



Education Resources



Blackwood Primary School Handbook (January 2026)

Blackwood Primary School Handbook – January 2026

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Dear Parents / Carers

A very warm welcome to Blackwood Primary School and Early Learning & Childcare!

Some of you are already familiar with our school, others we welcome for the first time. I hope that you find our school handbook both useful and informative. The handbook has been designed to provide an insight into the many experiences on offer at Blackwood Primary and to answer some of the questions you may have.

We make every effort to offer a high standard of education within a safe, caring and stimulating environment. Through curriculum design and the development of knowledge, skills and experiences we strive to ensure that our pupils have opportunities to maximise their achievement and attainment.

Blackwood Primary and ELC is an inclusive community where everyone will achieve success for today and be prepared for tomorrow – our school values develop this capacity in our young people.

CARING
CONTRIBUTION

DETERMINATION

EQUALITY

EFFECTIVE
EVALUATION

FRIENDSHIP

FRIENDSHIP

HONESTY

We endeavour to develop health conscious, fit and well-adjusted young people who are enthusiastic about learning in school and throughout their life.

Partnership working between home and school is of great importance. Working together and communicating openly ensures best value for all.

Should you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kind regards,

Christine McMillan

*Christine McMillan
Head Teacher*

Blackwood Primary and ELC is one of 124 primary schools throughout South Lanarkshire Council.

South Lanarkshire Council is the fifth largest authority in Scotland. It covers the following main areas; Clydesdale in the south which features extensive rural areas, Cambuslang, Rutherglen, Blantyre and Uddingston to the north as well as the towns of East Kilbride and Hamilton.



The Council's Plan Connect sets out the Council's vision which is, "to improve the lives and prospects for everyone in South Lanarkshire".

For Education Resources this means delivering services of the highest quality as well as striving to narrow the gap. It is about continually improving the services for everyone at the same time as giving priority to children, young people, families, and communities in most need. The priorities for schools and services are set out in the Education Resources Plan which confirms the commitment to provide better learning opportunities and outcomes for children and young people. This is available at [Education Resources Plan 2025/26 Education and learning - South Lanarkshire Council](#)

About our school

Blackwood Primary School and ELC
Carlisle Road
Blackwood
Lanark
Lanarkshire
ML11 9AT

Phone: 01555 892438



Email Address: office@blackwood-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk
Website Address: www.blackwood-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Ms Christine McMillan

Blackwood Primary is a co-educational, non denominational school which caters for all ages of primary education from Primary One to Primary Seven. At present the school has a roll of 228 with a teaching staff comprising of the Head Teacher, 1 Depute Head, 2 Principal Teachers and 19 Teachers. Parents should note that the operational capacity of the school may vary dependent upon the number of pupils at each stage and the way in which the classes are organised.

Within the school there are 2 supported classes which focus on speech and language development. This provision at present has a capacity for 16 pupils.

Since August 2021, our ELC has operated the term time model of 1140 hours.

Our school has a shared facility with Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill Community Wing. Pupils and parents access the school via the main entrance on Carlisle Rd. Parking and safe drop off for pupils is via Southfield Rd.

School Ethos

The values and principles of being a Rights Respecting School are being embedded across our school and ELC. Children and adults work collaboratively together to develop a rights respecting school community, based on the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), in all areas and aspects of school life.



Our learners are provided with the opportunity to participate in a range of activities to work towards developing the four capacities of being a successful learner, confident individual, an effective contributor and a responsible citizen.



Achievement and attainment are celebrated across the school and wider community in a variety of ways e.g. Star of the Week, home link diary, assemblies, local media.



Website - www.blackwood-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Our pupil leadership team work with all learners to ensure pupil voice is represented and contributes to school improvement.

The school is proud to have ECO Status and has an action plan to maintain this achievement.



School Expectations

Our school has three school expectations

- Be ready
- Be respectful
- Be safe

We are working towards empowering our learners to take ownership of their emotions, to work towards understanding feelings and how these impact on how we act and behave.

As a school we are attachment informed and are working within the SLC Framework for accreditation.

House System

We promote a positive and supportive ethos within our House System. When the children join our school, they are allocated one of three houses.

Name of House	Colour of House	Surname
Beech	Blue	A - G
Oak	Green	H - M
Sycamore	Red	N - Z

Each house has 2 nominated House Captains and 2 nominated Vice captains from Primary 7. House points are earned in all areas of the school and a house treat takes places termly for the winning house.

What the pupils say?

I loved our class assembly. We got to do all the singing, dancing and the fashion part.

I liked swimming. It's good exercise, I am great at breaststroke!

I loved our trip to Sky Academy and asking questions on the News!

Best thing about Blackwood Primary School is the caring teachers.

What the parents say?

It was nice doing something different with my child and watching how they work in school.

Great to come along and work alongside my child. He loved every minute of it and we had fun!

Really nice to work with my son in class. He was excited to show off his work. Pack was good too!

Staff list - Session: 2025 / 2026

Head Teacher
Depute Head Teacher
Principal Teacher
Principal Teacher
Principal Teacher

Ms Christine McMillan
Mrs Jenny Bowman
Miss Vivienne Colquhoun
Mrs Ashley Canning (W / T / F)
Miss Marianne Stewart (M / T)

Primary 1
Primary 2/1
Primary 3/2
Primary 4/3
Primary 4
Primary 5
Primary 6/5
Primary 7/6
Primary 7
Teacher
Teacher
Teacher
Teacher

Mrs Jane Robinson
Miss Emma Murray
Miss Erin Illingworth
Mrs Colette Barclay / Mrs Zoe Stein
Mrs Rebecca Waugh / Mrs Rhonda Forbes
Miss Nadine Whitefield
Miss Julie Lothian
Mrs Pamela Small
Mrs Rachel Kellie
Mrs Lynne O'Donnell
Ms Marianne Stewart
Mrs Zoe Stein
Mrs Gillian Henderson

Supported Classes

Primary 2/1
Primary 3/2

Miss Vivienne Colquhoun
Mrs Kirsty Gray

Early Learning & Childcare Staff
Early Years Team Leader (0.6)
Early Years Team Leader (0.4)
Early Years Worker
Early Years Support Staff

Mrs Rebecca Lennox
Ms Freda Marshall
Mrs Arlene Thomson (0.4 / 0.6)
Ms Kay Jones (0.6 / 0.4)
Mrs Joanne Curley (0.4)
Mrs Heather Stewart (0.5)
Miss Lorna Forbes
Miss Emily Biggart
Mrs Jennifer Inglis
Miss Lynzi Morrison (Maternity Leave)
Ms Nicola Carlin (Maternity Cover)
Mrs Leighann Bryce (0.5)
Mrs Lindsay McGauley

