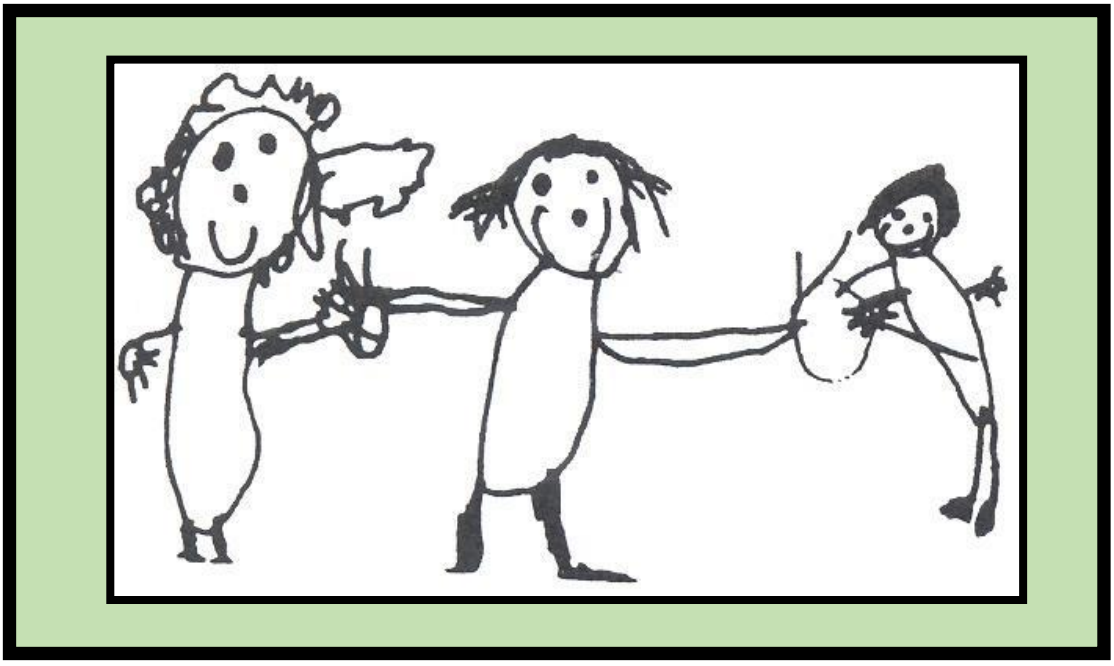


UNCRC Article 3 - Best Interests of the Child

The right to have adults do what is best for me.

The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions & actions that affect children.

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS unicef UNITED KINGDOM GOLD – RIGHTS RESPECTING

GIRFEC: Safe Healthy Achieving Nurtured Active Respected Responsible Included

Nurturing Relationships Level 1 Accredited

"We are committed to developing nurturing relationships through inclusive classrooms"

Education and Learning
Improving Lives Together
Ambition | Compassion | Integrity

PKC Nurturing Relationships

UNCRC Article 29

'Goals of Education'

Education must develop every child's personality, talents & abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own & other cultures, & the environment.

Dunbarney Nursery Handbook

HONESTY
KINDNESS AMBITION
RESPECT

'Be Your Best Self'

2025-2026

PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL
Education & Children's Services

HONESTY | AMBITION | *Be Your Best Self* | RESPECT | KINDNESS

❤ *Welcome to Dunbarney Nursery!* ❤

Dunbarney Nursery Class opened in 1996 and is an integral part of Dunbarney Primary School. It provides children with their first contact with school and is seen as a key steppingstone towards a successful education. The Nursery serves the Early Years "South Perth Community" with all day sessions during term time (9.00am – 3.00pm).

It is well recognised that the earliest years of life are crucial to a child's development and that family life clearly forms the child. We therefore seek to provide experiences that nurture and support children's learning, whilst supporting parents and carers through sharing and receiving information.

General Information

Address Dunbarney Primary School,
Main Street, Bridge of Earn
PERTH PH2 9DY

Telephone No 01738 474175

School Email dunbarney@pkc.gov.uk

Nursery Hours 09.00 – 15.00
Drop Off Time 9.00am
Pick Up Time: 15.00

STAFF		
Nursery Manager	Miss A. Dow (School DHT)	
Headteacher	Mrs L. Hope	
Early Childhood Practitioners	Mrs L. Simpson	*Monday - Friday*
	Miss C. Allison	*Monday - Friday*
Play Assistant	Mrs K. Cruikshank	*Monday - Friday*
Early Years Support Teacher	Mrs C. Reid	*Regular Support Visits*
Admin & Clerical Support	Mrs C. Ness	*Monday - Friday*
Janitor	Mrs Caroline Taylor	
Nursery & School Crossing Patroller	Mrs K. Grehan	
Nursery & School Cleaners	Mrs G. MacLeod & Mrs K. Grehan	
Dunbarney Minister	Rev. Allan Wilson	

IMPORTANT NOTE!!

Please help us to keep all children safe when they are attending nursery, by **always remembering to close the gate** behind you at drop-off and pick-up times. The nursery children even completed their own Risk Assessment on this essential safety precaution! Please also remember to close the main school gate behind you, as you enter and leave the school playground, to keep school children safe too.

Thank you everyone!

Dunbarney Nursery

Getting it right for every child

Safe · Healthy · Achieving · Nurtured · Active · Respected · Responsible · Included

Rights Respecting Schools
UNITED KINGDOM
unicef
Gold Rights Respecting

HONESTY · AMBITION · Be Your Best Self · RESPECT · KINDNESS

Numeracy · Literacy · STEM H & WB

STRONG COMMUNICATION

We are dedicated to communicating with children in a way that invites and responds to their views, interests and opinions, and develops their language skills.

