a rural, non-denominational school with 3 classes and a nursery.

Roll (at time of writing): 54 pupils (school) or 64 (school and nursery combined)

Headteacher: Craig Torrens

Parent Council Office Bearers:

Chair: Vacant- filled on a rotational basis.

Secretary: Julie Reid

Treasurer: Jill Johnston

Parent Council can be contacted by email at: bracoparentcouncil@hotmail.com

For further details including information our Parent Council and the school, please see our school website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/BracoPrimaryWebsite/>

Staff

Headteacher	Mr Craig Torrens
Principal Teacher / Primary P4/5	Miss Eilidh Wilson
Primary 1/2/3	Miss Amelia Conway
Primary 6/7	Miss Megan Fraser
Principal & Probationer Teacher Relief	Miss Stephanie Sheach
Early Childhood Practitioner Nursery	Mrs Brenda Simpson
Early Childhood Practitioner Nursery	Ms Helena Carey
Play Assistant	Mrs Kirsty Wilson
School Support Assistant	Mrs Elaine Smith
	Mrs Eleanor Cullen
Classroom Assistant	Mrs Jill Johnston
Pupil Support Assistant/Lunch Time Assistant	Mrs Karen Carnson
	Mrs Kathryn Coombs
Dinner Ladies	Miss Leanne Miller
Cleaner	Mrs Grace Miller
	Mrs Rosie Murdoch

Visiting Staff

Janitor	Mr Jim Perry
School Chaplain	Rev. Mairi Perkins
School Nurse	Ms Sheila Milne
Peripatetic Nursery Teacher	Miss Jenifer Bisset
Primary Pupil Support Teacher	Mrs Shirley Wilson
Area Support Teacher	Mr David Gibson
Peripatetic teacher	Miss Jess Duncan
Community Link Worker	Mr Dave Graham
Community Learning Assistant	Mrs Katrina Grieve
Educational Psychologist (Trainee)	Mr Connor Caller
Violin Teacher	Mrs Fiona Chalamanda
Guitar Teacher	Mr Guy Bathgate
Family Learning Practitioner	Ms Helen Nicholls

Complaints Procedure

We foster positive relationships with our parents and carers, and adopt an 'open door' approach to communication. Staff are always willing to make themselves available to discuss any aspect of your child's development, and for minor or very short queries it is often possible to speak to the teacher before or after school. If you require more time, or if a confidential matter needs to be discussed, please arrange an appointment via the school office. Concerns are always taken seriously and listened to. Parents, staff and children will then work together to agree a positive way forward.

At Braco Primary we want to do the best for you and your children. Users of the school should have confidence that concerns will be dealt with promptly and in a professional manner. However, if you still feel that your concerns have not been addressed, you may choose to make a formal complaint. This should be made to the Headteacher or via the Perth and Kinross Council website (see below). All complaints will be dealt with fairly, and in a sensitive and confidential manner. The complaint will be acknowledged on receipt, and a response will be given within 5 working days from the date of receipt of the complaint. If the problem is not resolved, the complainant should contact the school's designated Quality Improvement Officer, Perth and Kinross Council, who will advise on taking forward the complaint within the formal complaint procedure of the Council. Details of this procedure can be found on the Perth and Kinross website or by contacting Customer Service Centre on 01783 475583.

The school deals with complaints as part of Perth & Kinross Council's Complaints Handling Procedure. More information is available on the Council's website as follows:

<http://www.pkc.gov.uk/complaints>

Procedure in the case of pupil absence or sickness.

If your child is unwell and unable to come to school, please call 01764 661420 or email bracoparents@pkc.gov.uk. A message can be left on the answering machine if the office is unattended, and this will be passed onto their class teacher.

If your child is expected in school but does not arrive, the class teacher will notify the office and you will be contacted by school staff.

Arrangements for parents, offered or seeking a place for their child in the school, including arrangements for visiting the school.

If your family would like to join our school community, please phone 01764 661420 or email on us on braco@pkc.gov.uk, so we can organise a visit to the school and answer any questions you may have.

Communication with Parents

Our school aims to form effective partnerships with all our parents through good communication regarding all aspects of our children's school lives. Therefore, parents are welcome to visit at any time should they have any matters they wish to discuss with staff and need not wait for formal contact evenings. Homework diaries, Learning Journals and emails can also be used as methods of communication between home and school.