Support Staff
Team Leader
Support Staff
Support Staff

Mrs Sandra Park
Mrs Jan Brownlee (Wed / Thurs / Fri)
Ms Laura McArthur
Mrs Michelle Wiseman
Mrs Wendy Postma
Mrs Hannah Parker
Miss Rachel Cowan (Mon / Tues / Wed)
Mrs Heather Howarth (Mon / Tues / Wed)
Mrs Shona Meikle (Wed / Thurs / Fri)
Miss Allana Halliday (Mon / Tues)

Janitorial Staff

Janitor
Cleaning Supervisor
Cleaner (AM)
Cleaner (AM)
Cleaner (AM)
Cleaner (PM)
Cleaner (PM)

Mr Des McLaughlin
Ms Pamela Tervit
Mrs Janet Hendry

Miss Sophie Burns
Mrs Sally Kirkaldy

Kitchen Staff

Cook in Charge
Catering Assistant
Catering Assistant
Catering Assistant
Catering Assistant

Mrs Roxanne Brown
Ms Claire Gardiner
Mrs Anne Murdie
Ms Erryn Delaney
Ms Stephanie Weir

Attendance at school

Encouraging School Attendance

We believe that regular school attendance is key to raising attainment and achievement. It's a shared responsibility among parents/carers and the school to emphasise the importance of attending school.

For your convenience, school holiday dates and in-service dates can be found on the council's website: www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk.

Every effort should be made to ensure that your child attends school during term time. Please contact the school as soon as possible if your child is unable to attend school. It is important for the school to work with parents/carers in encouraging children to attend school. All absences are required by law to be recorded. Absences will normally fall under two categories – authorised or unauthorised absence. In cases where your child is unable to attend school parents are asked to:

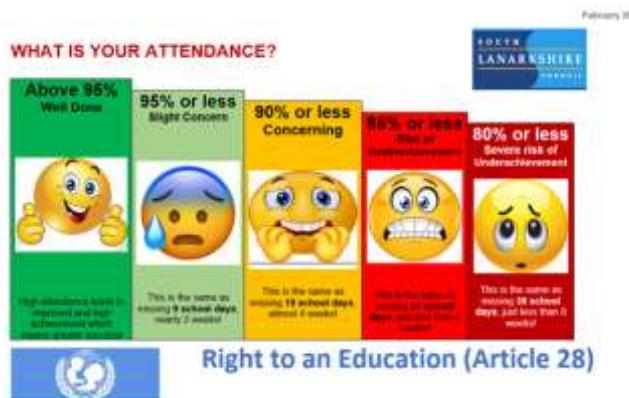
- if you know in advance of any reason why your child is likely to be absent from school, please tell someone at the school, phone us or let us know in writing. Please also give your child a note on his/her return to school, telling of the reason for absence;
- notify the school first thing in the morning when your child is going to be absent. Let the school know the likely date of return and keep them informed if the date changes;
- inform the school of any change to the following :-
 - home phone number
 - mobile number
 - emergency contact details
- If you know your child has a hospital / dental appointment, please let us know in advance.

Requests for your child to be absent from school to make an extended visit to relatives either in the UK or overseas must be made in writing to the head teacher, detailing the reason, destination and duration of absence and arrangements for their continuing education. On these occasions the pupil will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

Parents may request that their children be permitted to be absent in order to celebrate recognised religious events. Advance notice should be provided to the school when children will be absent. Appropriate requests will be granted, and the pupil noted as an authorised absentee in the register. (See section 7).

Family Holidays During Term Time

Family holidays taken during school term time will be recorded as unauthorised absences in line with Scottish Government and South Lanarkshire Council policy. The school is not required to provide work during this period, and parents are asked to avoid arranging holidays that disrupt their child's learning.



Information on emergencies

Emergency Information

We strive to keep the school open during term-time. However, there may be instances such as severe weather or power failures that could affect the school day. In such cases, we will inform you as soon as possible through text messages and our social media channels.

Severe Weather Protocol

In the event of severe weather like snow or heavy frost, if the school cannot open at the usual time, we will delay the start until 10 am. Notifications will be posted on social media and the council's website.

Communication

The Council's website, www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk, will provide updates on school closures or delays including further information about the next school day.

Things we need you to do:

- It is important for parents / carers to let the school know of any changes to your mobiles / home phone number and change of address.
- If for any reason, you are unsure if the school is open, visit the website at www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk or email: education@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Absence routine at Blackwood Primary School

- 1) Please phone before 9.15 am on the first day of absence
- 2) Please indicate anticipated length of absence
- 3) Please phone again if this changes

The school will follow up all unexplained absence as a matter of urgency on the day.

Parental Involvement and Parent Councils

Parents and carers play a vital role in their child's learning. Research shows that when families are involved, children do better at school and beyond. South Lanarkshire Council values parents as partners and works closely with schools to make this happen.

Why Parental Involvement Matters

- Strong partnerships help schools understand children's needs and help parents feel informed and supported.
- Parents can reinforce learning at home, making schoolwork more meaningful and connected to everyday life
- Parental involvement can help children develop a love of learning and resilience when facing challenges
- When parents work with school and take an interest in learning, children often achieve more academically and feel more confident.

Our Commitment

We want parents and carers to:

- Feel welcome and involved in school life.
- Be well informed about their child's learning.
- Have opportunities to support learning at home.
- Share views and take part in discussions about education.

Parent Forum and Parent Council

- Every parent with a child at school is part of the Parent Forum.
- Each school has a Parent Council, a formal group that represents parents' views and works with the school to improve learning and experiences.

Connect – Supporting Parent Councils

All Parent Councils in South Lanarkshire are members of Connect, Scotland's national organisation for parent groups. Connect offers:

- Free training and advice for Parent Councils.
- Resources and guides to help parents support learning.
- Insurance cover for Parent Council activities. Find out more at <https://www.connect.scot>.

Other Helpful Resources

- Parentzone Scotland – Practical advice and information about learning, additional support needs, and how to get involved: [Parentzone Scotland | Education Scotland](https://parentzone.education.gov.uk)
- National Parent Forum of Scotland – Guidance and updates for parents: <https://www.npfs.org.uk>.

Getting Involved

Interested in joining the Parent Council or helping in school? Contact your school office or visit the Council website for details.

Blackwood Primary School Parent Council

Blackwood Primary School has a Parent Council with members taken from the Parent Forum, to which all parents / carers automatically belong. The Parent Council also has staff representatives as part of its membership.

Their email address is – [**blackwoodparentcouncil@gmail.com**](mailto:blackwoodparentcouncil@gmail.com)

Their Facebook Page is – **Blackwood Primary & ELC Parent Council**

Minutes of meetings are available on the school website, or from the school office.

Office Bearers:-

Chairperson

Emma McGeachie

Vice Chair

Chloe Semple

Treasurer

Lisa Tweed

Secretary

Kimberley Miller



Curriculum for Excellence

Curriculum for Excellence is the name given to the curriculum in Scotland for all children and young people aged 3-18. It is forward looking, coherent, flexible and an enriched curriculum that provides young people with opportunities to engage with the knowledge, skills and attributes they will need to flourish in life, learning and work.