PLAY

We believe that every day is a learning day and that play provides exciting opportunities both indoors and outdoors.

WELLBEING

Wellbeing is at the centre of what we do, ensuring al children feel part of a safe, nurturing, warm and friendly environment.

HOLISTIC

We encourage the emotional, social, physical, creative and intellectual development of the children, through a broad and balanced curriculum.

FAMILIES

We involve children and their caregivers in our learning and in our process of continuous improvement.

3 BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD

5 FAMILY GUIDANCE AS CHILDREN DEVELOP

12 RESPECT FOR CHILDREN'S VIEWS

14 FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND RELIGION

15 SETTING UP OR JOINING GROUPS

24 HEALTH, WATER, FOOD, ENVIRONMENT

28 ACCESS TO EDUCATION

31 REST, PLAY, CULTURE, ARTS

Our Nursery Day

Dunbarney offers all day sessions during term time only

Nursery Start Time: 09.00 Nursery Finish Time: 15.00

Please Note: *Lunches in Nursery are FREE!*

Patterns of attendance (other than 09.00 – 15.00) should be agreed in advance with Nursery Staff to avoid the school chasing up unexplained absence. These can be changed periodically.

Term Dates - For the most up to date term dates please click here to visit PKC website.

Please try your best to drop off / collect your child promptly 😊

Staff must be notified in advance if anyone other than regular parent/carer is collecting a child.

ADMISSIONS POLICY – click here

Attendance & Illness

Practitioners are committed, in partnership with parents/carers, to ensuring that children attend on a regular basis. The non-statutory nature of ELC attendance does not reduce the requirement to record/share/take account of any concerns around a family.

To ensure the wellbeing and safety of all children it is essential that parents/carers exercise responsibility to: -

- Keep us up to date with telephone numbers and emergency contacts.
- Inform us of any pre-arranged absence.
- Inform us of your child's absence no later than 15 minutes after the start of the session.
- Respond promptly to contacts from the setting asking why their child is absent.
- Share any concerns you have around their family with ELC practitioners to help ensure appropriate support for your child; and/or share those concerns with your child's Keyworker or named person.

Absence Policy

Please inform the school office **before 9.15am** (01738) 474175 if your child is ill or unable to attend. Please let us know if your child's illness is infectious or contagious. If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea, you must allow 48 hours to pass between the last bout of before your child can return. If you are taking your child on holiday, please notify the office by note or email dunbarney@pkc.gov.uk.

If children become ill whilst at Nursery, we will contact parents/carers immediately. We ask that parents/carers contact the school immediately to inform them of any changes to their phone numbers/address. If parents/carers are unavailable, we will telephone the child's emergency contact – please ensure their details are consistently kept up to date also.

Should a child be absent without explanation, we are required to ensure correct procedures will be followed:

- On the first day of absence we will make efforts to contact parents, carers or listed emergency contact(s) to establish a reason for absence and that the child is safe.
- If no contact can be made, school management will take appropriate action to ensure the child is safe:

- ➔ This will always include notifying the child's Named Person for their information and action as necessary and Lead Professional if appropriate. For ELC children the Named Person is the Health Visitor, or where the family is supported by the Family Nurse Partnership, then that person may take on the Named Person role.
- ➔ School management action will also include contacting the emergency contact and other family members as may be known.
- ➔ As the health, safety and wellbeing of all children is of the upmost importance, the setting will further implement Child Protection procedures when that is thought to be appropriate.

Emergency Closure

Adverse weather conditions and other unexpected circumstances may sometimes lead to schools and ELC settings in Perth and Kinross being closed. For the most up to date information please click here.

Additional Information sources

Radio Tay	AM 1584	FM 96.4	Perth Only
	AM 1161	FM 102.8	Everywhere else

Only used for widespread weather conditions

Radio station
Heartland FMFM 97.5 in Highland Perthshire and online at heartland.scot
Radio Central FM 103.1
Radio Kingdom FM 95.2, 96.1, 96.6, 105.4, 106.3
Wave 102 (Perth) FM 106.6
Follow Perth & Kinross Council on Twitter (Perth and Kinross Council (@PerthandKinross) / X (twitter.com))

Find Perth & Kinross Council on Facebook

Wraparound & School Holiday Care

PKC's Wraparound Care (WAC) services offer childcare and after-nursery class sessions for 3- and 4-year olds, as well as after school hours for primary age children. They also offer full day care for children aged 3 and up during school holidays and on In-Service Days.

Wraparound Care (WAC) Services start immediately at 3pm and close at 6pm. All WAC services are open from 8am to 6pm during holiday periods and on in-service days. There are five WAC services based in schools in Crieff, Luncarty, Pitlochry and Perth which are managed by the local school and supported by the Childcare Strategy Team.

The Wraparound Care services at Inch View (Perth), Letham (Perth), St Dominic's (Crieff), Pitlochry, and Luncarty also operate during holidays. The Pitlochry WAC is currently open 1 week at October and Easter and for 3 weeks in the summer in line with the ELC provision.

All services are closed on the two Public Holidays at Easter. All services except Inch View WAC are closed for the whole of the Christmas / New Year school holidays. Inch View is closed on 25/26 December and 1/2 January and normally one further date within the holidays.

Registration for WAC or Holiday Hubs can be made throughout the year. Once registered, you can use the service as much or as little as you require. You can select specific days for the activities taking place or so that children can participate in trips and outings. To find out more information or to register your child, please visit Perth & Kinross Council – Early learning and childcare options.

Families can access help with the costs of childcare in a variety of ways, through the tax credits system, vouchers provided by employers and tax free childcare accounts. Further information can be found at Help with the costs of childcare - Perth & Kinross Council (pkc.gov.uk) .

