

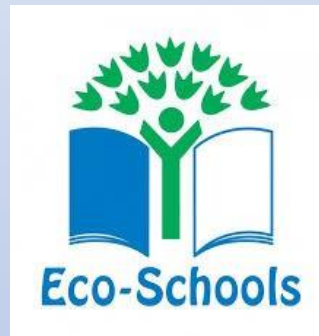


Education Resources



Wester Overton Primary School and Nursery Class

Handbook *2024-2025*



STRATHAVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY
RESPONSIBLE RESPECTFUL RESILIENT



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

Phone: 0303 123 1023 Email:
education@southlanarkshire.gov.uk



STRATHAVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY
RESPONSIBLE RESPECTFUL RESILIENT



1. Introduction by the Head Teacher

On behalf of all the staff and pupils I would like to warmly welcome you to Wester Overton Primary and Nursery. We are delighted that you are considering sending your child to our school and look forward to working with you throughout his/her education. I hope you will feel welcome in the school and that you and your child will see yourselves as important members of our school community.

Our current two storey school building was opened in February 2009 by Councillor Michael McCann. The previous school building was housed at the same location for many years, first opening it's doors on 17th August 1973.

I hope that our handbook provides a snapshot of our culture and ethos – a positive and purposeful community committed to meeting the needs of every pupil and to providing education of the highest standard. We endeavour to create a warm, happy, caring and welcoming environment in which the children of all ages learn that respect for others, resilience and responsible behaviour are very important qualities. We help each child to realise their full potential by nurturing their self-esteem and enhancing their personal and social development through providing equity of opportunity for all.



At Wester Overton Primary, we aim to provide a happy, safe and stimulating environment for all our children, enabling them to make the most of their skills and abilities. We work hard to ensure that learning is challenging, enjoyable and relevant, giving our children the best possible foundation in their education for life. Trusting relationships are paramount here, and we feel that the partnership between home and school is vital for our children to achieve the best possible educational experience.

This handbook is intended as a guide to all parents/carers of new pupils in session 2024-2025, but may also be of interest to those whose children already attend the school, or who join our school during term-time. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries in connection with your child's education.

Staff, pupils and parents are very proud of our school, and we look forward to working with you and your child in the weeks, months and years to follow.

Welcome to Wester Overton!

Yours sincerely

June Moir

June Moir
Head Teacher



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 quality of life for all within 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.

2. About our school

Name and Address:	Wester Overton Primary School Ashkirk Road Strathaven ML10 6JT
Phone:	01357 521870
FAX:	01357 529123
Email:	office@westeroverton-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk
Website:	http://www.westeroverton-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk/
Present Role:	Primary:360 Nursery: 64
Status:	Non-denominational and co-educational
Stages Covered:	Nursery – Primary 7

We currently have 360 pupils in our primary classes, and 64 children in our Nursery Class. The school is split over two levels, has fourteen classrooms, computer suite, open areas, a gym hall with stage and a large dining hall.

Wester Overton Primary School is a non-denominational, co-educational school. We enjoy an excellent relationship with the local and wider community. Throughout the year, various members of the community including individuals, local businesses and local organisations come into school to enhance the children's learning experiences.



STRATHAVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY
RESPONSIBLE RESPECTFUL RESILIENT



Our Staff

Head Teacher
Depute Head Teacher
Depute Head Teacher
Principal Teacher

Mrs Moir
Miss Bailkoski
Miss Currie
Mr McCracken

Miss Galbraith
Mrs Walker
Miss McGibbon
Miss Saunders/Mrs Simpson
Ms Thistlethwaite
Mrs Hannah
Mr McCracken
Mrs Malia
Mrs Galloway/Mrs Clark
Miss Burnett
Miss Nayyer
Mrs Thorburn
Miss Lamont

Primary 1/Room 1
Primary 1/Room 2
Primary 2/Room 4
Primary 2/Room 5
Primary 3/Room 6
Primary 3/4 /Room 7
Primary 4/Room 8
Primary 4/5/Room 9
Primary 5/Room 10
Primary 6/Room 11
Primary 5/6/Room 12
Primary 7/Room 13
Primary 7/Room 14



Miss McCabe, Mrs Beebee, Miss Bailkoski and Mrs Currie are responsible for cover to allow teachers to have their non-class contact time. Miss O'Hara provides targeted learning support.

