



Bell's Brae Primary School – Curriculum Rationale

At Bell's Brae Primary, our curriculum is shaped by the principles of Curriculum for Excellence and our life here in Lerwick, while also preparing learners for experiences and opportunities beyond our local community. Rooted in our island community, it reflects our heritage, environment and strong sense of belonging. We are a vibrant, respectful school where everyone, from nursery to P7, looks out for one another. Learners are at the heart of all we do.

Our learners, families and partners play an active role in shaping our curriculum, ensuring learning feels relevant and connected to real life in Shetland. We offer an inclusive, broad, balanced and engaging curriculum, with opportunities for challenge, depth and real-life application. Our curriculum develops key skills for learning, life and work through experiences linked to life in Lerwick, Shetland and beyond. Learners are motivated, confident and supported to achieve. Evidence from tracking, attainment data and learner feedback shows our curriculum is coherent, relevant and improves outcomes for all.

Our curriculum is continually evolving through collaboration, professional dialogue and self-evaluation. Interdisciplinary learning often draws on our local context—our history, coastline and community—helping children make meaningful connections in their learning. We provide high-quality learning experiences with a clear focus on literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. Through supportive, inclusive and nurturing approaches, children and young people are encouraged and enabled to achieve their full potential across the four capacities.



We have a collaborative approach to inclusion in our school. Everyone works together to support pupils with additional support needs. We aim to create environments that are accessible to all learners, which includes adapting the curriculum, teaching methods, and physical environment. For pupils with more complex needs, Bell's Brae provides additional support through a special unit.