Purchasing Non-Funded ELC Sessions

Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) is committed to providing a more flexible Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) provision for parents and families. Applications can be made to purchase, where available, non-funded ELC sessions in PKC nurseries for children aged 3-5 years old (not available for Strong Start two-year-olds).

Please find more information at Purchasing non funded Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) sessions for school year - Perth & Kinross Council

Medicines

Please let your child's key worker know if your child requires medication whilst at nursery. We can only administer medicine which has been prescribed by a Doctor and still has the prescription on the medicine or packaging. We ask that you fill in medication administration forms which will ask for detailed information regarding dosage and frequency. Only the Depute Headteacher or Headteacher can sign the consent form giving authorisation for the medication to be administered. If your child is taking any medication at home, please inform your child's key worker as it can affect their behaviour or cause some discomfort e.g. a sore tummy, tiredness etc.

Parent & Family Learning Team

Our Early Years Settings work closely with the **PKC Parent and Family Learning Team** to provide further opportunities and support for families to learn and play together, such as:

- Peep - learning together programme
- Incredible Years
- Fear-Less Triple P
- Introducing Solids
- Eat Well Play Well
- Infant Massage (6 wks – 6 months)
- Small Talk and Treasure Pouches
- Home Safety Equipment
- Bite size programmes

To contact our team please call 01738 477697, email Parenting@pkc.gov.uk or complete an Application Form.

Reporting to Parents

While we will ensure that every child is cared for in a safe, welcoming environment, it is inevitable that accidents and incidents will happen. PKC guidance compels settings to report any concerning incidents or accidents, and every head injury, to parents. Staff will strive to ensure that this will be done sensitively and professionally.

Expectations

Parents' involvement in their child's education and learning is important and can provide a number of long-term benefits for your child. Your knowledge of and relationship with your child are also really valuable in supporting us to do our best for your child. With this in mind, there are certain expectations that we have of parents and carers while their child attends the setting:

- Respond to things that are sent home or shared on social media – get involved
- Establish a good routine at home – consistent bedtime routines /regular meal and snack times/sharing a daily story book
- Let your child's Key Worker know how to recognise if your child is feeling worried or anxious
- Engage with staff – let them know games, songs and stories that your child enjoys at home
- Share any concerns/expectations with ELC staff
- Share ideas that will help your child to feel happy and confident
- Follow your child's lead and respond to their emotions as they happen

We also encourage you to make use of the information and learning material we will share via our website/ social media pages and our staff will give you a quick introduction to our sites when you attend the centre. We appreciate that some families may have restricted internet access, if this is the case please let staff know so that alternative methods can be set up. We will also aim to ensure that parents and carers for whom English is not their first language have access to communication methods that can be translated easily.

Feedback

As part of our partnership with parents and carers, we will regularly invite you to give us feedback on the service that we are providing. This may be in the form of a survey, an email or message, or as part of an informal discussion. We appreciate your assistance in this process as we continuously strive to improve the way we work and ensure that we are providing the best care and early education for all our children.

Snack, Lunch… and Staying Hydrated!

Snack is free for all children and is provided from 10:00-10:30am – a free flow system is operated with children joining the snack table when they feel ready to do so. Staf encourage and support children, ensuring no child is left out! Children are offered a range of healthy foods throughout the nursery week and a choice of milk or water is offered. Children are involved in discussing and selecting/choosing snack menus and a Snack Helper rota sees all children accessing opportunities to prepare, set out and serve (where appropriate) snack - they even wear smart aprons and professional chef hats to do so!!).

Snack times …and lunchtimes (which we refer to as 'Family Mealtime Experience') … provide an abundance of skills based learning and developmental opportunities for *all* children so we do all that we can to regularly review these daily operations, ensuring that we truly are gleaning all the learning opportunities on offer within these contexts!

Water is continuously available throughout the day and easily accessible to children. We will do our best to encourage children to drink regularly. Children should bring their own water bottles to Nursery with them.

Lunch is provided by Tayside Contracts and served between 11:45-12:15 in our Nursery building and is **free for all children.**

Adapted Menus for medically prescribed diets can be catered for – parents / carers should complete this Adapted Menu Request Form. Once completed, please email a copy of this form to aldow@pkc.gov.uk as well as Tayside Contract and of course inform your child's ECP Keyworker that you have done so.

Food & Drink Standards - To help families understand the regulations Tayside Contracts are required to adhere to when developing menus, you may wish to watch this helpful video produced by Tayside Contracts.

Bread is available daily Fruit, vegetables & salad are available daily
Yoghurt is also offered as an alternative on dessert days

NURSERY LUNCH MENUES 2025-2026 - Full Colour With Additional Information Page Version
Pictorial Version (Photos of all Servings on Plates) Printable Version (One Page)

The Lunch Menu is also available in:- RUSSIAN POLISH UKRANIAN

We highly recommend reading this very helpful Nursery Meals Information Booklet 😊

You may also choose to bring a packed lunch from home. We kindly request that all lunch boxes contain an ice pack and continue to promote our healthy eating ethos. For packed lunch ideas please look at **NHS healthier Lunchbox Recipes .**

Food Safety & Hygiene

As we provide and prepare snacks, we are regularly inspected by a Food Safety Officer in line with the Council's Food Safety Policy. This is the **PKC Food Safety Toolkit** that we follow and all staff have up to date Food Safety certificates.
Snacks are prepared by a member of staff with training in Food Hygiene and we follow the guidance outlined in **Setting the Table.**
Lunches are provided by Tayside Contracts and are served to the children in the nursery. We follow the Perth and Kinross Mealtime guidance, to provide a nurturing and enjoyable lunchtime experience and promoting social skills, such as table manners
.