Support Assistant Mrs Middlemas
Support Assistant Mrs Gemmell
Support Assistant Mrs Paterson
Support Assistant Mrs Wilkie
Support Assistant Mrs McDonald
Support Assistant Mrs Spencer
Clerical Assistant- Mrs Urquhart
Clerical Assistant- Mrs Seatter
Janitor Mr Robbins
Cook in Charge Mrs Wilkie
Specialist Support Teacher Mrs McConville
Educational Psychologist Mrs Kiddie

Nursery Team Leader Mrs Angela Sawers
Early Years Practitioner Miss Ailsa Barclay
Early Years Practitioner Miss Shona Muir
Early Years Practitioner Mrs Emma Grieve
Early Years Practitioner Mrs Ethel Clark
Early Years Practitioner Miss Leah Campbell
Early Years Practitioner Mrs Megan Monaghan
Early Years Practitioner Mrs Lynn Hagan
Early Years Practitioner Mrs Monica Kerr
Early Years Practitioner Mrs Katie Duthie
Early Years Practitioner Ms Jemma Thomas
Early Years Support Worker Mrs Leann Parke

School Chaplain
Parent Council Chairperson:

Rev. Shaw Patterson minister of Trinity Parish Church
Lisa Hendry woparentcouncil@hotmail.com

Parental Concerns

The Head Teacher and staff work in partnership with our parents/carers to promote an ethos of trust and respect, where parents can contact the school with any concerns or queries.

If any parent wishes to contact the school about any aspect of their child's learning and progress or wishes to make a complaint, they should contact Mrs Moir, the Head Teacher. Our school aims to be fair, open and honest when dealing with any complaint.



We give careful consideration to all complaints and deal with them as swiftly as possible. We aim to resolve any complaint through dialogue and mutual understanding and, in all cases, we put the interests of the child above all other issues. We provide sufficient opportunity for any complaint to be fully discussed and then resolved.

South Lanarkshire Council Education Resources wishes to promote liaison among schools, members of Parent Councils, parents/carers and with other services, and wish to provide advice and support to Parent Councils and parents/carers. Schools and establishments should always be the first point of contact for parents who wish to discuss issues about their child. Our aim is to resolve issues at a local level.

All enquiries and concerns received from parents are taken seriously. In order to ensure that enquiries are dealt with effectively, contact should always be made in the first instance with the school.

General	Bullying and related issues, care and welfare issue Classroom organisation and complaints	parents@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Des Dickson	Parental involvement, Parent Council: procedural and administrative issues	01698 454375 des.dickson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Parental questions relating to parental involvement, class organisation, school transport, placing requests, property, additional support needs and inclusive education can be directed to the appropriate service manager:		
David Hinshelwood	School transport (mainstream), placing requests and property issues	01698 454408 david.hinshelwood@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Alex MacLeod	Inclusive Education Manager	01698 454666 alex.macleod@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

3. Attendance at School

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. In cases where your child is unable to attend school parents/carers are asked to:

- Let us know in advance of any reason why your child is likely to be absent from school. Please phone the office first thing in the morning and leave a message;
- Inform the school of any change to the following:
 - home phone number
 - mobile number
 - emergency contact details
- Requests for your child to be absent from school to make an extended visit to relatives must be made in writing to the Head Teacher, detailing the reason, destination and duration of absence. On these occasions the pupil will be marked as an authorised absentee in the register.
- Family holidays should be avoided during term time as this both disrupts the child's education and reduces learning time. If holidays are taken during times when the school is open parents should inform the school in advance by letter.
- If your child is taken on a family holiday during term time then in, line with Scottish Government advice, this will be classified as an unauthorised absence. However, in exceptional circumstances schools may register a family holiday during term time as an authorised absence when for example, parents are unable to obtain leave during the school holiday period.



Absence with no explanation from parents will mean that the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. In our approach to raising attainment and achievement, it is recognised that attendance at school is something that should be continuously encouraged. Parents/carers, children and the school all have a part to play in encouraging and stressing the importance of attendance at school.

The school holiday dates and in-service dates are available from the website: www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Children moving into the area

Parents moving into the Strathaven area are most welcome to contact us for more information on Wester Overton Primary School and Nursery Class. If your child attended a previous school, we do make immediate contact to find out his/her attainment and place the child accordingly.

Children moving out of the area, who will attend another primary school

Parents should inform the Head Teacher of such a move and provide the details of the school in which their child will enroll.

Information on emergencies

We make every effort to ensure the school remains open during term-time for pupils. However, on occasions circumstances may arise which can affect the school. Schools may be affected by, for example, severe weather, power failures or through any other circumstances that may impact on the school day. In such cases we shall do all we can to let you know as soon as possible. We shall keep in touch by the most appropriate method at the time normally through text message, and via our social media channels.

In cases of severe weather in the morning such as snow and a heavy frost and if there is a reason the school cannot open in the morning at the normal time, we will adopt the protocol for a delayed start until 10am.

If this is the case a message via social media and on the council's website will be posted. The Council's website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk will be used to let you know if the school is closed or has a delayed start. Further information will be provided later in the day as to whether the school will be open as normal the next day.