A noticeboard is available in the school playground on which parents as well as school staff can display information relevant to our school community. Our school website offers up to date information, and this can also be found on our school X (formerly Twitter) page. Information is largely shared via Learning Journals and emails.

Parents' Evenings are held in November and March each session. Open Afternoons/ Evenings, assemblies and other whole school events also provide parents with opportunities to find out more about the curriculum and their child's learning. Throughout each academic session, we host several curriculum events for parents including P1 Transition Evenings, Phonics Workshops and Digital Skills Evenings.

Our Communication Policy can be found on our school website.

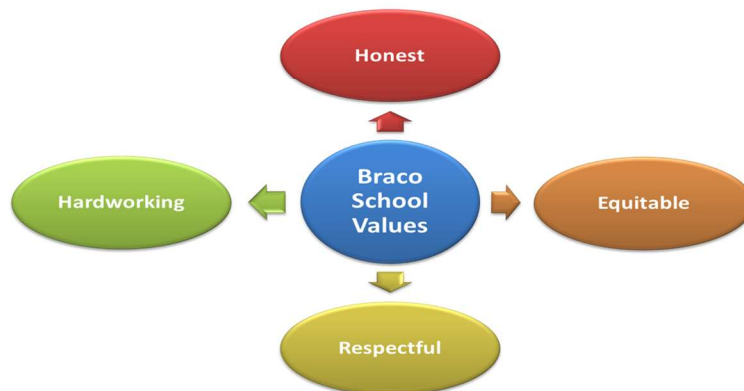
A Shared Vision...



Include Inspire
Achieve

Our Values

We are...



Aims

Braco School Community endeavour to prepare their learners for life with...

Brains and Bodies that are Healthy

Respectful, Responsible and Resilient Attitudes

Achievement for ALL

Challenging and Active Learning Experiences

Opportunities for Skills Development

We celebrate our children's achievements through Get Togethers, X (formerly Twitter) posts, school displays and posts on Learning Journals.

Our school has excellent community relationships with local groups such as Ardoch in Bloom, Braco Bowls Club, Ardoch Parish Church, Braco Castle Estate and the Ardoch Development Trust.

We are a Silver Rights Respecting School, and we are presently working towards our Rights Respecting Schools Gold Award. As such, each class creates a Class Charter, which is linked to pupils' understanding of the most relevant rights within the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Braco School employs a system of positive reinforcement to encourage the best from our pupils. If negative behaviour occurs, then the children will restore any harm done through a restorative conversation which enables all those involved the opportunity to have their voice heard. Parents /carers will always be kept informed of issues arising. Our Behaviour and Relationships Policy can be found on our school website.

Parental Involvement

Parent voice is vital to school and nursery improvement, and we welcome feedback from parents and our wider school community. We actively encourage parents to be involved in school life and activities are planned throughout the year which provide parents with opportunities for this, including Open Afternoons, Stay and Play Sessions, Curriculum Evenings, Meet the Teacher Events, Rhyme Times, School Shows and Assemblies.

We also have an active Parent Council, who regularly support the school with fundraising and by gathering parents' views regarding school improvement activities.

We strive to consult fully with parents through the Parent Council, Parent Focus Groups and Nursery Natters, to gain valuable feedback. This information is vital to the school improvement process. Parents are also regularly invited to contribute views and ideas to school Self Evaluation exercises through a variety of methods which vary from year to year.

Our staff are happy to discuss learners' progress and Health and Wellbeing over the telephone. Please make an appointment with our school office or speak with your child's class teacher.

Further guidance and information on parental involvement in school and in your child's education can be found at:

<http://www.pkc.gov.uk/parental-involvement>

School Enrolment & Transitions

Effective transitions are vital for children's health and wellbeing, and to ensure continuity and progression in their learning. These can be transitions between classes, Curriculum for Excellence Levels, schools, nursery and Primary 1 or Primary 7 and secondary school.

Nursery to Primary 1

To ensure a smooth transition from Nursery to Primary 1, we provide a range of visits and activities to help make this an enjoyable experience for your child.

If your child does not attend Braco Nursery, the Primary 1 teacher will arrange to visit your child in their setting during their final term. The purpose of this visit is to allow your child to meet their new teacher for the first time in familiar surroundings. We will also plan opportunities to discuss your child and their learning with you and their 'Key Worker' in their current setting.

We run several Nursery to Primary 1 transition events for parents during the final term of each academic session. These provide parents with an opportunity to familiarise themselves with our school and build positive working relationships with staff.