The curriculum places learners at the heart of education and at its centre are four fundamental capacities - successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens, and effective contributors. It includes all of the experiences that are planned for children and young people to support the development of their skills, wherever they are being educated, for example in the family and community, pre-school centre, nursery, and school.

In taking this forward our school will work closely with South Lanarkshire Education Resources and other services to enrich the curriculum, to provide the best possible education for all children and young people. We wish you to feel confident that your child is encouraged and supported to develop their literacy, numeracy and other skills whilst they attend our school. The curricular areas are as follows:

- Expressive arts
- Languages and literacy
- Health and wellbeing
- Mathematics and numeracy
- Religious and moral education
- Science
- Social studies
- Technologies

If you want to know more about Curriculum for Excellence, please visit [Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence \(scotlandscurriculum.scot\)](http://scotlandscurriculum.scot)

Our learning and teaching activities are based on the outcomes and experiences in the guidelines that all schools have for Curriculum for Excellence.

Level	Stage
Early	The pre-school years and Primary 1 or later for some.
First	To the end of Primary 4, but earlier or later for some.
Second	To the end of Primary 7, but earlier or later for some.

Spiritual, Social, Moral and Cultural Values (Religious Observance)

Blackwood Primary has a carefully designed programme of themes which ensures progression and skills and understanding in Religious and Moral Education from Primary 1 to 7. This is based on curriculum for outcomes. RME enables the learners to explore the world's major religions and views which are independent of religious beliefs and values.

Base on the national guidance issued by the Scottish Government and the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, Scottish Government Ministers consider that religious observance complements religious education and is an important contribution to pupil's development. It should also have a role in promoting the ethos of the school by bringing people together and creating a sense of community.

Blackwood Primary is a non- denominational school that values the cultural diversity of our pupils. We are keen for all pupils to develop an understanding and an acceptance of the various cultures represented within the school community and the multi-cultural society we all belong to.

Our weekly assembly focuses on the United Nations Charter of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and aims to encourage our pupils to reflect on themes such as liberty, justice, fairness and a concern for others. Furthermore, our learners will be encouraged to develop a respect for other people's ideas, values, customs and beliefs both in the local community and the wider world.

Parents may request that their children be permitted to be absent in order to celebrate recognised religious events. Advance notice should be provided to the school when children will be absent. Appropriate requests will be granted, and the pupil noted as an authorised absentee in the register.

There is a programme of Religious and Moral Education (RME) taught throughout the school in line with Curriculum for Excellence and Council policy on religious education and religious observance.

Blackwood Primary School is associated with Kirkmuirhill Parish Church. As a school we visit the church on an adhoc basis.

Examples of Learning at Blackwood Primary School









Rights of Parents / Carers

Scottish Government Ministers consider that religious observance complements religious education and is an important contribution to pupils' development. It should also have a role in promoting the ethos of a school by bringing pupils together and creating a sense of community.

There is a statutory provision for parents to withdraw children from participation in religious observance. This right of parents' wishes will be respected.

Where a child is withdrawn from religious observance, schools will make suitable arrangements for the child to participate in a worthwhile alternative activity.

Equalities

Integral to this guidance is the principle of mutual respect. The diversity of belief and tradition provides an ideal context in which pupils can learn about, and so learn from, what is important in the lives of themselves and others. South Lanarkshire's guidance recognises and welcomes diversity and promotes respectful understanding.

Parents may request that their children be permitted to be absent in order to celebrate recognised religious events. Advance notice should be provided to the school when children will be absent. Appropriate requests will be granted and the pupil noted as an authorised absentee in the register.

Assessment and Tracking Progress

At Blackwood Primary we strive to meet the needs of all pupils. Assessment is an integral part of the learning and teaching process. It is the means of obtaining information, which allows teachers, pupils and parents to make judgements about and targets to develop pupil progress. Assessment must measure the success of learning, teaching and achievement as well as inform the next steps.

Teachers make on-going and informal assessments about their pupils.

Assessment information may also be gained through:

- Formative strategies
- Summative for recording and reporting processes
- Diagnostic to indicate strengths and specific difficulties

Formative Strategies

At Blackwood Primary we actively support Assessment is for Learning (AiFL). Staff have and will continue to develop, knowledge of a wide range of strategies to promote and implement formative assessment into the learning and teaching process. Strategies include

- Sharing learning intentions and success criteria
- Questioning
- Feedback
- Self and peer assessment

Summative Assessment

In Blackwood Primary we acknowledge that there is still a place for summative assessment. These provide valuable information to teachers, pupils and parents on what knowledge and skills have been attained.

The strategies may include:

- End of unit assessment
- Pre and post learning tests
- Standardised tests

Diagnostic Assessment

This type of assessment is used to gain evidence of specific strengths or specific needs of pupils. A pupil may also undergo an assessment because the teacher or the parent has a concern about a particular area not progressing as expected. The results of such an assessment would be used to create a specific learning plan for that child where necessary.

Monitoring

The Senior Management Team will monitor the effectiveness of learning and teaching. This will be carried out in a variety of ways which include;

- Classroom visits, both formal and informal.
- Discussing with pupils what they are doing and why they are doing it.
- Reviewing specific learning and teaching approaches.
- Monitoring and commenting on plans submitted on a termly basis.
- Consultation meetings with individual teachers.
- Pupil tracking of achievement and attainment.

Reporting

We will provide parents with reports so that you can see what your child is doing and how they are progressing. In addition, there will be parents' meetings which offer you the opportunity to discuss how your child's progressing and how you can contact the school if you wish further information. The school will offer you an appointment time so that you can visit in person to discuss your child's education.

Our 'learner reports' will help you to get to know more about the curriculum which each child follows and will describe their strengths, achievements, and areas for development so you know what encouragement and support you can give.

We welcome any comments or additional information from parents to help us provide the best possible education for your child.

Enrolments and Transitions

Enrolment – how to register your child for school.

To register your child for school you should complete our online registration form. This can be done using the South Lanarkshire website.

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200186/primary_school_information/392/enrolling_your_child_for_school

If you have any difficulty in identifying your catchment school, please email Edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

The online registration form will ask you to provide each child's full birth certificate and two pieces of recent official documentation both containing your permanent home address for example a utility bill, council tax statement, housing rent card, child benefit documentation.

Proof of where the child lives may also be needed.

If your child is due to start school in August 2026, you can enrol online from Monday 5 January 2026. Your catchment school will contact you between Monday 12 and Friday 16 January 2026 to confirm your enrolment.

If your child attends the nursery of your catchment school, please do not assume that they will automatically be transferred. You must register them as normal at the school that is in the catchment area for your home address

If parents want their child to go to another school, they must enrol in the first instance with their catchment school and intimate that they wish to make a placing request. An online placing request form should then be completed. This is available from the SLC website – www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk or by contacting edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk or phone **0303 123 1023**.