Things we need you to do:

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



a. Your commitments

We ask that you:

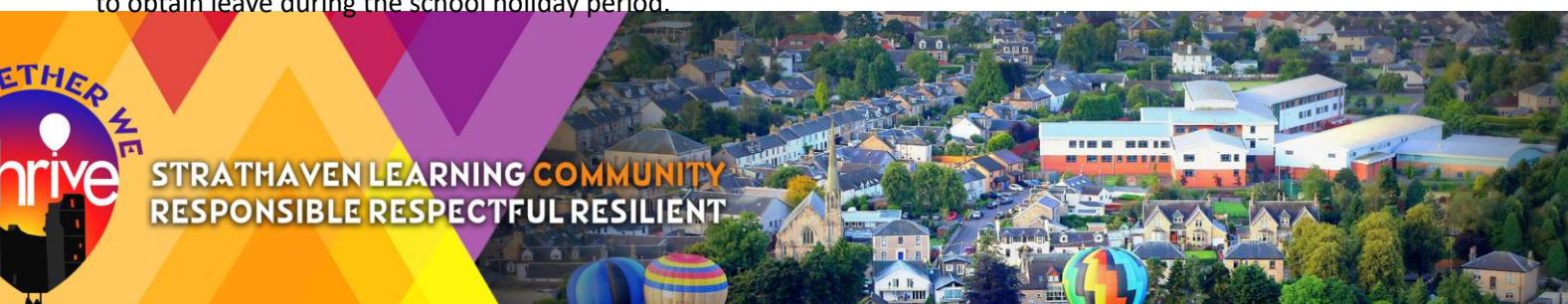
- support and encourage your child's learning – ask them what they have been doing.
- respect and adhere to the school's policies and guidance.
- accept your responsibility to respect staff who work in the school and for the school to be proactive in taking forward its commitment to care for and educate your child.

Family holidays during term time

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. Family holidays should be avoided during term time as this both disrupts the child's education and reduces learning time. If holidays are taken during times when the school is open parents should inform the school in

advance by letter.

If your child is taken on a family holiday during term time, then in line with Scottish Government advice this will be classified as an unauthorised absence. However, in exceptional circumstances schools may register a family holiday during term time as an authorised absence when for example, parents are able to demonstrate they have been unable to obtain leave during the school holiday period.



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4) Parental Involvement

South Lanarkshire Council recognises the importance of parents as partners in the education of their child and has published a strategy entitled, 'Making a difference – working together to support children's learning'. This is available from the Council's website: www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/13457/parents_as_partners_-_strategy_2019

Parents, carers and family members are by far the most important influences on children's lives. Children between the ages of 5 and 16 children spend only 15% of their time in school! Research shows that when parents are involved in their child's learning, children do better at school and throughout life.

Parental involvement can take different forms but we hope you share the same aims and agree that by working together we can be partners in supporting children's learning. As parents/carers we want you to be:

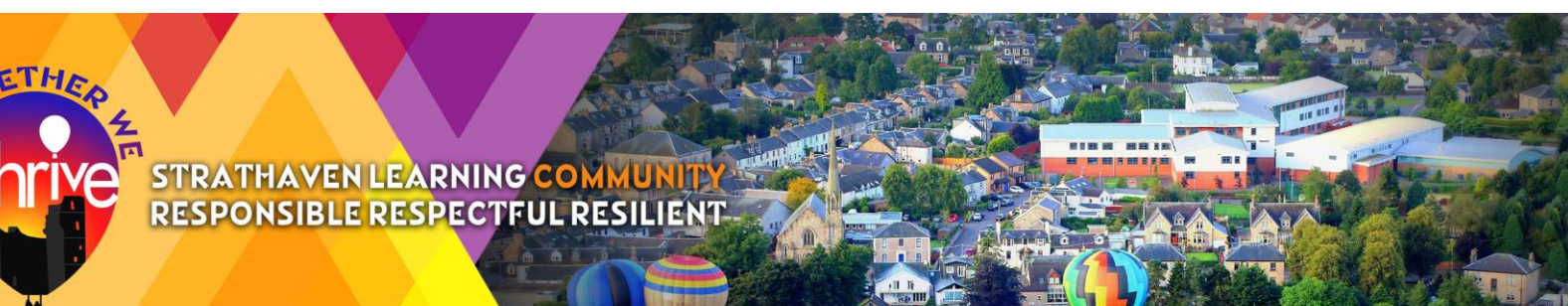
- Welcomed and given an opportunity to be involved in the life of the school;
- Fully informed about your child's learning;
- Encouraged to make an active contribution to your child's learning;
- Able to support learning at home;
- Encouraged to express your views and involved in forums and discussions on education related issues.



Parents are actively encouraged to be involved in the education of their children and in the life of the school. Communication is very important and our newsletters and website provide regular information to parents. We also use our School App as a means to share information. Parents are welcomed into school often for workshops, parents meetings, class assemblies and school shows. Wester Overton Primary School is a busy place! Parent helpers are valued and support the children in a variety of ways, in school, at extra-curricular activities and on outings. Please let us know if you are able to support us by sharing your talents and becoming a parent helper. Every parent with a child at school is automatically a member of our parent forum. The Parent Council is a formal group, with a constitution, and acts as the Parent Voice of the school.

To find out more on how to be a parent helper, or a member of the Parent Council and/or the Parent Teacher Association just contact the school or visit our website.

Parentzone Scotland is a unique website for parents and carers in Scotland, from early years to beyond school. The website provides up-to-date information about learning in Scotland, and practical advice and ideas to support children's learning at home in literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing and science. Information is also available on Parentzone Scotland regarding additional support needs, how parents can get involved in their child's school and education.