Primary to Secondary School

After completion of their Primary 7 year, pupils of Braco Primary transfer to Crieff High School:

Crieff High School
Strathearn Community Campus
Crieff
PH7 3RS
Tel: 01764 657600

Headteacher: Mr John Donnelly

Parents of children transferring to Crieff High School will be invited to attend a transition meeting in June. Children will experience a variety of induction experiences as an introduction to secondary school. Throughout their Primary 7 year, children can participate in a range of activities with children from cluster primary schools, including: sports events, quizzes and a residential trip.

We work in partnership with secondary colleagues to ensure an effective transfer of information for all learners.

Pupils who have additional support needs may have an enhanced transition, which may include additional visits to the school and meetings with a key member of support staff.

Parents who wish their child to attend a Secondary School other than Crieff High School should complete a placing request form and submit it to Education and Learning, Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street, Perth, PH1 5GD, between January and March. Parents should receive notification of transfer to Secondary School by April of the year of transfer.

Transition to Braco Primary from another establishment

Prospective parents/ carers can contact the school office to request an appointment to visit the school and meet with the Headteacher. During this visit, you will get a tour of our school and an opportunity to ask any questions relating to the school and its provisions.

School registration and enrolment information can be accessed on Perth and Kinross Councils website:

<http://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/17276/school-enrolment>

The Curriculum

Curriculum for Excellence provides education in Scotland with a coherent, flexible and enriched curriculum for 3 to 18 year olds. The curriculum aims to help every learner develop knowledge, skills and attributes for learning, life and work.

Careful planning with children means that we can provide relevant, challenging, active and enjoyable learning experiences in stimulating contexts that can bring children of different ages, with similar interests, together.

Our aim in Braco School is to provide pupils with a motivating and engaging curriculum which is appropriate to each pupil's needs. Our approaches to teaching the subject areas of the Curriculum for Excellence are outlined below, although many experiences and outcomes are taught using an inter-disciplinary approach.

Language and Literacy (reading, writing, listening and talking)

Literacy is fundamental to all areas of learning, as it unlocks access to the wider curriculum. Competence and confidence in literacy, including competence in grammar, spelling and the spoken word, are advantageous for progress in all areas.

We aim to foster positive attitudes to literacy and learning by providing purposeful challenges and experiences. We do this through providing a wide range of language experiences and by using a range of resources. Braco School uses a variety of resources to establish successful learning, including core material such as Oxford Reading Tree, Read Write Inc, Jolly Phonics Spelling and Grammar, and we also access a rich variety of texts from the school library. Big Writing is used to structure writing lessons focusing on Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation.

Maths and Numeracy

We aim to provide our learners with mathematics that is enjoyable, motivating and engaging. Our aims are to develop computational skills with speed and accuracy whilst also developing knowledge, facts and techniques in aspects of mathematics.

Braco School uses a variety of resources to establish successful learning including core material such as Scottish Heinemann Mathematics, Big Maths and TJ Maths, as well as real

maths investigations, problem solving and practical tasks. Maths games both traditional and IT based, are also used to support understanding in maths across the curriculum.

Health and Wellbeing

Emotional, social and physical wellbeing are essential for successful learning.

We aim to positively develop everyone's social, emotional and physical wellbeing by fostering a safe, caring, supportive and purposeful environment that enables the development of relationships based on mutual respect. We believe in adopting 'relational approaches' with all learners, and more information can be found in our Behaviour & Relationships Policy on our website.

Teachers plan and deliver a Health and Wellbeing Curriculum which is underpinned by Curriculum for Excellence and the needs of the class. Core resources used by teachers include Emotion Works and Bounceback.

From time to time there will be areas of the curriculum that may require parental involvement before a series of lessons begin e.g. sex education or drug awareness. In these cases, parents will be contacted prior to the lessons being taught and there will be an opportunity to view resources and discuss the programme with the class teacher, should it be necessary.

Social Studies

Our aim within Social Studies is to promote our children's knowledge and understanding of their local environment and the wider world. We aspire to empower children to become global citizens, who try to bring about positive change.

Over the school year, children learn about 'People, Past and Places' through teacher planned topics, pupil led projects and whole school learning contexts.

Sciences

Science is typically taught as a discrete subject by class teachers, though every opportunity is made to link science projects to other areas of the children's learning through a variety of interdisciplinary projects throughout the school year.