Change of School/Placing Request

Normally children attend the school in their catchment area. However, there are times when parents may wish their children to go to other schools. If you wish your child to go to another school, then you may make what is known as a 'placing request'. If you live in South Lanarkshire and decide to submit a 'placing request', we are unable to reserve a place in your catchment school until the Council have made a decision on the 'placing request'. Please note if your 'placing request' application is unsuccessful and all places at your catchment school are filled you will be offered a place at the next nearest appropriate South Lanarkshire School.

Please note that if an application for a 'placing request' is successful then school transport is not provided.

If you move outwith your catchment primary school a 'request to remain form' must be completed. If you move outwith your catchment primary, this may affect your right to transfer to the associated Secondary School. Please note the secondary school is determined by the pupil's permanent home address and chosen denomination. If you require further information, please contact Education Support Services on edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk or **0303 123 1023**.

Transition from primary to secondary school

Pupils normally transfer from primary to secondary school between the ages of 11½ and 12½, so that they will have the opportunity to complete at least 4 years of secondary education.

Arrangements are made by the school to transfer children to the associated secondary school as determined by their home address. Parents of P7 children will be informed of the transfer arrangements made for their child to attend secondary school.

We will also provide you with information at this time on events designed to support P7 children before they move on to secondary school.

Pupils normally transfer to:

Lesmahagow High School

1 Milton

Lesmahagow

ML11 0DU

Tel: 01555 896010

Head Teacher: Miss Barbara Lee

Support for Pupils

Getting it right for every child.

Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) supports families by making sure children and young people can receive the right help, at the right time, from the right people. The aim is to help them to grow up feeling loved, safe, and respected so that they can realise their full potential.

Most children and young people get all the help and support they need from their parent(s), wider family, and community but sometimes, perhaps unexpectedly, they may need a bit of extra help. GIRFEC is a way for families to work in partnership with people who can support them, such as teachers.

If you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing, you can speak to the named person who will work with you to provide support and decide how to move forward. Your school will let you know who this is. It is likely to be the Head Teacher in a primary school and a principal teacher (pupil support) in Secondary.

More information can be found at www.scotland.gov.uk/gettingitright

Support for All (Additional Support Needs)

A child may require additional support in their learning. The policy of the school is that in the first instance the class teacher would support and provide individual work to support learning.

Thereafter we use a staged intervention procedure to help access the best support for individual children. The Head Teacher and Depute Head teacher support and advise teachers in this area and monitor progress.

The school also has help from the Clydesdale Area Network Team which is organised centrally by the local authority. A Specialist Support Teacher (SST) from the area network visits the school on a regular basis. We can also call upon the support of Psychological Services and of teachers with expertise in behaviour support and visual or hearing impairments. We embrace a whole school approach to additional support.

Parents/Carers will be informed at the earliest stage when concern is expressed about a child's learning. By working in partnership with parents/carers the child can receive the best possible outcome.

Some children who require additional support for learning may have this formalised into an Additional Support Plan (ASP). Targets are set and reviewed each termly and the views of the child and parent/carer are included in the ASP. Where the level of support a child requires is co-ordinated with agencies other than education, a Co-ordinated Support Plan (CSP) is established. South Lanarkshire Education Resources have published a series of leaflets which cover information for parents/carers about the Additional Support for Learning Acts. These are available from the school or on South Lanarkshire Council website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk.

These leaflets are

- The Additional Support for Learning Act
- Requesting an Assessment
- Planning for Learning – ASP
- Planning for Learning – CSP
- Transitions
- Future Planning
- Inclusive Education
- ICT Assessment

- Visual Impairment Support
- Early Years Specialist Support
- Independent Adjudication
- Information for Parents and Carers about moving on from school

Enquire is funded by the Scottish Government to provide information on the framework for supporting children who require additional support for learning and to encourage positive partnerships between families, schools, and local authorities to ensure children get the right support.

Enquire – the Scottish advice service for additional support for learning

Enquire offers independent, confidential advice and information on additional support for learning through:

Phone Helpline: 0345 123 2303

Address: Enquire
 Children in Scotland
 Rosebery House
 9 Haymarket Terrace
 Edinburgh
 EH12 5EZ

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 fact sheets including the parents' guide to additional support for learning.

If you would like to order our leaflets, postcards or guides to share with parents and carers of pupils in your school, please contact us on info@enquire.org.uk

Attachment Strategy for Education Resources

Attachment – what we do to support children and young people

South Lanarkshire Council Education Resources is committed to improving outcomes for children and young people by creating emotionally supportive learning experiences in our nurseries and schools.

The Education Resources Attachment Strategy supports the action in the 'Getting it Right for Every Child in South Lanarkshire's Children Services Plan 2021-23', following the launch of the Attachment Strategy in 2020, to provide staff training in Attachment and Trauma based practice.

What does it set out to do?

The aim of the strategy is to promote better experiences of attachment for South Lanarkshire's children and young people and to ensure that all education practitioners understand the importance of attachment theory and its application and how positive relationships can make a difference to outcomes.

How can I find out more?

South Lanarkshire Council Education Resources have published a series of leaflets and posters for establishments and for parents/carers which aim to share information on attachment theory and on how this informs the ways in which we support children and young people.

These are available in schools and on the SLC Staff Learning Centre Sway accessible by teachers and staff.

Promoting Positive Relationships and Understanding Distressed Behaviour (PPRUDB)

PPRUDB is South Lanarkshire's framework for understanding and managing behaviour in schools. It emphasises that all behaviour is a form of communication, often indicating unmet needs, and stresses the importance of building positive relationships as a fundamental skill for teachers and a preventive approach to distressed behaviour. The guidance aligns with key Scottish Government policies and legislation and supports the development of safe, inclusive, and nurturing school environments.

Children and young people who feel safe, healthy, respected, and included are more likely to develop self-confidence and resilience. South Lanarkshire Council's attachment-informed, trauma-sensitive approach, aims to create a secure base and safe haven to reduce the impact of adverse childhood experiences. School staff recognise that distressed behaviour can stem from disrupted attachment, anxiety, and other complex needs, including neurodevelopmental conditions and limited communication skills.

When incidents of distressed behaviour arise in schools, staff will use a range of strategies to de-escalate situations and prevent re-occurrence. Strategies include structuring the environment with consistent routines and quiet areas, adapting communication to accommodate speech and sensory needs, and building positive relationships based on shared values. Setting clear limits with dignity, active listening, and inclusive teaching practices support behaviour management. Planning for transitions and using support plans like Additional Support Plans (ASPs) and Behaviour Assessment and Support Plans (BASPs) assist in addressing individual needs.

Each educational establishment should use the PPRUDB framework to develop and implement a relationships and behaviour policy through consultation with staff, pupils, and parents, reviewing it every three years.