Parentzone – www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk

- Engage Parent Forum – www.engageforeducation.org
- National Parent Forum for Scotland – www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone
- South Lanarkshire Council – www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk



We host workshops, coffee mornings and events across the year as opportunities for our parents to meet up and get to know each other. In addition, we host class assemblies, showcases, performances and shows to welcome our families into our school. Our Parent Council also host events throughout the year to encourage family engagement.

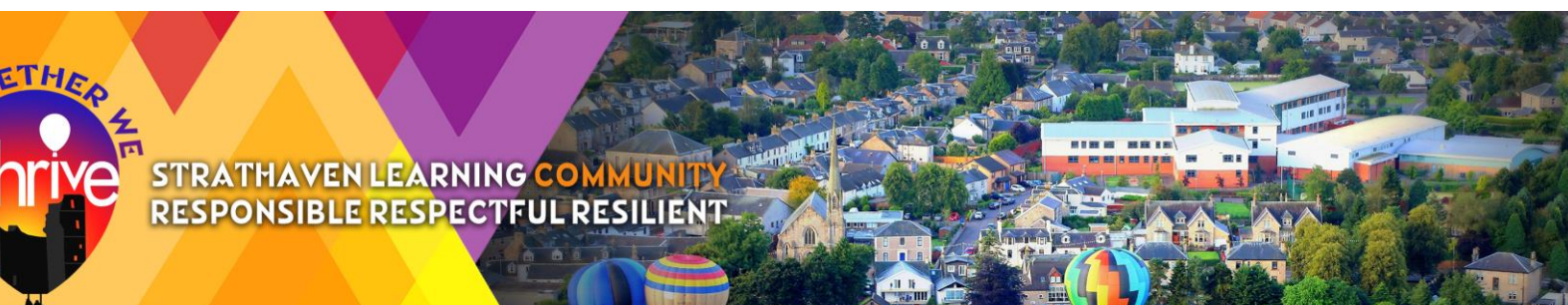
Wester Overton Primary School has worked in partnership with parents, children and all staff, as well as all of the schools in the Strathaven Learning Community to develop a shared vision and common set of values for the Strathaven Learning Community.



Our aspirational vision statement for the Strathaven Learning Community is: **‘TOGETHER WE THRIVE’**.

- To provide a nurturing and challenging environment for all children.
- To provide an ethos of mutual respect where everyone tries their best.
- To prepare children for the future.
- To build strong community links.

Once a term, our school celebrates achievements both in and out of school. Pupils also nominate someone in their class who has shown core values such as honesty, fairness, kindness, respect, cooperation and responsibility. We celebrate achievements in style with pupils 'walking the red carpet'.

An aerial photograph of Strathaven, Scotland, showing a mix of residential houses and commercial buildings. The image is overlaid with large, colorful geometric shapes in shades of orange, yellow, and purple. In the bottom left corner, there is a circular logo with the text 'TOGETHER WE thrive' and a silhouette of a building. The text 'STRATHAVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY' is written in large, bold, white capital letters, with 'COMMUNITY' in orange. Below it, the words 'RESPONSIBLE RESPECTFUL RESILIENT' are written in smaller, bold, white capital letters. Two hot air balloons are visible in the foreground: one with a rainbow pattern and another with a colorful geometric design.

TOGETHER WE thrive

STRATHAVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY

RESPONSIBLE RESPECTFUL RESILIENT

Classes regularly visit the community as part of their learning and businesses and members of the community often visit the school to talk and work with the pupils. The school takes part in a number of local competitions and events such as Reindeer Day, Strathaven Show, The Balloon Festival, Gala Week competitions and we also enter a school float into the gala day parade. Our school choir performs in the community, including singing for the residents at Collisden Care Home.



Promoting Positive Relationships

At Wester Overton Primary and Nursery staff, parents and pupils work together to create a safe, secure and happy environment in which children will learn to co-operate with each other in both their learning and play. We encourage all children to develop self-discipline and ask them to show respect to others. We have three school rules- **Be Safe, Be Ready, Be Respectful.**

Children are expected to show respect to others at all times, and allegations of bullying are taken very seriously. Teachers, parents and pupils know what is expected of them in trying to change the behaviour and attitudes that contribute to bullying behaviour. Incidents of bullying should be reported to the school immediately so that each alleged incident can be carefully investigated. Together we can work towards creating a safer school for children and staff.

6. The Curriculum

The 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 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 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.

Extra-curricular Activities



We have a number of extra-curricular clubs available after school. These include Netball, Football, Multi-sports, Basketball, Badminton, Arts & Crafts, Dance, Cross Country, Rugby, Gymnastics, Archery and Choir.



Music Tuition

Instrumental music lessons are offered to children in a number of primary schools across South Lanarkshire Council through our Instrumental Music Service (IMS). Tuition is offered (based on capacity) on a variety of musical instruments, for example brass, strings, percussion, guitar or voice.