Technologies

Our technologies framework provides a range of different contexts for learning that draw on important aspects of everyday life and work. This includes creative, practical and work-related experiences and outcomes in business, computing science, food, textiles, craft, design, engineering, graphics and applied technologies.

Also, as children play and learn they will develop an interest, confidence and enjoyment in ICT skills that can be transferred and applied in different learning contexts.

Braco Primary School is a 1:1 device school, as each of our learners have access to their own iPad. This allows us to use digital technologies effectively across the curriculum.

Our acceptable usage policy can be found on our school website.

Modern Languages

In Braco School pupils from Nursery to Primary 7 have the opportunity to learn French and Primary 6/7 are also introduced to Spanish. Staff are being trained in the delivery of French through the Perth & Kinross development sessions and use The Power Language Platform to plan and deliver lessons. Lessons are taught using games, songs and practical tasks to encourage listening, speaking, reading and some writing.

Expressive Arts

Music is taught by class teachers, with classes regularly utilising the Charanga resource. Children sing and learn both tuned and un-tuned percussion. They have opportunities to respond to music, describing thoughts and feelings about own and others' work. Each class

regularly use the Charanga music resource to support skill development.

Mrs Fiona Chalamanda visits weekly to provide Violin tuition and group work from Primary 3 – Primary 7. All children who wish to learn to play the violin from Primary 3 are able to do so.

Mr Guy Bathgate, a specialist Guitar tutor, visits on a weekly basis to provide guitar and ukulele tuition for P6-7 pupils.

Art and Design is taught by the class teacher and the children are given the opportunity to develop a wide range of creative skills, use a variety of media and respond to work of other artists through constructive comment.

Drama lessons are delivered by the class teacher. Children are inspired by a range of stimuli to create, express and communicate thoughts, feelings and ideas. They experiment with movement, voice and expression. Each year our Nursery – Primary 3 children put on a Nativity Play and our Primary 4 – Primary 7 classes perform a Summer Show.

Physical Education

The children receive a minimum of 2 hours PE per week and are taught gymnastics, athletics and games skills, as well as expressive dance. Both PE lessons are taught by the class teacher.

We have the use of the Village Hall for PE twice per week, although we spend as much time as possible outdoors when delivering PE lessons.

Religious and Moral Education

The school welcomes and encourages diversity and individuality while emphasising our common commitment to moral values such as honesty, respect and equity.

We ensure all pupils have access to the full range of educational experiences available within the resources of the school. We are firmly committed to the elimination of any form of discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, gender or disability.

It is a fundamental principle of our school that all who are involved in the life of our school both have the right to be respected as individuals and carry the responsibility to act in a considerate and respectful manner towards others.

We hold a whole school Get Together on a weekly basis, where we learn, share news and work together. This may include reflecting and responding to a story of religious or moral significance. A children's song may be used to join us in collective singing.

At the end of each term a service is held in the Parish Church, to which parents and friends of the school are invited.

Under the terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, "any pupil may be withdrawn by his/her parents from any instruction in religious subjects and from religious observance". Any parent who wishes to exercise this right must first discuss the matter with the Headteacher.

Pupil Involvement in their learning

Pupils can apply and consolidate their learning through a variety of interdisciplinary projects. These projects enable the pupils to plan in partnership with the teachers to set learning intentions and areas of focus. These interdisciplinary projects are based on addressing the needs of the pupils in the class and offer opportunities for individual projects, co-operative learning tasks and group work with a greater emphasis on personalisation and choice.

If parents have any areas of skills or expertise and could support aspects of our interdisciplinary work, please let the school know.

Learning Outside the Classroom

We take every opportunity to use our outdoor environment as much as we can. The school

garden, playground and local community are used extensively by all Braco pupils and the continual development of outdoor learning through our Forest School curriculum is a key area of focus.

School trips are planned for every class in the school each year.

Pupils also have opportunities to represent the school at a variety of regional events. All these opportunities ensure the pupils are exposed to as many high-quality opportunities and experiences as possible.

Braco Primary School delivers regular Forest School sessions at a local woodland site. Our trained Forest School Leader has created our Forest School Handbook and Policy, which can be accessed on our website.

Skills Groups

The school regularly provides opportunities to develop skills for life, learning and work. Pupils work in mixed groups with children from Nursery to Primary 7. Groups work in an eight-week cycle on a particular skill allowing all children to experience different skills within the school year. These skills include developing Leadership and Teamwork, Digital Literacy, Health and Wellbeing through Rights Respecting Schools, Creativity and Problem Solving.