Further information is available from the Headteacher of the establishment your child attends.

Equal Opportunities and Social Justice

Equal Opportunities policies are a means of enabling the full potential of all individuals within South Lanarkshire to be realised for the benefit of the area as a whole. They are in the interests of equity and justice and reflect the laws which are now in place to promote equal opportunities. A Children's Service Plan has been produced to improve the quality of services and meet the needs of all children in the area.

Education in Equal Opportunities takes place at Blackwood Primary through our programme of personal and social development which aims to equip children to develop positive attitudes such as respect for others, tolerance and fairness. Our curriculum is made available to all children.

Schools take seriously any reported racist incidents. Within the school's approach to promoting positive discipline a record of all racist incidents is maintained and each incident fully investigated.

Schools are required to notify the local authority of any racist incident.

Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment

Schools and education establishments have a legislative duty to undertake an assessment of equality and diversity. This is the process of systematically assessing and consulting on the effects that a policy, process or strategy is likely to have on different groups in the community who might experience disadvantage/barriers in accessing services. The process includes monitoring the actual effects of the policy once it is put into practice. Policies do not affect everyone in the same way. By assessing in the early stages, any adverse impact can be identified and minimised.

Equality Position Statements are available on request.

School Improvement

We are required to demonstrate our accountability through a number of formal processes. These include internal processes of self evaluation, audit and improvement planning and external processes such as support and challenge by the quality improvement team of South Lanarkshire Council and inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE).

A copy of "How Good is our School?" is available from the school office.

We accept that school improvement is the responsibility of all and have an established systematic approach to consultation across the school community to involve pupils, parents, staff and other partners. Consultation takes place annually with the Parent Council and the Parent Forum prior to the formation of the improvement plan in order to take account of views from various stakeholders and to inform the priorities for the next session. A copy of the school improvement plan can be viewed in the school office.

We actively seek the views of our staff, pupils, parents/carers and partner agencies to support school improvement. This is done informally through discussions and formally through surveys, polls and questionnaires.

Session 2024/2025

In Blackwood Primary we are proud of our school and our achievements. Over the last year this has included

- Celebrating 150 years of Blackwood Primary
- Gold Reading School - national recognition
- We continued to develop our Literacy Curriculum working with Stephen Graham

- We participated in SLC Sumdog competitions and placed 1st on one occasion
- We maintained ECO Schools Green Flag Status
- We achieved our 2nd Attachment Accreditation – Pledge 2 – See the Whole Person
- We fundraised for Children in Need
- We participated in a range of sporting events including, cross country, netball, football and dancing
- We had a successful residential in February 2025 to Dalgaise
- We hosted the local Burns Competition and won the national competition for Writing
- Primary 5-7 worked with Virgin Money – Grow £5.00 Challenge
- Our school choir performed in and across our community



150th Birthday Mosaics



Improvement Plan Priorities 2025 / 2026

Here is a summary of our School Improvement Priorities for 2025/26

School Improvement Plan - 2025 / 2026

Pupil Equity Funding

Over the last year, and looking forward, we have used our PEF allocation in the following ways.

Provided a free educational trip for all children (PB)

Additional staffing including 1.0 FTE School Support Assistant.

Continued to invest in high quality resources to enhance learning.

Additional staff training and resources to support learning across the curriculum

School / Nursery Meals

Nursery class

All children (over two years old) attending a local authority nursery will be provided with a free lunch. In addition, if your child attends long mornings or afternoons e.g., over 4 hours 30 minutes they will be provided with a 'brunch' or 'afternoon tea'.



Nursery lunches and snacks are based on nutritional requirements from the NHS "Setting the Table" guidance.

Nursery age children will also receive milk and a healthy snack free of charge under the Milk and Healthy Snack scheme 2021. This will be provided by the establishment.

Primary pupils

Healthy eating is something that the school supports, and a range of meals are available at lunchtime that meet the Nutritional Requirements for Food and Drink in Schools (Scotland) Regulations 2020

All primary schools run a Breakfast service from 8.15am to 8.45am with pupils being offered a selection of toast, cereal or fruit along with a cup of milk.

For their lunch each day pupils have the option to choose from, two hot meal options (one being vegetarian option) plus a sandwich selection everyday.

All meals also come with fresh chilled drinking water, vegetable choice, salad selection, seasonal fruit and depending on the day - soup or a dessert.

Milk will be available for those pupils entitled to free school meals through the free school meal eligibility scheme at morning break or lunchtime.

Pupils in:

Primary 1 - 5 receive a free school lunch.

Primary 6 - 7 meal cost is £2.62

School lunches and milk can be paid for through your Parentpay account or Paypoint facilities in local shops.

NB School Meal prices are reviewed annually and may be subject to change

Adapted diets

If your child within Nursery, Primary or Secondary requires an adapted diet for medical reasons please speak to the school/nursery office who will provide the request form for you to complete. In addition, if you have a halal or vegan diet request for your child, please speak to the school office who will provide you with a request form.

Free School Meals

Children of parents who receive the following benefits are entitled to a free lunchtime meal for their child:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Scottish Child Payment (P6 and P7 pupils)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

- Universal Credit (and your earned income is less than £850 as assessed by the Department for Work and Pensions in the assessment period immediately preceding the application for free school meals)

If you are in receipt of Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Reduction from us there is no need for you to apply online, we will use the information we hold to automatically award free school meals (P6 to S6) and/or school clothing grants (P1 to S6) to eligible families.

We would encourage parents of children who are in receipt of any of the above benefits to take up this opportunity of having a meal provided for their child when they are at school. Arrangements are in place to ensure anonymity is protected of children who receive free meals and we encourage all children to remain in school at lunch time.

Further information can be found at [Free school meals - South Lanarkshire Council](#) or by accessing the QR below -



Blackwood Primary School offers a free Breakfast service, which runs Monday to Friday from 8:15am – 8:45am. Please contact the school office for more information.

Children can bring their own bottle of water to school.

Allergies

Many children in our schools have allergies, and it is crucial for parents to keep the school informed about these conditions.

Health Care Plans

- Allergies can manifest at any time with symptoms ranging from mild to severe.
- Children with moderate to severe allergies often have a Health Care Plan from the NHS, detailing symptoms and interventions.
- Parents must share this plan with the school and provide updates as necessary.

Mild Symptoms

- Even without a Health Care Plan, parents should regularly update the school on any new triggers, medications, or actions required.

Employee Training

- School staff need to know your child's symptoms, treatments, and actions required to prevent exposure and minimise the risk of reactions.
- Employees receive training on allergies and will consult with parents and the NHS for any additional specialist training needed.

Policy Adherence

- In supporting children and young people with allergies, school staff will follow South Lanarkshire Council's Safe Systems of Work, risk assessment process, and national guidance on the administration of medicines.

Many children in our schools have allergies, and it is crucial for parents to keep the school informed about these conditions.

