

## Our Community

Burra is a unique community. It is a beautiful island on the West Side of Shetland. There is a North Isle and a South Isle and the school is situated in the North Isle in the village of Hamnavoe. In the village there is a Public Hall, Play Park, Church, Marina and General store.

## Curriculum for Excellence

Pupils are delivered a high quality Curriculum at Hamnavoe Primary. This is in line with guidance from the Scottish Government. Pupils are taught Literacy, Numeracy, Health and Well Being, Social Subjects, Technology, Science, Expressive Arts, Religious and Moral Education. These are planned for on a termly basis taking account of previous learning and assessment. Learning is generally cross curricular with teachers developing learning and teaching experiences which make learning meaningful and exciting. Topics or Inter Disciplinary Learning always allows for pupil choice, creativity, enterprise and sustainability.

## Outdoor Learning

Outdoor Education provides opportunities for team working and problem solving. The curriculum at Hamnavoe Primary provides many opportunities for pupils to develop the 4 capacities – successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens. Hamnavoe Primary school strives to ensure equality and equity. Under Curriculum for Excellence, everyone involved in education has a responsibility to develop young people's literacy, numeracy and health and well-being skills across all areas of their learning. We take this responsibility very seriously and constantly reinforce these skills through cross-curricular learning.

## The Sea

Our unique identity as a rural Shetland school with only four teaching classes is reflected in our curriculum. Our island, Burra is traditionally a sea-faring community. The village of Hamnavoe, where the school is situated, faces west and has a stunning view of Fuglaness Lighthouse and the island of Foula. The marina is full of small boats and many families enjoy boating as a recreation. Many families are linked to the sea through family employment in the fishing industries and aquaculture. There is also a very healthy rowing club which many pupils from the school attend. Pupils learn about the sea, through IDL topics and connections are demonstrated to them about how their learning could be used in future employment. Pupils at Hamnavoe show a passion for their environment and are concerned about the impact of plastics on the marine environment. We have excellent partnerships with the North Atlantic Fisheries College, the Swan Trust, Local Aquaculture and local fishing boats.

## The Environment

Burra has a unique geology and pupils learn about this through IDL topics and outdoor learning. Outdoor learning building resilience and creativity. Trips beyond Burra happen regularly and pupils participate in field trips to woodland, coastlines and local industries like the gas plant and the oil terminal. Pupils learn about sustainability and renewable industries. Pupils develop good attitudes to reusing and recycling. Our place in Scotland is also explored and pupils celebrate Burns Day and Scottish Maths and Book Week. Pupils in P6-7 all have the opportunity to visit Edinburgh and Glasgow and experience life in a city. A visit to the capital supports learning about Scotland and gives pupils a first-hand experience of important landmarks like Edinburgh Castle and the Scottish Parliament.

## Enterprise

There are also many creative industries in Burra, the most famous of these being the Burra Bears. There are many entrepreneurs and enterprising individuals on our island. Our curriculum provides many opportunities for pupils to develop skills in these areas. Pupils are encouraged to be excellent team members and their creativity is encouraged. Pupils raise money for charities and the school through their enterprises. Literacy and numeracy are used in real-life contexts bringing learning to life.

## History

Burra also has a unique history. Pupils learn about the early settlers in Burra through work associated with the Pabil Stone. Their Viking heritage is also celebrated through an annual week of learning about the Vikings in the run up to the Fire Festival. Life during WW2 in Burra is studied and the local history group support our learning. There is also a rich crofting history which is celebrated at Harvest Time. Pupils feel connected to their environment and are interested in growing.

## Health and Wellbeing

In Health and Wellbeing we teach about Social, Emotional and Physical Health. Relationships, Parenthood and Sexual Health topics are age appropriate and progressive throughout the school. Lessons are taught by the class teacher and materials are available for parents to view. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from these lessons. We also teach about drugs and alcohol and involve the Dogs for Drugs Team. We have strong links with Police Scotland and our community officer supports our learning on Internet Safety. She also works with parents to keep them in touch with ways to keep their children safe while using social media. Parents with concerns about teaching on these sensitive areas should arrange to see resources and discuss your concerns. We take mental health seriously and our ethos of a Safe Haven for learning helps pupils share their emotions. Daily check-ins allow pupils to express how they are and give teachers a way in to support pupils who are perhaps struggling. A weekly nurture group provides further support in this area.

We deliver two hours of quality P.E. every week. One session is delivered by the visiting specialist and the other by the class teacher. We promote Healthy Eating and pupils in P5-7 run a healthy tuck shop as an enterprise, developing their understanding of food and business. We hope that our Health and Wellbeing curriculum goes some way to set our pupils on a pathway to a Healthy future. We also have a Health and Well Being yearly family learning event which is very well supported by our whole community.

## RME

Religious and Moral Education is part of the curriculum and is often part of assembly. Although a Christian school, assemblies tend to focus on moral teachings which might come from any world religion. Occasionally there is Christian observance and parents have the right to withdraw their child from this. We are linked to the Burra Baptist Church and celebrate Harvest and Christmas in the Baptist Hall.

## Digital Learning

We have a wide range of I.C.T. and use computers for a range of activities. We also use cameras, video and iPads and pupils gain experience in using technology across the curriculum. They also use tools in Microsoft 365 and GLOW. Technology related to renewables and robotics are also taught

and coding is a developing area in our curriculum. ICT is also used to support pupils with additional support needs especially in the areas of literacy and numeracy.

#### Parental Engagement

We are keen to ensure that parents have a window on learning at Hamnavoe. We use Class Dojo for this on a daily basis and a School Blog has been launched. Photos and videos are posted for parents and their comments are welcomed.