For further information about Curriculum for Excellence please see

[CfE Facfile \(education.gov.scot\)](http://education.gov.scot/CfE_Facfile)

Assessment & Reporting

Assessment of pupils is an integral element of the teaching and learning process and teachers assess regularly to plan for pupils' learning needs. Summative and formative assessment takes place within the planning period, and this is recorded and evidenced. Various methods of assessment are used to gauge children's knowledge, skills and understanding including:

- Observations.
- Self and peer-assessment.
- Teacher assessment evaluations.
- Discussions and questioning.
- Written responses.
- Work produced.
- Learning Conversations/ Learning Journal posts.
- Summative assessments: GL Reading, NGRT Maths, SWST Spelling etc.
- National Standardised Assessments.

Pupils' attainment and achievement is tracked using the following methods and this information is used as the basis for all planning, to ensure next steps are relevant and appropriate and to ensure pace and challenge.

- Learning Journals.
- Planning and Tracking Meetings.
- P7 Profiles.
- Assessment and Evidence Folders.
- Curriculum for Excellence Tracking Overviews.
- Prize Giving Awards.
- Annual Pupil Reports.

Information regarding children's learning, attainment and achievement is shared with parents throughout the session by coming along to Get Togethers, performances, curriculum events and via digital learning logs. The school endeavours to share information through both formal and informal communication such as news on our website, X (formerly Twitter), Learning links, Digital Learning Journals, certificates home, phone calls and meetings. Parents are welcome to make appointments to discuss their child's progress at any time of the school year.

Formal parent contact evenings are held twice a year. These take the form of a 10-minute confidential meeting between class teacher and parent /carer to discuss the child's progress and future steps.

Annual written reports are issued once a year, normally in May.

Support for Pupils

Class Teachers meet the needs of pupils within their class through careful assessment, planning and through selecting appropriate learning and teaching methods to suit the styles of all learners. Class lessons are differentiated, and group work is carefully planned.

Some of our pupils may need additional support at some point during their education. This may be long or short term, and the level of support may be universal or targeted. Additional supports may take the form of a targeted intervention programme or additional time or resources to enable progress.

To meet the needs of some pupils, teachers need to consult with relevant professionals who may offer classroom support or identify appropriate resources e.g., Pupil Support Teacher, Teacher of English as an Additional Language, Teacher for Hearing Impairment, Autism Outreach Officer, Educational Psychologist etc. Pupils within the school may work with a member of support staff who, under the instruction of the class teacher, help to support pupils on a one-to-one basis or within a small group in class.

Our peripatetic PPST (Primary Pupil Support Teacher) works in collaboration with class teachers and support staff to gather information to give the best support possible for the individual. Parents will be notified of any evidence gathering and permission sought for referrals to partner agencies such as Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy.

If a parent or carer is concerned about their child's progress, they should contact their class teacher in the first instance who will communicate concerns with the PPST and Senior Leadership Team who will take it forward.

In some cases, a CYPP (Children's and Young Person's Planning) meeting will be held. This is a collaborative meeting with school, home and partner agencies such as health or Community Link Workers to devise a comprehensive plan to support a child.

If you have any concerns about the safety of a child or young person, please contact our Child Protection Officers, Mr Craig Torrens, Miss Eilidh Wilson or Miss Amelia Conway.

More information about the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2009 and Perth and Kinross Councils Policy, can be found using the link below:

<http://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/17278/Schools-additional-support->

National Information relating to additional support needs:

Additional information and support for parents of children and young people with ASN can be found through the following: [Additional support | Parentzone Scotland | Education Scotland](#)

Enquire offers independent, confidential advice and information on additional support for learning through: Telephone Helpline: 0345 123 2303 Email Enquiry service: info@enquire.org.uk.

Advice and information is also available at www.enquire.org.uk Enquire provides a range of clear and easy-to-read guides and factsheets including The parents' guide to additional support for learning.

Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance, a charitable body registered in Scotland under registration number SC033576; and Scottish Child Law Centre, a charitable body registered in Scotland under registration number SCO12741.

School Improvement

All schools in Scotland are required to report on Standards & Quality, and Improvement Planning on an annual basis.

The Standards and Quality Report measures school performance against a set of national quality indicators and includes information about the main achievements of the school. The report also evaluates progress on the school's previous improvement plan.