Clothing & Footwear

Learning through play can be a messy business! Aprons will be provided but please dress your child in comfortable clothes which they can get messy in and can be easily washed. Outdoor learning is an important part of our curriculum, and the children will be free to play in the garden in all weathers. You are welcome to leave a spare pair of wellies and waterproofs in nursery. In cold weather please provide a warm coat, gloves, a hat, and waterproofs. In warm weather please provide a sun hat and sun-cream (clearly labelled with your child's name).

We would also ask that children have a pair of slip-on plimsolls/indoor shoes for indoor use on particularly wet days as well as for gym. Lace up shoes, ballet pumps, flip flops etc are not appropriate. We also ask that children keep a pair of suitable outdoor shoes in nursery, preferably Velcro trainers, for outdoor play and for taking part in the 'Dunbarney Dash', which involves children running round the school garden perimeter three times (this is linked to the 'Daily Mile' initiative that is encouraged in nurseries and schools throughout Scotland). Clothing items kept in nursery should be clearly labelled with your child's name. Children should keep a spare set of clothes in their 'nursery bag' which will hang on their own peg in case of any wee accidents or messy play overload! Please clearly label all of your child's items with their name – we want to protect you from repeat spending!

Sharing Nursery Information
(Website, Learning Journals & Notice Board)

Information including weekly plans, snack menus, community information, our current Care Inspectorate report, nursery news and newsletters can be accessed on our website or Learning Journals. Our Notice Board in the nursery cloakroom is updated regularly too. Please try to check these regularly, as often as you can, so as not to miss information and opportunities to assist your child.

The Curriculum and Sharing of Learning

Within ELC, staff follow the Early Years National Practice Guidance for Scotland Realising The Ambition, and The Curriculum for Excellence (CfE). The 'early level' of Curriculum for Excellence spans both ELC and the early stages of Primary School and "is intended to support the implementation of a responsive, continuous play-based curriculum for children aged three to six". (RTA pg. 52)

Three areas of the curriculum are particularly important and are the responsibility of all staff. These are Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing.

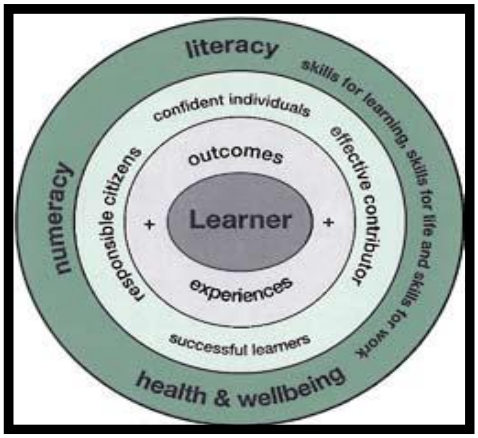
We create a stimulating environment where children are sensitively supported to achieve their full potential. Staff are very responsive to the needs and interests of our children and plan a rich blend of child and adult initiated learning experiences to meet everyone's needs.

Throughout your child's time in Nursery, they will most likely be working at the ***Early Level*** of this curriculum, and this will continue into Primary 1.

Sometimes children need a little additional support which may require us to focus on pre-early level experiences, skills and outcomes with them.

There are 8 Curriculum Areas…

Languages & Literacy
Mathematics & Numeracy
Health and Wellbeing
Expressive Arts
Sciences
Social Studies
Technologies
Religious & Moral Education



‘The 4 Capacities for Learning’.

The learner is at the heart of all that is planned within the Nursery. Children are, even at this early age, encouraged to be confident individuals, effective contributors, successful learners and responsible citizens – qualities that are referred to as ***‘The 4 Capacities for Learning’***.

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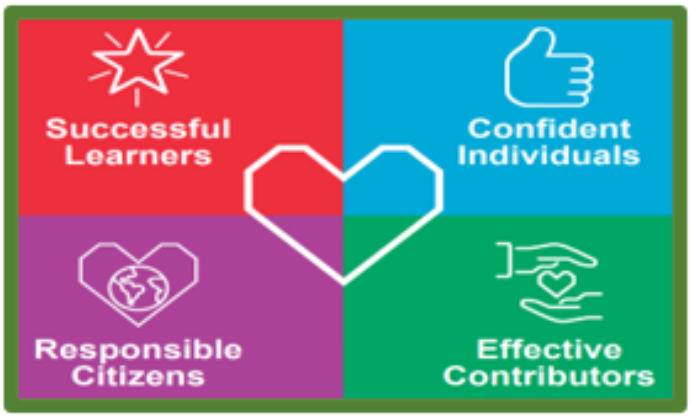
Children demonstrate these capacities by:

being confident in their choices and in their growing friendships-
‘Confident Individuals’

participating in activities and sharing their news, interests, and knowledge with others
‘Effective Contributors’

presenting their work in displays, showing development over time -
‘Successful Learners’

participating in the school’s Eco activities, by caring for the Nursery environment and respecting others -
‘Responsible Citizens’



Observations and Assessments

An individual record of learning and development will be kept for every child in ELC. Staff will regularly observe and monitor children’s progress so that they can identify developmental needs and plan their next steps in learning.

Children will be supported by their key worker to recognise, record and celebrate their own achievements. They will also be consulted on their learning goals which encourages each child to take a real ownership of their learning.

Children's progress will be tracked and recorded using the …

Developmental Milestones

We use a **Developmental Milestones** Assessment Tool to capture nursery children's progress within key developmental milestones.

Please see our very own Developmental Milestones Parent Information Leaflet that we created ourselves – next to each DM are photos of children (who attended our nursery in the past!) engaged in activities that are building skills in that specific DM.

