



## **Kirklandpark Primary School**



### **The Curriculum**

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

The curriculum 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. This broad, general education will allow them to become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors to life in the 21st century. In taking this forward our school will work closely with South Lanarkshire Education Resources and other services to enable Curriculum for Excellence to be fully embedded, ensuring 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

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.

We work in close collaboration with the other schools in the Strathaven Learning Community. We collaborate with the schools to plan, implement and evaluate joint topics and interdisciplinary topics. We also organise a number of transition activities to support children moving from primary into secondary school.

## **Expressive Arts**

Art and design, music, dance and drama are principle ways of encouraging creativity, individuality, imagination, inspiration, self-awareness and enjoyment. They also help to develop qualities such as leadership, co-operation and teamwork.

## **Languages And Literacy**

We place a great emphasis on the teaching of reading, writing, talking and listening. French has been introduced throughout the school as a second language. In January we focus on Scots Language. A writing lesson based on using effective adjectives to describe a haunted house.

## **Reading**

The material we use is appropriate to the ability, maturity and interest of our pupils. We use a reading scheme called Story World from primary one to three along with NLC Phonics, paired reading, novels and information books. In primary four to seven we use a combination of novels, non-fiction materials, SRA, poetry and playscripts.

## **Writing**

Our aim is to encourage children to organise their thoughts and ideas and to express them in a suitable written form with appropriate vocabulary. The Big Writing Programme was introduced in session 2014 – 2015 and has helped in raising attainment in writing skills as well as teaching skills in vocabulary, and grammar. This is now currently under review to ensure that our provision is appropriately meeting the needs of all children. Spelling is taught within a daily language programme.

## **Talking And Listening**

The school provides opportunities for a wide range of different kinds of talk, from the most relaxed and informal to the more formal kind. Children are also expected to discuss possibilities for writing tasks with their parents. Talking is a vital communication skill and listening is equally important. Pupils are encouraged to listen to each other, to staff, and to visitors to the school.

## **French**

Pupils throughout the school are taught French in a fun and active way with emphasis on talking. As they progress through the school simple writing activities are introduced. We are

very fortunate to have a large number of staff trained throughout the school. We have a planned programme of study from Nursery – Primary 7 and are now able to let most of the children experience the study of French appropriate to their stage.

### **Health And Wellbeing**

Kirklandpark is a time honoured Gold Award Health Promoting School. Our Health & Wellbeing programme enables our children to make informed decisions in order to improve their mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing, experience challenge & enjoyment, experience positive aspects of healthy living and activity for themselves, develop a range of skills that will assist them in making appropriate decisions that ensure a healthy lifestyle, foster links between school, home and community so that all are involved in promoting good health. Our health month each May and organised events throughout each session ensures that we give our pupils opportunities to experience all of the above. Our children carry out two hours of P.E. each week and this can be done in a variety of environments depending on the activity. At times this will take place in the classroom, the gym hall, the dining hall, the playground, the M.U.G.A. and the field. On some occasions the children will complete some activities at the local secondary school, sports centre or swimming pool.

### **Maths And Numeracy**

Our aim is to give our pupils the knowledge, skills and attitudes to enable them to use mathematics in everyday life, whether for domestic, social, recreational reasons or for further study. To do this they must have confidence and it is also helpful if they find mathematics and numeracy an interesting and enjoyable activity. We ensure there is a good balance between the various aspects of mathematics. Our planning is based on curriculum for excellence benchmarks and we use a variety of resources to support this. On a Friday morning the whole school carry out 'Friday Problem Solving,' activities. We use this time to think about how we can use our mathematical knowledge within real life and problem solving contexts. We also have daily oral and mental maths lessons and Mathematics and numeracy is an integral part of our inter-disciplinary learning.

### **Religious And Moral Education**

We aim to create an environment in which all of our pupils show mutual respect, tolerance and understanding of fellow pupils. Our chaplain, Rev. Shaw Paterson, minister of Trinity Church attends monthly assemblies and end of term services. The school visits Trinity Church at Harvest and Easter. There is a monthly class assembly and a weekly assembly for P1-7 pupils. We are currently implementing Curriculum for Excellence guidelines in Religious & Moral Education and, through teaching of the programme, ensure the development of our pupils understanding and appreciation of religious concepts.

## Science

The most important goal for science education is to stimulate, nurture and sustain the curiosity, wonder and questioning of our pupils. Through teaching of sciences our pupils will investigate their environment by observing, exploring, investigating and recording. Through the programme pupils gain the skills of planning, collecting evidence, recording, presenting, interpreting, evaluating and developing informed attitudes. Our Science Weeks have proved to be very popular with pupils and parents.

## Social Studies

This area of the curriculum comprises of people, past events and societies, people, place and environment, people in society and economy and business These are for the most part incorporated into interdisciplinary study topic work in class. Opportunities for Enterprise Education, sustainability / care for the environment are presented through cross curricular work and the work of our Committees.

## Technologies

Technologies value and promote the development of practical skills therefore much of the learning is active and hands-on. Technologies play an integral part in the teaching of interdisciplinary studies. All classrooms have access to internet in class and Wi Fi is available throughout the school. We have one and a half class sets of i-Pads and two class sets of Chromebooks to be used in all classes. We promote the use of games technology in learning and teaching across the curriculum. Our pupils are very skilled in using our digital cameras and flip movie cameras in their everyday class work.

If you want to know more about Curriculum for Excellence, please visit these websites:

- <http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/thecurriculum>
- [www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk](http://www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk)
- [www.curriculumforexcellencescotland.gov.uk](http://www.curriculumforexcellencescotland.gov.uk)
- [www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk)
- [www.ltscotland.org.uk](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk)
- [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)
- [www.hmie.gov.uk](http://www.hmie.gov.uk)