Mobile Device Policy

Our school follows South Lanarkshire Council guidance on mobile device use, which is rooted in Scottish Government policy. Mobile technology can support learning and communication, but it can also disrupt lessons and affect wellbeing if misused. To maintain a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment, pupils are expected to use mobile devices responsibly and in line with school rules.

Devices should not be used during class unless specifically permitted for learning purposes.

The policy has been developed in consultation with pupils, parents, and staff to balance the benefits of technology with the need to minimise distractions and protect privacy. We ask parents to support this approach by reinforcing responsible use at home and ensuring that devices are used appropriately.

School uniform

We ask all parents/carers to support the school by encouraging your child(ren) to adhere to the agreed dress code and the wearing of our school uniform. The wearing of a school uniform helps promote the identity of the school in the local community and helps create an ethos of sharing and pride in the school.

In addition, the wearing of a uniform helps towards increasing the protection of all pupils. The wearing of a uniform helps staff and the pupils to distinguish between who belongs to the school and those who may be visitors. This enables staff to approach and identify visitors more readily and helps in trying to offer a safer environment for pupils and teachers alike.

Equality of opportunity is an important aspect of the life of the school. Any proposals on the dress code and on what constitutes the school uniform will be the subject of discussion with the Parent Council and where appropriate consultation with parents, pupils and staff.

There are forms of dress which are unacceptable in all schools such as:

the wearing of football colours

- clothing with slogans that may cause offence (anti-religious, symbolism or political slogans)
- clothing which advertises alcohol, tobacco, or drugs
- clothing which can be deemed unsuitable in terms of health and safety grounds such as shell suits, combat style clothing, dangling earrings, loose fitting clothes particularly in practical classes.
- articles of clothing that could be deemed to inflict damage on other pupils or be used by others to do so.
- footwear that may damage flooring.

Blackwood Primary School Uniform

At Blackwood Primary our parents and staff encourage the wearing of our school uniform, convinced that the feeling of school fellowship which it fosters can only add to the overall school experience.

Our school colours are RED and BLACK..The uniform is a combination of the following :-

Black shoes	Black shoes
Black skirt	Black trousers
White blouse or white poloshirt	White shirt or white polo shirt
School tie	School tie
Red sweatshirt	Red sweatshirt
Black blazer or school jacket / fleece	Black blazer or school jacket / fleece

Parents will appreciate the wisdom of changing into suitable clothing for P.E. lessons and it is advisable that children bring shorts, t-shirts and soft shoes for such lessons. Weekly outdoor P.E. takes place regardless of weather. Please ensure that suitable outdoor wear, including tracksuit / cagoule and outdoor trainers is brought to school.

In our school pupils change into black indoor shoes. These shoes are left in school at all times.

It is very helpful if clothing is marked with the name of the pupil to whom it belongs as this ensures that lost property can be returned to the correct pupil.

Under no circumstances will pupils be deprived of any educational benefit as a result of not wearing a uniform. School uniform can be purchased from the school office or through the local supplier - Scotcrest Uniform in Hamilton.

Support for parent/carers

Clothing grant

In certain circumstances the Council provides support to parents/carers for the purchase of school wear. This also now includes nursery children aged 3 and 4 years old.

Eligibility criteria and online applications can be found at www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk.
Or via this link [Clothing grants - South Lanarkshire Council](#)

Should you require further information, or you are unable to submit an application online then please contact the helpline number **0303 123 1011** (option 5).

School Hours/Holiday Dates

Open	9:00am
Lunch	12:15pm – 1:00pm
Close	3:00pm

A list of holiday dates are included at the back of the handbook, but are also available from the website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

School Transport

South Lanarkshire Council's mainstream school transport policy provides transport for primary school pupils who live one mile or more from their catchment primary school by the shortest safe walking route.

More details on school transport can be found at the following link including the online application form:

https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200186/primary_school_information/545/school_transport

If you consider your child to be eligible you should complete the online application form. Forms should be submitted before the end of March for those pupils starting school in August to enable the appropriate arrangements to be made.

A privilege transport scheme is operated on mainstream school contracts where a pupil is not entitled to school transport. Privilege Transport will only be provided where there is a space on an existing school contract and will be from and to designated pick-up and drop-off points. It will not be provided where a service bus is used on the school run. Any spare capacity will be allocated using agreed priorities.

A new application must be made each year.

More details on Privilege school transport may be found here:

https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200186/primary_school_information/784/privilege_transport_to_school

Pick-up points

Where school transport is provided it may be necessary for pupils to walk a certain distance to the vehicle pick-up point. Walking distance in total, including the distance from home to the pick-up point and from the drop-off point to the school in any one direction, will not exceed the authority's distance limit for school transport.

It should be noted that it is the parent's responsibility to ensure their child behaves in a safe and acceptable manner while travelling in, and alighting from, the vehicle. Misbehaviour can result in your child losing the right to school transport.

Parents are asked to note that South Lanarkshire Council does not provide transport for those pupils who attend school via a placing request.

Mainstream School Transport contact details: e-mail: school_transport@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
tel: 0303 123 1023

Blackwood Primary School Bus Services

A bus runs each day between Blackwood Primary and the village of Auchenheath.

Promoting positive behaviour

It is the responsibility of all to promote our school expectations –

- Be ready
- Be respectful
- Be safe

Our approach within a nurturing ethos is to create an environment where better behaviour will encourage better learning. The school, along with the support of parents/carers can work together to create a learning environment where young people can enjoy learning and feel safe. Early identification is crucial so that intervention can support children and young people to help them address their behaviour.

Our Anti- Bullying and Promoting Positive Relationships and Understanding Behaviour policy can be found our school website..

Child Protection

All staff in educational establishments in South Lanarkshire Council receive an annual Child Protection update and are required to follow the advice and guidance contained within relevant Education Operating Procedures. They must also complete a mandatory Learn on Line Course “Child Protection in Education”.

South Lanarkshire’s children’s services partnership works together to support children, young people, and their families so that children grow up in communities where they are safe, healthy, active, achieving, respected, responsible and included, and have the opportunity to achieve their full potential. They are committed to continuously improve our services to ensure children, young people and their families get the right support at the right time.

Sometimes children and young people need additional help to make sure that they are *“cared for and protected from abuse and harm in a safe environment in which their rights are respected”* (CPC South Lanarkshire Child Protection shared vision). The Child Protection Committee has the overarching responsibility to ensure that agencies individually and collectively work to protect children and young people as effectively as possible.

All staff have a responsibility to report any suspicions that a child has been abused or is at risk of harm, abuse, or neglect. Robust procedures and guidance are in place to support education staff to: -

- be alert to signs that a child may be experiencing risks to their wellbeing,
- report concerns to the head of establishment or the child protection coordinator without delay.
- be actively engaged in support and protection and development of wellbeing.