Following an aptitude / suitability assessment, children entering P4 or P5 may be offered the chance to study a musical instrument. Through Youth Music Initiative funding, these children are exempt from paying the annual contribution detailed above for one academic year. Thereafter the annual contribution will apply for each consecutive year. We currently offer Woodwind, Strings and Brass tuition, and all of our Primary 5 children enjoy specialist tuition as part of the Youth Music Initiative.



Community Links

Wester Overton Primary and Nursery is part of the Strathaven Learning Community. We have excellent links with the local community, and use these links to provide an excellent educational experience for our pupils.

We aspire to provide a curriculum which involves our pupils not only in the history of their community, but in the activities and events such as Gala Week and Balloon Festival that take place throughout the year to make Strathaven a thriving place to live and work today.

=We value the contribution of our parents and other community partners such as The John Hastie Museum Trust and The Round Table, and seek to use their experience, skills and support effectively to further enhance our curriculum.

Resilience

At Wester Overton we acknowledge the need for our pupils to develop the resilience needed to cope with everyday pressures including attainment, competitive situations and social challenges. We aim that our curriculum will provide our pupils with the skills they need to problem solve, learn independent of adult support and manage everyday pressures of life, becoming effective contributors, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

Challenge

Our curriculum, based within an ethos, which celebrates all achievements, aims to provide appropriate challenge for all pupils creating confident, successful learners who are able to express their needs and wants effectively. We work towards providing a curriculum, which involves pupils activity involved in developing progressive skills in Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing. For our more vulnerable pupils, we aim to close the achievement gap providing effective support around the child within a nurturing environment. We strive for all our pupils to be fully engaged in their own progress and motivated by their own successes. We celebrate success out of school such as sporting and musical achievements.

Spiritual, Social, Moral and Cultural Values

The Education (Scotland) Act 1980 states that there is a statutory obligation on local authorities to provide religious observance and religious education in schools. Religious observance focuses on the development of each individual within the school community. As a school, we are required to provide religious observance at least 6 times in a school year, in addition to traditional celebrations central to the life of the community. At Wester Overton we meet this requirement through our Assembly Programme. Religious and Moral Education is a statutory core subject for all pupils attending Primary education.





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.

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.

7. Assessment and tracking progress

At Wester Overton Primary and Nursery we strive to meet the individual needs of all learners. Forward planning is reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team within a professional dialogue with class teachers on a termly basis. We ensure that pupils experience breadth and challenge and that planned activities are motivating and engage the pupils in a range of activities to develop skills for learning, life and work.

Three times a year staff will meet with Senior Management to discuss those in their class who require additional support. This could be for a range of reasons such as difficulties with specific areas of the curriculum, support with social, emotional wellbeing or even to challenge our more able pupils.

Tracking of attainment within Reading, Writing, Spelling, Mathematics and Health and Wellbeing also takes place three times a year and provides information on pupil progress throughout the year. Pupils meet with Senior Management to discuss their progress in specific areas of the curriculum and to explore their next steps in learning.

More formative assessment will take place on a daily basis with staff being responsive to the needs of learners. Teachers monitor and evaluate the teaching and learning within their classroom on a daily basis through observation, listening, talking, questioning and marking.

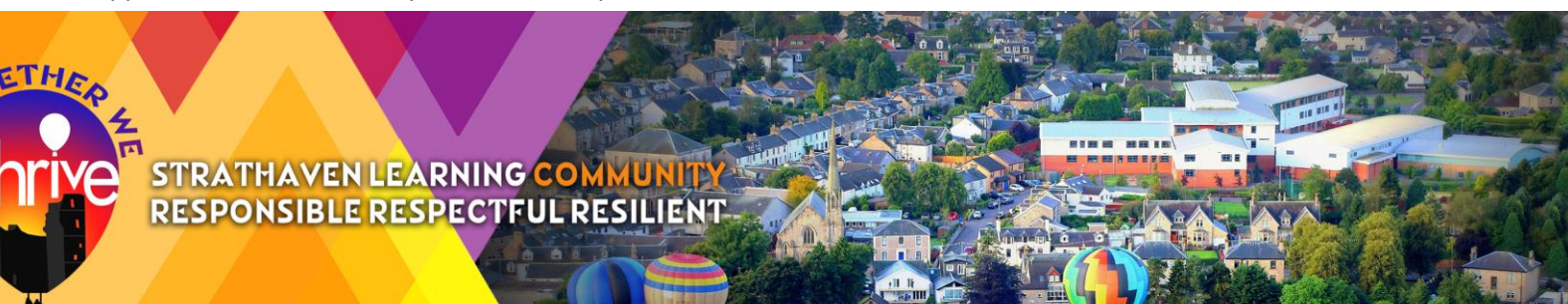


8. Reporting

We want to share with you on how your child's learning is progressing. We do this through our 'Snapshot Jotters', learner reports and parent consultations. Snapshot jotters are used 3 times a year to provide parents with information on the type of learning that is taking place at school. This is a jotter that is used to evidence learning in a specific week. Children take the jotter home at the end of the week and are able to talk their parents through their learning.