A summary of our Standards and Quality Report can be found below:

Main improvement priorities 2025-2026

- Raise attainment through improvements to high quality learning and teaching.
- Continue to improve attainment within numeracy and maths, with a focus on assessment and moderation.
- Further develop knowledge and understanding, supports and strategies to improve inclusive practices.

A review of the attainment data for session 2024-2025 in June 2025 has highlighted the following key points:

Assessment data has been gathered from a variety of sources across the year and used to measure attainment and identify gaps and areas for improvement. This data further informed how we targeted additional resources and staffing to accelerate progress.

At Braco Primary School, most children are making good progress in their learning and are attaining well in all aspects of Literacy, and in Numeracy. Pupils with Additional Support Needs were well supported with regular planning meetings in place to ensure that their needs were met effectively and timeously.

Most of our P1 pupils have achieved Early Level in Talking and Listening, Writing and Reading, and almost all have achieved Early Level in Numeracy.

Most P4 pupils achieved First Level in Talking and Listening, Reading, Writing and Numeracy. All P7 pupils have achieved Second Level in Talking and Listening, Reading, Writing and Numeracy.

Measures continue to be in place to ensure positive outcomes and equity for all pupils, and we have made good progress against How Good Is Our School Quality Indicator 3.1, Ensuring Wellbeing Equity and Inclusion. Pupils with Additional Support Needs were well supported with regular planning meetings in place to ensure that their needs were being met effectively and timeously. All parent respondents (100%) agreed that their children's learning and ASNs were well supported, and all parents knew how well and how much their child was learning in class. (April 2025 Parent Survey) Parents commented that Braco school is 'inclusive', 'supportive' and 'has high expectations of pupils' (April 2025)

Our average attendance for the school has improved this academic year by 0.5% to 94.7%. This falls short of Perth and Kinross' target of 96%, so we will continue to work closely with families, the Community Link Worker and partner agencies to support attendance.

Learning

This year, the learning and teaching at Braco have been described as 'high quality' and 'varied and supportive' in recent parent surveys, with a 'great variety of learning activities and cross curricular opportunities' (Parent Survey April 2025). Furthermore, all parents were aware of their child's progress, and almost all (96%) believe that teacher feedback is of a high quality. This year, our school has placed a strong emphasis on partnership working to provide high quality learning opportunities for pupils. As a result, learners have benefitted from the knowledge, skills and expertise of the Active Schools Coordinator, Ardoch in Bloom, Sustrans, Cricket Development Officer, Local History Officer, STEM Coordinator, Perth Festival of Arts and Rugby Development Officer. Our Primary 5/6/7 also worked in partnership with the Tayside Fisheries Board during their 'Salmon in the Classroom' project, which led them to work alongside SEPA and a local salmon geneticist while rearing and releasing young salmon. Furthermore, our school community has benefitted from the continued efforts of parents to

support the learning at Braco Primary School. This year, parents have generously helped us to establish raised beds for growing vegetables, repair our outdoor classroom and fund a variety of trips and learning experiences.

All teaching staff have undertaken professional learning via Perth and Kinross Council's 'Numeracy Schools Programme'. As a result, staff worked collegiately with professionals from across the Council to develop their skills and abilities regarding progression, support, challenge, and differentiation within numeracy and maths. During evaluation of its impact, all staff (100%) noted an increase in confidence when scaffolding learning within maths, particularly with the use of the Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract approach to teaching concepts. Teachers and Early Childhood Practitioners also participated in the Nurturing Schools practitioner enquiry. This led to important improvements to improve learner's autonomy and affiliation within our school, which was achieved through the implementation of Peer Mediators, creation of child-friendly environmental audits and pupil participation in lesson observations. Braco Primary School has continued to provide rich and meaningful learning experiences within our local community and further afield. This has included class trips to Dynamic Earth, Perth Theatre, Auchingarrich Wildlife Park and Ardoch Roman Fort. All parents (100%) who responded to our School Improvement questionnaire, and almost all learners (90%) recognised the value in school trips to enhance learning. We have successfully endeavoured to increase our provision of extra-curricular clubs this year including: Art, Chess, Makaton, Gardening, Cricket, Rugby, Bowling, and Multi-sport and Violin. Most of our Primary 3 –7 children participated in music tuition this year with either the violin or guitar. 100% of parents who responded to our School Improvement questionnaire felt their child was involved in school life.

All learners regularly undertake Forest School sessions and we continue to ensure that we provide learners with quality learning experiences. This year, we produced our Forest School Policy/ Handbook. 100% of pupils, parents and staff believe that we fully utilise the outdoors for learning and play.