If you would like more information, or have a concern of a child protection nature, please contact the head of the educational establishment which your child attends.

The Child Protection Committee’s website has a range of useful information for parents/carers to help them keep their children safe. www.childprotectionsouthlanarkshire.org.uk

Our Commitment to Children's Rights

In line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), our school is committed to respecting and promoting every child's rights. We believe that children have the right to express their views on matters that affect them, and we will actively listen and take these views into account when making decisions.

To achieve this, we will:

- Create opportunities for pupils to share their opinions through class discussions, pupil councils, and consultation activities.
- Ensure that decisions about school policies and practices consider the voice of the child.
- Promote an inclusive, rights-respecting environment where every child feels valued and heard.

This approach supports our aim to empower learners, strengthen partnerships with families, and uphold equality and participation for all.

Keeping Safe online

The Council has produced an information leaflet – 'stay safe' for parents/carers on how to help ensure their child is safe when using the internet and mobile devices.

Copies are available from the school or the web: www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Insurance for schools – pupils' personal effects

South Lanarkshire Council has noted an increase in claims for loss or damage to pupils' clothing and personal effects. Please be aware of the Council's insurance policy regarding pupils' personal items:

Insurance for Pupils' Personal Belongings

Personal Items

- The Council cannot accept responsibility for the loss or theft of personal belongings, including mobile phones, tablets, or other valuables. These are brought to school at the pupil's and parents' own risk.
- To reduce the chance of loss, please avoid sending expensive or unnecessary items to school.
- School staff are not permitted to look after pupils' personal belongings.
- This policy also applies to musical instruments and equipment used for school activities. If these items are left at school, it is at the pupil's and parents' own risk.
- For valuable items such as musical instruments, parents should make sure they are covered by their own household insurance.

Clothing

- The Council will only consider claims for damage to pupils' clothing if the damage was caused by negligence on the part of the Council or its employees.
- Claims for any other reason cannot be accepted by the Council's insurers.



Education Resources

School holiday Dates Session 2025 / 2026

	Holiday dates		
First Term	<i>In-service day</i>	Tuesday	12 August 2025
	<i>In-service day</i>	Wednesday	13 August 2025
	Pupils return	Thursday	14 August 2025
September Weekend	Closed Closed	Friday and Monday	26 September 2025 29 September 2025
October Break	Closed Re-open	Monday – Friday Monday	13 October 2025 – 17 October 2025 20 October 2025
	<i>In-service day</i>	Monday	10 November 2025
Christmas	Close at 2.30 pm on Re-open	Friday Monday	19 December 2025 5 January 2026
Second Term			
February break	Closed on	Monday and Tuesday	16 February 2026 17 February 2026
	<i>In-service day</i>	Wednesday	18 February 2026
Spring break/Easter	Close at 2.30 pm on Re-open	Thursday Monday	2 April 2026* 20 April 2026
Third Term			
Local Holiday	Closed	Monday	4 May 2026
	<i>In-service day</i>	Thursday	7 May 2026**
Local Holiday	Closed Closed	Friday and Monday	22 May 2026*** 25 May 2026
Summer break	Close at 1.00 pm on	Thursday	25 June 2026

Notes :

- *Good Friday falls on Friday 3 April 2026
- **In Service Day proposed to coincide with Scottish Parliamentary Election.
Subject to Change
- ***Lanark Schools will close on Thursday 11 and Friday 12 June 2026



Education Resources

School holiday Dates Session 2026 / 2027

	Holiday dates		
First Term	<i>In-service day</i>	Tuesday	11 August 2026
	<i>In-service day</i>	Wednesday	12 August 2026
	Pupils return	Thursday	13 August 2026
September Weekend	Closed Closed	Friday and Monday	25 September 2026 28 September 2026
October Break	Closed Re-open	Monday – Friday Monday	12 October 2026 16 October 2026 19 October 2026
	<i>In-service day</i>	Monday	9 November 2026
Christmas	Close at 2.30 pm on Re-open	Tuesday Wednesday	22 December 2026 6 January 2027
Second Term			
February break	Closed on	Monday and Tuesday	15 February 2027 16 February 2027
	<i>In-service day</i>	Wednesday	17 February 2027
Easter	Closed Closed	Friday and Monday	26 March 2027* 29 March 2027
Spring Break	Close at 2.30 pm Re-open	Friday Monday	2 April 2027 19 April 2027
Third Term			
Local Holiday	Closed	Monday	3 May 2027
	<i>In-service day</i>	Thursday	6 May 2027
Local Holiday	Closed Closed	Friday and Monday	28 May 2027** 31 May 2027
Summer break	Close at 1.00 pm on	Friday	25 June 2027

Notes :

- *Good Friday falls on Friday 26 March 2027
- **Lanark Schools will close on Thursday 10 and Friday 11 June 2027

General Data Protection Regulation as supplemented by the Data Protection Act 2018 (GDPR)

Information on pupils, parents and guardians is held by the school to enable the teaching, registration, and assessment of pupils as well as associated administrative duties. The information is stored and used as per the requirements of the GDPR, with South Lanarkshire Council defined as the data controller. The Council have established a data protection policy that applies to all of its school.

Education Resources has also prepared a privacy notice (below) which sets out how we will deal with personal information as part of our statutory function as an education authority. For more information, please contact the school.

Privacy Notice

Introduction

In line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) we have produced this privacy notice to inform you how we deal with personal information as part of our statutory function as an education authority.

The Council has a legal obligation to deliver effective education services to children, young people, and adult learners in South Lanarkshire. In order to do this, we need to collect personal information about children, young people, and their families so that we can help them to learn and keep them safe.

Using your personal information

The Council is a “controller” of the personal information you provide when enrolling for a nursery or school, applying for an education service, or participating in groups or activities provided by Education Resources.

Information we collect from you about you and your child at enrolment.

When you enrol for a nursery or school, we ask for the following information:
parent/carer contact details (name, address, phone, email).

the child’s name, date of birth, gender, and address.

information about medical conditions, additional support needs, religion, and ethnicity.
any information you may wish to provide about family circumstances.

Information we collect at other times.

We will also collect information at other times such as when you apply for a benefit, request a service or other support. We will provide an additional privacy notice at these times.

If you apply for an education service or benefit, such as school transport, free school meals, clothing grant, placing request or EMA, we will also ask for personal information as set out above. We will also ask for information about your income for education benefits applications.

If you make a request for additional support such as an educational psychologist or other support for learning, we will ask for more detailed information to allow us to provide the most appropriate support for your family. This may include information about family circumstances or medical conditions.

If there are concerns about your child’s wellbeing and/or your child has needs that may require additional support, we will wish to work with you to collect and consider information to enable us to help you get the right support at the right time in line with the Getting it right for every child approach.

We require this information to ensure that children and young people are educated appropriately, supported, and that we take account of their health and wellbeing. We will also ask you to update this information annually and to tell us when there are changes to your details.