We will provide parents with an annual report so that you can see what your child is doing and how they are progressing. 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.

In addition, there will be parent consultations, 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 discuss your child's education.



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

9. Enrolment & 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 2024, you can enrol online from Monday 8 January 2024. Your catchment school will contact you between Monday 15 to Friday 19 January 2024 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 is available from the SLC website – www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk or by [contacting edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk) or phone 0303 123 1023.

Transition from Primary to Secondary School

Our Learning Community Secondary School is Strathaven Academy. 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 so that the transition period is as smooth as possible.



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.



10. 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 on:
www.scotland.gov.uk/gettingitright

Support for All (Additional Support Needs)

Our Additional Support for Learning Position Statement and Guidelines aim to identify children who require targeted support. Our group-teaching system aims to provide the children with education suited to aptitude and ability as well as to age. Individual difficulties may be addressed by the class teacher or members of the management team working together in partnership.

Where a child needs an increased level of support or investigation into a learning or wellbeing concern, then, with parent consultation, we may seek the help of the School Psychologist and Specialist Support Teacher. Our Deputes and teachers work in partnership with our Specialist Support Teacher to provide programmes of work and resources for those children needing support.

Miss Bailkoski is our Additional Support for Learning Co-ordinator.

Children may have additional support needs for a wide range of reasons and includes those who are more able. These needs may be long term, or only last for a short period of time.

At Wester Overton Primary we have some children who have an Additional Support Plan (ASP). For these pupils a wide range of support has been put in place dependent on the individual child's needs. Parents are informed by letter or invited to attend review meetings. These supports might include:

- Regular meetings with parents
- Nurture Groups
- Specialist Support Teacher
- School Psychologist
- School Support Staff
- Technology equipment
- Tailored resources & programmes of work

South Lanarkshire Education Resources have published a series of leaflets available, which cover information for parents and carers about the Additional Support for Learning Acts.



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.

Attachment Strategy for Education

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.

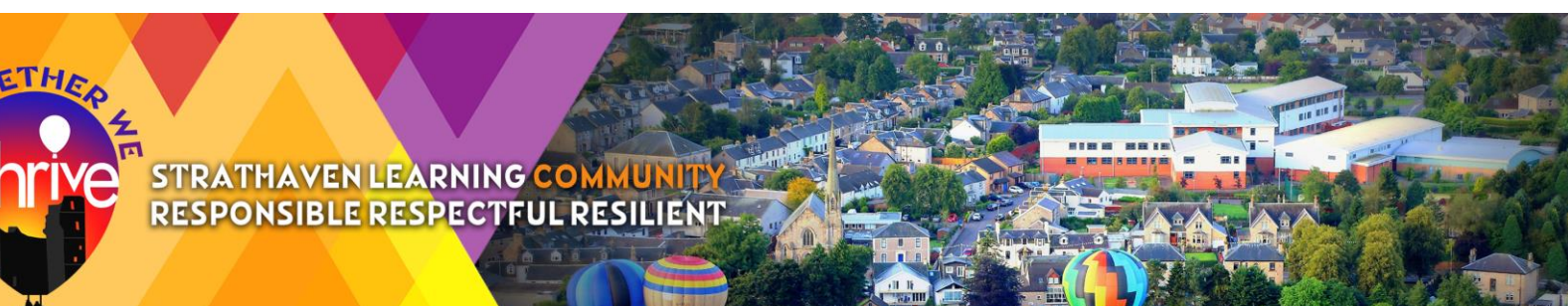
The Education Resources Attachment Strategy supports the action in the 'Getting it Right for Every Child in South Lanarkshire's Children Services Plan 2021-23', following the launch of the Attachment Strategy in 2020, to provide staff training in Attachment and Trauma based practice.

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.



11. School Improvement

Our School Improvement Plan is available on our school website. Our Standards and Quality Report, also available on our school website, highlights the school's main achievements over the last 12 months. Parents are updated on the school's improvement priorities through regular newsletters and their views sought through effective consultation procedures including questionnaires. We also liaise closely with our Parent Council on our improvement priorities.