We have continued to have a meaningful partnership with Sustrans, who supported our Bikeability sessions and Bike Week via a Pedal Cinema, Smoothie Bikes, Dr Bike and Silent Disco. We have further promoted Health and Wellbeing through Rugby lessons, Play sessions and Swimming lessons.

Creativity is actively encouraged and promoted through Braco's Got Talent, our Nativity performance and Summer Show. Furthermore, our learners received commendation at the Rotary Club Exhibition in the categories of Art and Photography.

School Policies & Practical Information

A full list of school specific policies can be found on our website:

[Braco Primary School and Nursery | Include – Inspire – Achieve](#)

This includes the following policies: Behaviour and Relationships, Parental Communication, Forest School, Composite Classes and Anti-Bullying.

Policies Information on the following authority policies can be viewed on the Perth and Kinross Council website: www.pkc.gov.uk

School Transport

For information on free school transport please see link below:

www.pkc.gov.uk/article/17284/Schools-transport-and-trips

Anti-Bullying

We take allegations of bullying at Braco school seriously and would urge you to report bullying behaviours directly to the Headteacher.

Please see link below for further information from PKC

https://www.pkc.gov.uk/media/40989/Anti-Bullying-Strategy/pdf/Antibullying_Strategy_1

Positive Relationships

At Braco School we believe in creating a positive environment for all to work in. As well as developing a caring attitude towards each other, the children are encouraged to foster a positive awareness of the needs of others.

Braco School employs a system of positive reinforcement to encourage the best from our pupils.

If negative behaviour occurs, then the children will restore any harm done through a restorative conversation which enables all those involved the opportunity to have their voice heard.

Parents /carers will always be kept informed of issues arising.

Uniform

The school uniform consists of:

Girls: Navy blue pinafore, skirt or trousers, light blue polo shirt, navy blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan.

Boys: Navy blue trousers or shorts, light blue polo shirt, navy blue sweatshirt or jumper.

Gym Kit: Navy shorts, light blue t-shirt, black gym shoes

Navy school sweatshirts, light blue polo shirts, navy school coats, navy school bags navy book bags and red gym bags (all with our embroidered logo) are available to order online from School Trends Website. Uniform is also available through 'Logo Embroidery Scotland'. Orders can be made through sylvialauder85@gmail.com

Red sweatshirts are also available for Nursery pupils.

All items of clothing should be clearly marked with the child's name.

In the interests of safety all jewellery must be removed during PE lessons. Security of removed jewellery is the responsibility of the child. School cannot accept any responsibility for lost jewellery.

If you would like assistance applying for funding to help with uniform costs, please contact the school.

Homework

Homework is an important and valuable activity for both pupils and parents. At Braco School we follow the advice from the Scottish Office in setting homework tasks appropriate to the age, stage and ability of our pupils.

Homework is an important way of promoting good study habits at home while also fostering independent learning and accountability. At Braco Primary school, homework may take the form of any curricular area and should reinforce concepts already taught in class. Depending on age and stage, homework activities typically include; phonics, reading, spelling and maths.

The co-operation and support of parents is sought to aid their child in the completion of homework. Following consultation with parents, it has been agreed that homework activities are issued on Wednesdays and returned on Mondays.

Please see our homework policy on our school website.

School Lunches

Lunches are eaten in Braco Village Hall, located across from the school building.

School lunches and snacks are provided by Tayside Contracts. More information regarding Tayside Contracts, including meal choices and dietary information can be found on their website:

[School Catering by Tayside Contracts](#)

At present school lunches are free for Nursery and Primary 1-5. Snack in Nursery is also free. Payment for Primary 6 and Primary 7 children's lunches should be made via Parent Pay.

Information regarding eligibility for free school meals for P6-7 pupils can be found on Perth and Kinross Council's website:

<http://www.pkc.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>

Special medical diets are catered for if necessary. Parents who have a child/children with a food allergy or dietary needs are encouraged to complete a medically prescribed diet request form, available from the school meals web page or from the school. Please note this form must be supported by either a doctor or dietician and must be received by Education and Learning a minimum of two weeks prior to commencement of meals.