Staff at Dunbarney Nursery created a helpful leaflet to remind all parents/carers of how we use the Developmental Milestones to track and assess children's progress within the important areas listed below. Staff track progress in relation to developmental outcomes related to each milestone. These help to confirm their views on whether your child has fully achieved each milestone.

We ensure that parents are kept informed on their child's progress within each milestone. You will receive a copy of your child's Developmental Milestones Record before each Parent Contact meeting so that you have time to consider how you feel your child is progressing and whether you have any recent information/achievements to share from their learning and developmental experiences outside of Nursery.

Please do not hesitate to speak to your child's Key Worker about their Developmental Milestones progress or to Miss Dow (Depute Headteacher), at any time. We are always happy to talk to you about how we work with and support your child to achieve their Developmental Milestones and can readily share ideas and suggestions about activities you can do with your child at home to encourage continued success and achievement.

1. Speech and Language

Communicates Clearly with Adults and Peers

2. Gross Motor Skills

Has Good Control of Body Movements

3. Fine Motor Skills

Has Good Control of Fine Body Movements

4. Social Development

Demonstrates Age Appropriate Social Development

5. Emotional Development

Demonstrates Age Appropriate Emotional Development

6. Behaviour

Demonstrates Age Appropriate Positive Behaviour

7. Attention

Demonstrates an Age Appropriate Attention Span

8. Hearing

Child is Free of Hearing Impairment

9. Sight

Child is Free of Visual Impairment

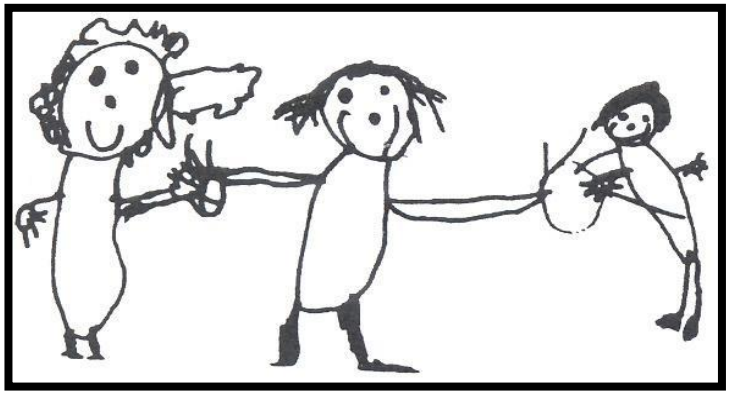
We also mustn't forget that you as parents will have an abundance of ideas to share with us too! We too can learn from the things do you do at home to help, encourage and support your child to experience general success and achievement, or to achieve those important milestones in life?

We are always keen to hear about your child's significant achievements at home, as well as simply hearing about their favourite things to do.
We love finding out about their hobbies and interests and how these develop over time e.g., *do they… like to go to the swimming pool… visit the Library… go on woodland walks… love junk modelling… enjoy singing and dancing… love to cook and bake etc.* Please do keep us informed!

All About Me / Child Plans

When your child starts at Dunbarney you will be supported by staff to complete an **"All About Me"** booklet. This will provide us with important information on your child's learning and development needs and will be used to create their individual care plan. It will include information such as their likes/dislikes, how they like to be comforted and what their individual needs may be. This will be reviewed and updated at least once every **6 months** to ensure we continue to best support your child's needs.

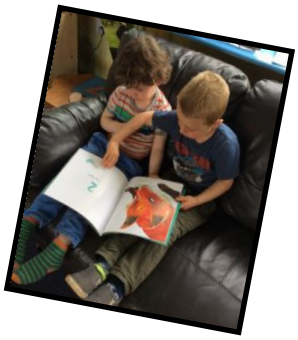
If you have any photos of your child's hobbies/achievements, or a little 'success story' about them, at any time of the year…. please do talk to us about it or send a Learning Journal message with photos / videos to us and we will add this information to their Learning Journey there and then – lease don't wait for that All About Me review before sharing stories of success, achievement … and of course PRIDE!!



Learning Activity Areas in Our Nursery – *We learn through PLAY!*

The nursery is arranged into carefully planned areas, each of which offers a variety of structured play and learning experiences. The children are given a combination of exploratory and directed activities. Children further pursue their own interests through having access to a wide variety of resources.

Through careful observation, staff members identify and encourage children to make full use of the experiences and resources available. After careful observation, staff reflect upon the children's developing skills and interests, and this influences planning and management of 'areas of interest' in order to respond to their needs.



Story Corner

Encourages the development of early literacy through fostering an interest in books, stories, poetry and rhymes. The provision and rotation of good quality books is given high priority. This area is also used to talk to children about the day ahead and share learning intentions.

Languages & Literacy Area

An area where children can practise 'mark-making' and writing – full of interesting resources that encourage them to put pen to paper, often changing in relation to current interests in nursery.

Mathematics & Numeracy Area

An area where children can have fun with numbers – full of interesting resources that encourage children to identify, say, write, count and order numbers. Other resources may include measuring items, pattern making equipment, 2D and 3D shapes etc. Resources available in this area again often change in relation to current interests.

Art and Craft

Encourages creativity and self-expression through painting, model making, drawing, cutting, sticking, writing and early technological skills.

Construction

Large and small construction kits/technical materials develop
fine motor skills, problem solving and provide design opportunities.

Creative Play Area

Stimulates creative play through use of
domestic equipment, dressing up, dolls etc.
Areas are changed to follow the children's interests
e.g. shoe shop, office, café, hairdressers, doctors or home area.

Sand and Water

Early science concepts will be developed through use of natural materials
and specific equipment for investigative and creative play.

Tabletop Games

A variety of games to encourage early reading and mathematical skills
e.g. memory games, lotto, snap, positions etc.
These help to develop language, general knowledge,
an awareness of early mathematical skills
such as colour, shape, sorting etc. and turn taking.