Improvement Priorities: 2023-2024

Priority 1-Increase attainment in Literacy

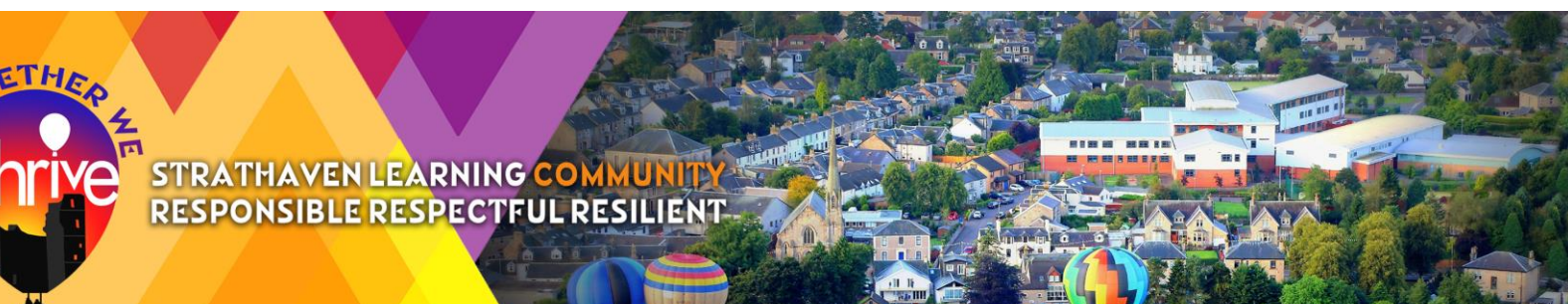
- Increased number of P1 children will achieve expected outcomes in literacy.
- Increased number of nursery children entering P1 will have communication, emergent reading/ and emergent writing skills in line with early level benchmarks.
- Nursery and P1 staff will work collaboratively to achieve shared aims.
- Increased number of children across the school will achieve expected outcomes in writing, using talk for Writing approaches.

Priority 2-Provide a rich and stimulating curriculum

- Support staff, pupils and parents will engage with BSL.
- Develop confidence in staff to deliver BSL Nursery-P7.
- All children from P5-P7 will engage with BSL lessons as their L2.
- Nursery children will explore BSL in collaboration with older pupils.
- Develop confidence in staff to deliver Expressive Arts & implement new progressive planning.
- Increase levels of engagement in Art, Drama, dance and Music.

Priority 3-Improve Health and Wellbeing

- Improve the mental health and wellbeing of all pupils.
- Decrease levels of distressed behaviour across school.
- Develop confidence in staff to deliver Do-Be-Mindful programme to all children, Nursery-P7.
- Develop confidence in staff to develop age appropriate play pedagogy across the nursery and school.
- Enable staff to embed outdoor learning further across the curriculum in nursery and school.





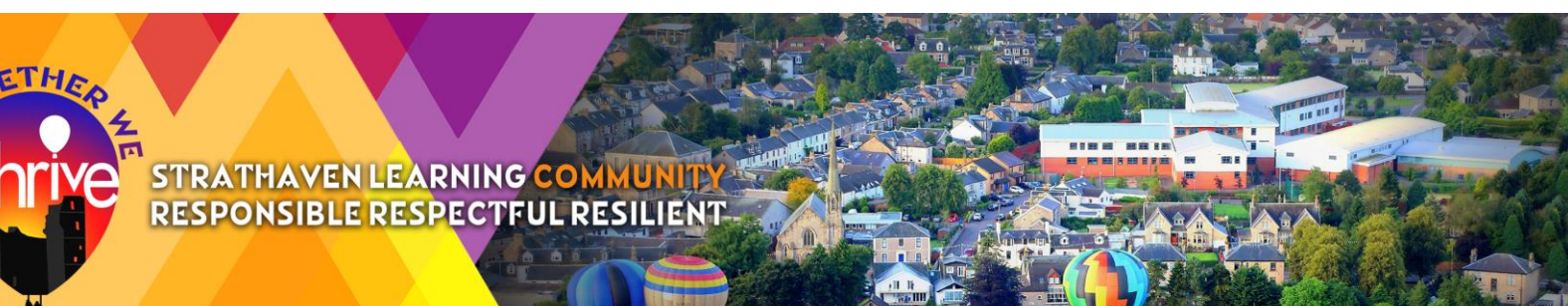
Priority 4-Reduce the Poverty Related Attainment Gap

Increased number of children with identified ASN in literacy & numeracy will achieve expected attainment levels with significant and sustained interventions.

- Reduced number of counselling referrals.
- Increased resilience in target children.
- Increased confidence in staff in delivering Nurture, Mental Health and Outdoor Learning.
- Increased engagement and attainment in target children.
- All children in SIMD 1-3 and FME will be able to attend at least one extra curricular club.

Learning Community Priorities:

- Promote and develop Equality and Anti-Racist Education within Strathaven Learning Community.
- Raise awareness of the UNCRC and equalities legislation.
- Ensure transition arrangements support wellbeing and raise attainment, with a key focus on P7 to S1.
- Implement the SLC Skills Framework across the learning community to ensure common language is used, leading to pupils understanding and articulating skills.