Some parents choose to help children self-manage their allergies by referring to Tayside Contracts interactive menu. This interactive feature shows all current meal recipes and ingredients, along with allergy information and can be found at:

<https://www.tayside-contracts.co.uk/catering/school-catering>

Timings of the Day

9am:	Morning bell for all children (including nursery)
10:45-11am:	Morning Interval
12:15-1pm	Lunch Break
3pm:	End of the school day for all children (including nursery)

Pupil Council

Our Pupil Council works in partnership with the Headteacher, Principal Teacher and all school staff to ensure pupils are included in decision-making processes.

Pupils apply and are interviewed to be on the Pupil Council each year, and work towards making the school a better place for all.

The following charter was written with these aims in mind.

PUPIL COUNCIL CHARTER

At Braco Primary School, the Pupil Council will endeavour ...

- To make sure everyone's voice is heard.
- To improve learning and social activities in school.
- To take care of and respect our environment.
- To make changes that will help the whole world and enable us to be Global Citizens.
- To help children be happy so that everyone wants to be in school.

School closures

Information on School closures can be found on <http://www.pkc.gov.uk/schoolclosures>

If the school or nursery is going to close unexpectedly, an email will be sent directly to parents, and the information will also be posted on Learning Journals. Our Parent Council Chair will also be contacted as soon as possible.

If the school is closed unexpectedly, we will provide online learning activities via Learning Journals and Microsoft Teams.

In the event of extreme weather conditions, parents can receive up to date information regarding school closures from the following sources:

Service	Contact Details	When Used	Other Comments
Radio Tay Am	Not applicable	All Instances	Frequency Am 1584 and 1161
Radio Tay FM	Not applicable	All Instances	FM 96.4 and 102.8
PKC Customer service Centre – Number for Parents	01738 475000(main Council line)	All instances	Available from 08:00 hours to 18:00 hours however this line may operate from 07:00 hours in exception circumstances.
PKC Website	www.pkc.gov.uk	All Instances	Parent/Carers can find closure updates on the Perth and Kinross Council website by logging onto www.pkc.gov.uk where closures will be flagged up on the home page, or alternatively access the information on
PKC Twitter and Facebook	Twitter: @PerthandKinross Facebook: @PerthandKinross	All Instances	
Radio Heartland	Not Applicable	Widespread conditions	FM 97.5, 106.6 Used if school closed are within an area known not to receive Radio Tay signal
Radio Central	Not Applicable	Wide conditions	FM 103.1 Used if schools closed are within an area known not to receive Radio Tay signal

Health and Safety

The Health & Safety at Work Act requires staff to ensure that school is a safe place for children.

Fire drills are held regularly to familiarise pupils with the sound of the alarm and the procedure for evacuating the school building safely. Should a child become ill at school or have an accident requiring more than minor first aid, parents will be contacted and asked to come to school. It is important that the emergency contact number is up to date in the event of parents not being available. Minor incidents requiring simple first aid are dealt with in school.

Our Health & Safety Officer is Craig Torrens, Headteacher.

Medicines in School

If any medication is required to be taken within school hours, parents must hand the medicine into the school office and sign a form authorising the school to administer it. For reasons of safety, medicines should not be left in the possession of children. Parents are requested to inform the Headteacher if any medication taken at home is likely to have an effect in school (e.g sleepiness or tiredness). This allows due attention to be given to the child and such information is treated in strict confidence.

First Aid

We have several staff trained in First Aid procedures. Should your child require first aid during the school day, he/she will be given a note home explaining any incident that required them to have first aid. For head injuries, we will also telephone to inform parents directly.

Name of Child Protection Officers

Child protection officers at Braco school are: **Mr Craig Torrens (Headteacher), Miss Eilidh Wilson (Principal Teacher) and Miss Amelia Conway.**

GIRFEC

Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) is the Scottish Government's approach to promoting the wellbeing of children and young people. Wellbeing is described by 8 'indicators':

Safe Healthy Achieving Nurtured Active Respected Responsible Included

These eight words help everyone to understand wellbeing in the same way and use the same language to talk about it. Sometimes the initials of the words are used, and the wellbeing indicators are referred to as SHANARRI.

The vast majority of Scotland's children and young people get all the help and support they need from within their families and their wider, local communities. But at times a child, young person or family might need extra help or support. The GIRFEC approach aims to make it as easy as possible for any child or young person (and their parents) to get the help or support that they need. Within schools, key staff are available to children, young people and their parents/carers to provide help, advice or support should they choose to make use of it.

The Child or Young Person's Plan is one single plan which coordinates all the services and agencies involved in supporting a child/young person, and will help ensure that everyone works together to deliver better outcomes for the child or young person who needs additional support and their family.