Music and Drama

There are percussion instruments to play and facilities for listening to music.
Regular listening, rhyming and singing games take place.
Children are encouraged to take part in informal drama activities.

ICT

iPads and iPad software help develop skills and knowledge. ICT activities are planned to support many experiences and outcomes of curriculum for Excellence.

Small World

Provision of play material such as a doll's house, garage, airport, castle and farm
allows adequate opportunity for children to develop imagination and language skills.

Display Tables

These are arranged to inspire and build on existing interests.
Children are encouraged to bring in any items that would enhance or develop a disp
Displays also provide opportunities for you to help your child contribute to class to

Snack Area

Early maths, reading and social skills are developed at this informal area.
Encouragement is given to sample a variety of foods often from other countries
but with an emphasis on healthy eating and hygiene.

Outdoor Environment

Children are outdoors every day where much of the curriculum is integrated into activities.
As well as a fenced tarmac area, we have a nursery garden
where children plant seeds, observe bird and insect life etc.
here is access to the school garden, adventure trail and football pitch.
Children use a wide range of outdoor equipment.
We have weekly use of the school hall to further develop gross motor skills.

At Dunbarney Nursery, we recognise the importance of **sensory and messy play** for high quality, stimulating and curiosity-based learning in the early years.
We created a 'Sensory and Messy Play' Policy to ensure a shared understanding of how sensory and messy play experiences are developed and supported in our setting.

Find out more by reading our 'Sensory and Messy Play Policy' which will be issued with this handbook!

Communication with Parents/Carers

We endeavour to always communicate effectively with parents/carers and below are *some* ways in which we share information and communicate with parents/carers about nursery development work and children's experiences, progress, needs and achievements:

Learning Journals - joining information will be provided when your child begins at nursery.	
Handbook	Newsletters
Photographs on Display with Pupil Quotes	Website Information - Relevant & Up To Date
Stay & Play Sessions for Parents	Notice Boards – General Information
Parents Invited to Lead Story Time Sessions etc	Display Boards on Curriculum Planning
Nursery Nativity / Christmas Sing Song	Care Inspectorate Report
Nursery Sports	Nursery Natter (Parent Focus Group) Minutes
Nursery Graduation Celebration	Parent Council Meeting Minutes
Formal Pupil Reports – once a year	Verbal Dialogue and Discussions
Formal Parent Contact Meetings – twice a year.	Consultation on aspects of the Service
Family Learning Practitioner Led Sessions – look out for information on these throughout the year!	
'All About Me' consultations throughout year	Setling In visits
Home Visits by DHT & your child's ECP Keyworker, prior to them starting nursery!	
... and other Transition Events & Meetings *Home to starting ante pre-school & pre-school to starting Pr 1*	

Share Your Ideas With Us... Have Your Say!

Although we pride ourselves in how positive our relationships with parents are, we are always striving for continuous improvement and are open to trying out new ideas and suggestions. Do you think we could be doing more, with regards to communicating effectively with parents.

Please list any ideas in the empty slots above and then please do hand your completed table into Miss Dow for consideration with the nursery team and/or at a Nursery Natter meeting... *thanking you in anticipation!*

You could also simply email Miss Dow any ideas / requests at aldow@pkc.gov.uk 😊

Community Links

A wide range of visitors are welcomed into nursery. These may include the dental nurse, the minister, crossing patrollers, firefighters, the librarian and Brig in Bloom members etc. Children may visit the Brig in Bloom poly tunnels to plant and then help care for a selection of fruit and vegetables. Small groups of children may take it in turns to visit the local shop, post office etc. when the opportunity arises.

We have also worked very hard to build strong links with Bridge of Earn Nursery and Doodlebugs Nursery and each week we visit Doodlebugs / Bridge of Earn or they visit us – parents will be informed in advance of when these visits are happening. We also plan annual events with theses nurseries, such as a Teddy bears' Picnic event to celebrate the end of the session and forthcoming Summer Holidays! This was a huge success in June 2025 and thus will be repeated in June 2026!

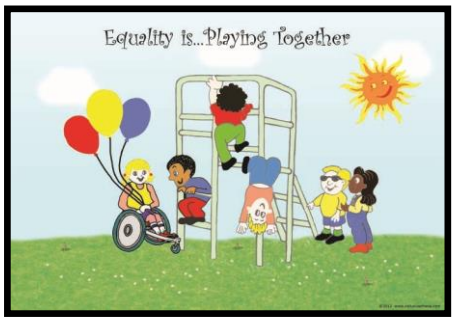
We have also been in discussions with Perth Library and are planning to schedule regular visits into town on the service bus to the Library throughout this session – we are very excited about this! We are also currently in discussions with Avril Fulton (Riverside Church) re. setting up an intergenerational project between nursery and elderly members of the church – we wil keep you updated on any progress with this.

We also enjoy a fun-filled main summer **nursery excursion** every year.
Last year we visited the Deer Centre!
We always appreciate parent helpers on such occasions and we guarantee you a good time!
Robust Risk Assessments are completed for all outings - your child's safety and wellbeing are of paramount importance to us all. Parents can request to view any Risk Assessments at any time and all Parent Helpers on any trip must read the RA before leaving on the trip.

Outings are linked to the children's interests. We like to make use of Victory Park too!
If you have any ideas of how we can further build on our community links by offering additional 'out and about' experiences for our children, please do share with one of our staff team or email aldow@pkc.gov.uk – although we do try to keep abreast of al that is on 'our doorstep', we sometimes we don't realise all that is on offer in and around Bridge of Earn!