Information that we collect from other sources.

As an education authority and as part of our statutory function in accordance with our legal obligations, we receive information from other sources such as the SQA, the NHS or Social Work about you or your child, this includes:

exam results and assessment information.

information about health, wellbeing, or child protection.

Why do we need this information?

We need this information so the Council can ensure it is delivering education services appropriately to all learners:

for the education of children, young people and adult learners.

for teaching, enrolment, and assessment purposes and to monitor the educational progress of children, young people and adult learners;

to keep children and young people safe and provide guidance services in school;

to identify where additional support is needed to help children, young people and adult learners with their learning;

to maintain records of attendance, absence and behaviour of children and young people (including exclusions);

to support children and young people moving on each year from nursery to primary, primary to secondary and when they move or leave school;

to help us develop and improve education services provided for young people, adult learners, or families

In accordance with our legitimate interests as an education authority we will also use your information to create statistical reports.

We will share your information with:

As an education authority and as part of our statutory function in accordance with our legal obligations we will share information with other bodies or parts of the Council, including:

The Scottish Government and bodies such as Education Scotland, Scottish Qualifications Authority, Skills Development Scotland, and other organisations that support children and young people's learning.

Other parts of the Council when required for services such as school meals, school transport, education benefits and with Social work in connection with any child protection concerns we become aware of.

The NHS, to support health initiatives in accordance with the legal obligation on the Council in terms of section 39(3) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978.

South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Limited, where children and young people are participating in sports and leisure activities.

Other schools/local authorities – if a child moves or transfers to another school the Council has an obligation to pass on information with regards to pupil records to the new school/local authority.

You have the right to access your personal information as well as the rights of rectification, erasure, restriction, and the right to object. For information on these rights and how to exercise them or for information about how we manage your personal information, you can get a copy of our full privacy notice from our website:

(https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200235/meta/1730/general_privacy).

Our full privacy notice will also provide information on how to make a complaint or to request a paper copy of the privacy notice from the Data Protection Officer.

The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 came into force on 1 January 2005 and gives a person the right to request information held by Scottish public authorities.

The act refers to information held in a 'recordable' format and relates to information held within documents, not the documents themselves.

Parents wishing to make a request for information under the terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 should submit their request in writing to:

Freedom of Information Officer
Education Resources
South Lanarkshire Council
Council Offices, Almada Street,
Hamilton, ML3 0AA

Or email: foi.request@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Requests for information can also be submitted using the online form available from the South Lanarkshire Council website (Request it section) (www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

Equal Opportunities

If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

Phone: 01555 892438 Email: office@blackwood-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Disclaimer

Although this information is correct at time of printing, there could be changes affecting any of the matters dealt with in the document before the commencement or during the course of the school year in question in relation to subsequent school years. We will do all we can to let parents know about what is going on in our school.

Appendix A

For a comprehensive list of useful information, please visit the Council's website:

http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200186/primary_school_information/1264/curriculum_for_excellence/3

Additional Information

- **Education Scotland's Communication Toolkit:** A resource for engaging with parents.
- **The Scottish Government Guide Principles of Inclusive Communications:** Offers information on communications and a self-assessment tool for public authorities.
- **Choosing a School: A Guide for Parents:** Provides information on choosing a school and the placing request system.
- **A Guide for Parents About School Attendance:** Explains parental responsibilities regarding children's attendance at school.

Parental Involvement

Guidance on the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 provides guidance on the act for education authorities, Parent Councils, and others.

Parentzone provide information and resource for parents and Parent Councils

National Parent Forum for Scotland; www.npfs.org.uk and www.connect.org.uk

School Ethos

Supporting Learners - guidance on the identification, planning and provision of support.

Journey to Excellence - provides guidance and advice about culture and ethos.

Health and wellbeing guidance on healthy living for local authorities and schools.

Building Curriculum for Excellence Through Positive Behaviour and Relationships outlines the Scottish Government's priority actions around positive behaviour in schools and is also a source of support.

Scottish Catholic Education Service's resource 'This is Our Faith' which supports the teaching and learning of Catholic religious education.

Curriculum

Information about how the curriculum is structured and curriculum planning.

Information about the outcomes a learner can expect to experience and achieve across literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing, as well as the 8 curricular areas.

Advice, practice, and resources to support the experiences and outcomes on literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

Broad General Education in the Secondary School – A Guide for Parents and Carers

Information on the Senior Phase

Information on Skills for learning, life, and work

Information around the Scottish Government's 'Opportunities for All' programme

Information for organisations responsible for the planning, management and delivery of career information, advice, and guidance services

The Skills Development Scotland website 'My World of Work' offers a number of tools to support career planning.

Assessment and Reporting

Building the Curriculum 5: a framework for assessment provides guidance around the assessment framework.

Information about Curriculum for Excellence levels and how progress is assessed.

Curriculum for Excellence factfile - Assessment and qualifications.

Information on recognising achievement, reporting, and profiling.

The Scottish National Standardised Assessment- in Scotland, pupils in P1, P4, P7 and S3 complete online standardised assessments in literacy and numeracy as part of their everyday learning and teaching.

Transitions

Curriculum for Excellence factfile - 3-18 Transitions - provides information on the transitions children and young people will face throughout their education and beyond.

Career Information, Advice and Guidance in Scotland - A Framework for Service Redesign and Improvement provides guidance on career information, advice, and guidance strategy.

Choices and changes provides information about choices made at various stages of learning.

The Additional support for learning page provides links to relevant legislation and guidance, including the arrangements that should be in place to support pupils with additional support needs.

Supporting Children's Learning Code of Practice includes specific requirements on education authorities and others under the new legislation in relation to transition.

Enquire is the Scottish advice service for additional support for learning.

Parenting Across Scotland offers support to children and families in Scotland.

Support for Pupils

The Additional support for learning page provides links to relevant legislation and guidance, including the arrangements that should be in place to support pupils with additional support needs.

Information about the universal entitlement to support that underpins Curriculum for Excellence.

Supporting Children's Learning Code of Practice (Revised edition) - provides Statutory guidance relating to the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 as amended.

Getting It Right for Every Child and Young Person, is essential reading for anyone involved or working with children and young people, including practitioners working in adult services with parents and carers.

School Improvement

Scottish Schools Online - provides a range of school information, including contact details, school roll, facilities, website, inspection reports.

Education Scotland's Inspection and review page provides information on the inspection process.

Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF).

Scottish Qualifications Authority provides information for teachers, parents, employers, and young people on qualifications.

Amazing Things - information about youth awards in Scotland.

Information on how to access statistics relating to School Education.

School Policies and Practical Information

Schools and local authorities should consider the most relevant school, local and national policies and include details or links for parents to sources of further information.

National policies, information and guidance can be accessed from the Scottish Government website on www.gov.scot with an update on school inspection outcomes being available via the Education Scotland website.