Equal Opportunities

Perth & Kinross Council is committed to equality of opportunity in all establishments and services. We have a duty to promote and develop the practice of equality of opportunity for all members of our community regardless of:



Race
Gender
Marital/Family Status
Disability
Religion
Sexual Orientation
Age
Language
Place of Residence
Socio-economic Status

At Dunbarney Nursery we are committed to the incorporation of equal opportunities into all aspects of our work and thus aim to ensure that no-one suffers discrimination, abuse or harassment on the grounds of any of the above areas.

Child Protection

At all times we endeavour to:

- Recognise, value and encourage EVERY child's individuality and potential.
- Avoid stereotyping and give children opportunities to explore, understand and value similarities and differences.
- Provide positive images and resources that reflect a rich diversity of societies.

The safety of children is everyone's responsibility. If staff have any concerns for a child's wellbeing, they have a duty to pass on information that will help to keep them safe. Children can often behave differently if there is a change to their routine or home life. It would be helpful if you could let us know of any significant changes to circumstances which may affect your child. We have an open-door communication policy and sensitive discussions will always be treated confidentially. We will also let you know If we have concerns about a change in your child's behaviour in nursery.

All nursery staff receive annual Child Protection training at the beginning of the academic year.
Our Child Protection Policy is available for you to read on our website.
Our Child Protection Officers are Lousie Hope (HT) and Angela Dow (DHT)

If you are concerned about a child's welfare, you must report your concerns directly to:
The Child Protection and Duty Team at Perth & Kinross Council - 01738 476768
Family Protection Unit (Police) – 01738 892912
Out of Hours Social Work – 0845 30 111 20 20
The Child Protection teams of other local authorities if the child resides out with PKC boundaries.

We have contact with School Health Nurse and Health Visitors, Doctors, Social Workers and Police, any of whom may become involved if Child Protection concerns are suspected.

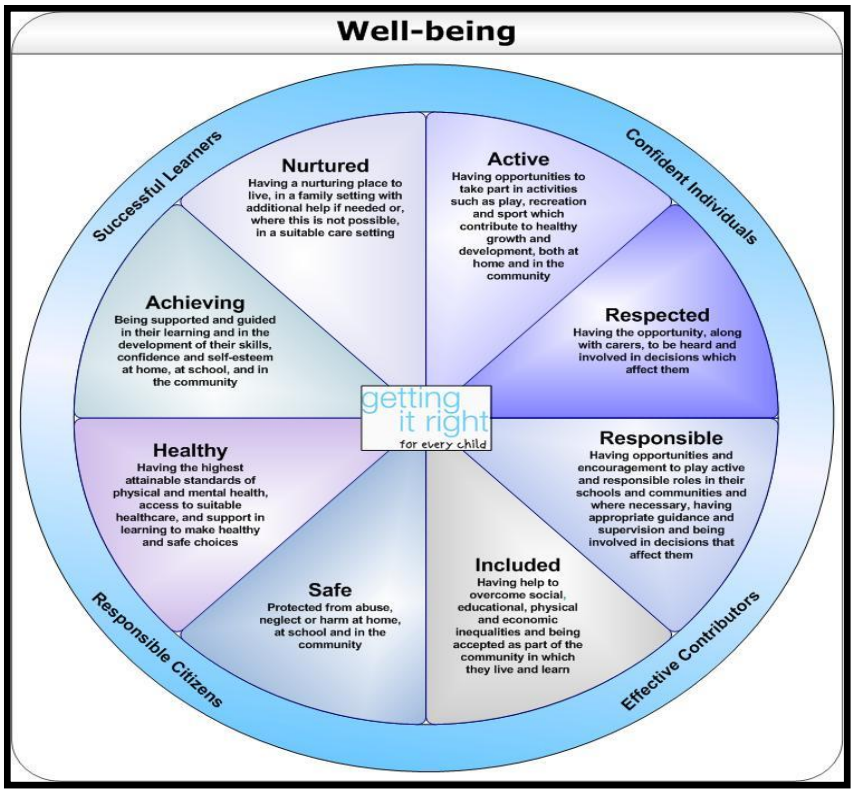
If child protection issues arise, the school will ensure that you are informed and participate as appropriate in any action that may be taken regarding your child.

GIRFEC

'Getting It Right For Every Child'

GIRFEC is the national approach in Scotland to improving outcomes and supporting the wellbeing of our children and young people by offering the right help at the right time from the right people and keeping the focus on the child at the centre. It supports them and their parent(s) to work in partnership with the services that can help them. All agencies – social work, education, health and voluntary organisations use the same **Integrated Assessment Framework (IAF)** based on:-

The Wellbeing Indicators - *SHANARRI*



See our helpful and interactive SHANARRI display in the Nursery foyer – you can add your own comments, ideas and/or questions to this ☺

For further information: *www.gov.scot/Topics/People/Young-People/gettingitright*

We are a … Gold Accredited Rights Respecting Nursery & School?

The **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)** is based on an analysis of what children need in order to thrive. These needs can be grouped into four categories:

- ✓ **to survive as a fit and healthy person**
- ✓ **to be protected from harm and abuse**
- ✓ **to develop physically, mentally and socially**
- ✓ **to participate as an active citizen**

What is a Right?

A Right is something that children and young people are entitled to, they do not have to be earned, and they belong to all children and young people from the time they are born.

Here is a lovely little

❤ Pocket Book of Children's Rights ❤

that you may be interested in reading

What is a Rights Respecting Nursery/School?

- It is an initiative run by UNICEF UK, which encourages schools to place the UN Convention on the Rights of the child (CRC) at the heart of its ethos and curriculum.
- The Rights Respecting Schools Awards puts children's rights at the heart of schools in the UK.
- UNICEF works with schools in the UK to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive.
- Our Rights Respecting Schools Award embeds these values in daily school life and gives children the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and to be responsible, active citizens.

There are 4 key areas of impact for children at a Rights Respecting School;

Wellbeing Participation Relationships Self-esteem

The difference that a Right's Respecting School makes goes beyond the school gates, making a positive impact on the whole community.

It is SO important to always remember that… CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ARE:	
UNIVERSAL	Rights are for **all** children **all** over the world!
INHERENT	All children are born with these rights!
INALIENABLE	Rights cannot be taken away!
UNCONDITIONAL	Rights do not have to be earned!
INDIVISABLE	All rights are equally important!

Additional Support Needs/Inclusion

All children need support to help them learn and some will require additional or different support to ensure that they get the best start in life and benefit from their learning. Additional support needs (ASN) can be both long- and short-term or can simply refer to the help needed to get through a difficult period. Parents' knowledge and experiences are key to identifying and understanding the different needs of each child.

The **Early Years Inclusion Team** are the first point of contact for parents of pre-school children with a range of additional support needs. They also provide support and guidance to nursery settings to ensure appropriate educational provision and support is given to meet children's needs. If required, the EY Inclusion Team will observe and assess your child's support needs and work in partnership to provide the correct support. This can include home visits, attending Pre-school groups, nursery setting visits, support when starting nursery and Primary 1, or joint working with nursery staff and other professionals.

If our nursery team identify an additional support need, they will work in partnership with families and other professionals to establish an individual support plan. If you feel your child may have an additional support need, please talk to their ECP Key Worker or Health Visitor who will be able to advise families on the range of support that is available.

Further information on the inclusion of children within PKC education establishments can be found at Schools - additional support - Perth & Kinross Council

EAL

The English as an Additional Language Service (EAL) works across nurseries and schools to support children and families whose first or home language is not English. They also support ELC staff to make sure that the curriculum is accessible to all. They are available to provide support for parents/carers e.g. during enrolment and to support parental communication.

Gaelic Provision

Perth and Kinross Council is committed to supporting the Gaelic language and Culture within the authority. Early Years Gaelic Medium Education is available in PKC and parents who are interested in this provision can find more information in this leaflet:
GME_Leaflet_eng.pdf (pkc.gov.uk) GME_Leaflet_gaelic.pdf (pkc.gov.uk)

The Care Inspectorate

All nurseries are regularly inspected by the Care Inspectorate. As we are a low-risk Nursery, we are inspected only every two years. Our latest report is available to all parents and can also be viewed on by clicking here. We are proud of the reports that we have received over the years and always aim for continuous improvement.
Any parental concerns, queries or complaints will be addressed by a member of staff in the school. Please feel free to contact the nursery staff or a member of the management team at any time. In the unlikely event of a matter not being resolved to your satisfaction you may contact the Care Inspectorate directly. They can be contacted at: -

The Care Inspectorate
Compass House, 11 Riverside Drive, Dundee
Tel: 01382 20720

Transition to Primary School

The transition to primary school from nursery is one of the greatest challenges of early childhood – it is a critical time of change for children and their parents, which is full of opportunity and potential. When done well, it can set children into a virtuous cycle of learning and achievement. At Dunbarney Primary School, we want to *'get it right'* and to ensure that we do, we plan an effective and supportive transition experience for *all* our young and eager learners! It is important for us to forge strong links with other nurseries throughout the pre-school year, hence why we often get together with Doodlebugs Nursery and Bridge of Earn Playgroup and Pre-School and enjoy learning experiences together.

Nursery staff liaise closely with the infant department. Information in the form of a Pre-school Report is passed to the school in addition to a 'transition handover' document that is completed between the class teacher, ECP and Pupil Support Teacher during a Handover Meeting within which your child's progress, strengths, needs & next steps are discussed. Such practice provides the receiving teacher with important details of your child and helps establish their starting point in primary.

Before starting school children have opportunities to visit the Primary 1 classroom, be in the 'big playground' and meet people who will work with them in the Primary Department. Children transferring to other schools have similar arrangements.

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Below is a helpful tick list to help parents remember important information for an easy, informed, and organised start to Nursery Life!

Information / Task	✓
Tooth-brushing is done daily	
Complete relevant information forms and hand into school office.	
Ensure nursery are aware of any medical issues and/or allergies that your child has (complete medical form if necessary).	
Ensure nursery are informed if anyone other than parents or regular carer is collecting your child from nursery.	
If you wish, you can store the school phone number (474175) in your mobile/home phone so that you can contact us easily and promptly, whenever you need to do so. Please call before 9:15am, if your child is going to be absent.	
Access your Learning Journal App regularly to keep up to date with Nursery activities. Also check Nursery section of the school website.	
Let us know if you'd like to join us in Nursery as a Parent Helper at any time! We love visitors and children really enjoy having a new face read a story to them or do a wee activity with them*!* *We are very friendly and will look after you!*	
Please provide your child with the items below, to keep in nursery at all times. Each item should be labelled clearly and securely with their name.	
Pair of **slip-on** plimsolls/gym shoes for indoor use. *Lace up shoes, ballet pumps, flip flops, crocs etc are not appropriate due to safety concerns.* ***Please add your child's name to shoes to ensure all shoes go back to their rightful owner!***	
Pair of suitable outdoor shoes, preferably velcro trainers, for outdoor play.	
Spare set of **named** clothes	
Sun Cream (Spring/Summer) - please help by putting sun cream on your child before they arrive at nursery.	
Sun Hat (Spring/Summer) **named**	
Wet weather waterproofs	

We hope you have found this booklet useful.

Please do not hesitate to contact the nursery or the school with any questions or concerns you may have.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Dunbarney Nursery!