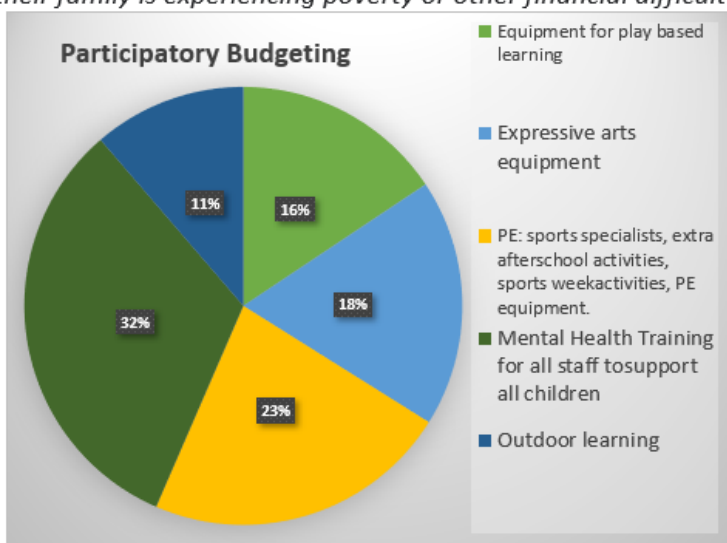


Participatory Budget-

Parents/carers can express their views on the school's spending plans through our Participatory Budget consultations. Each year we allocate a percentage of our Pupil Equity Fund for a specific project through consultation with pupils, staff and parents.

This year, £5,000 of our Pupil Equity Fund** will be spent following a Participatory Budgeting Consultation. This means pupils and parents will be consulted and asked to generate ideas and opinions on what to spend this money on.

***Pupil Equity Funding is money provided to the school to help us provide the best possible opportunities for children's learning. In particular, it is there to help us support children who experience barriers to learning and who might be falling behind or not getting the same chances in their education because their family is experiencing poverty or other financial difficulties.*



After consulting all pupils, parents and staff, we will spend £5000 on Do-Be Mindful, to support the mental health of our children! Thank you for voting!

**All other areas that were highlighted by staff, pupils and parents are being purchased both from our PEF budget and our school fundraising. Thank you for supporting us!*



STRATHAVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY
RESPONSIBLE RESPECTFUL RESILIENT



12. School policies and practical information

Our School Day

P1 have a soft start at 8.50am and finish at 2.50pm.

P2-7 start at 9.00am and finish at 3.00pm.

Morning interval-10.30am- 10.45am/ 10.45am-11.00 (staggered).

Lunch time -12 noon- 12.45pm/ 12.45pm-1.30pm (staggered).

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 aged pupils are also offered a free breakfast within their school. The selection available includes cereal, toast, fruit and milk, and the service runs from 8.15am to 8.45am each school day. This should be booked on a Friday on a weekly basis for the following week by emailing the school office.

For their lunch each day pupils have the option to choose from two hot meal options, a snack option plus a vegan / vegetarian option. These are all served with vegetables or side salad. All **meals** also come with fresh chilled drinking water, salad, 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.
- Pupils in Primary 6 - 7 meal cost is £2.05

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 a special 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, Universal Credit (where your take home pay is less than £726 per month), Job Seeker's Allowance (income based), Employment and Support Allowance (income related), Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit (where your gross annual income does not exceed £8,717 as assessed by the HM Revenues and Customs), Child Tax Credit Only (where your gross annual income does not exceed £18,725 as assessed by the HM Revenues and Customs) or receive support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

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 so that children who receive free meals are not singled out and we encourage all children to remain in school at lunch time.

Wester Overton also has a free breakfast club from 8.15-8.45.



Nursery

All children attending a local authority nursery will be provided with a free lunch. 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.

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.

We have two styles of school uniform:-

- Trousers or skirt in grey/ blue tartan pinafore/ kilt with a blue shirt and red/blue tie;
- Trousers or skirt in grey/ blue tartan pinafore/ kilt with a blue polo shirt and sweatshirt bearing the school badge.
- A royal blue blazer or blue fleece with the school badge.

****We do not insist that polos and sweatshirts have the school logo.***

School uniform can be purchased through:

- Ayrshire Schoolwear 7-9 Princes St, Kilmarnock KA1 3DD [01563 550200](tel:01563550200)
- Scotcrest: <http://scotcrestschools.co.uk/>
- MyClothing: <https://myuniformltd.co.uk>
-

*****We also hold a large supply of recycled school uniform and jackets which we are happy to supply at any time at no cost.***

We request that all children change into soft-shoes to sit in class and wear within the school. The co-operation of parents in this matter ensures that children are not sitting with wet/ muddy feet all day.

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.

Allergies

A significant number of children and young people in our schools will have allergies and it is important that parents keep the school fully informed on these matters. Allergies can present in a variety of ways and can occur at any point in a person's life. Symptoms range from mild to severe. Children and young people known to have an allergy with moderate to severe symptoms will likely have a Health Care Plan drawn up by the NHS. This will detail symptoms and appropriate interventions.

It is vital that parents share this information with the school and continue to provide any updated information.

Where symptoms are mild and a Health Care Plan is not in place, parents should still continue to liaise regularly with the school on any new triggers, medications and actions required.

In all cases, our employees need to know your child's symptoms, treatments and any actions required to help prevent exposure to the allergen and minimise the risk of allergic reactions. Employees in schools will receive training on allergies and will liaise with parents and NHS on any additional specialist training required.

In supporting children and young people with allergies, school employees will operate in accordance with South Lanarkshire Council's Safe Systems of Work / risk assessment and national guidance on the administration of medicines.

Wester Overton is a Nut Free School, and parents should ensure children do not bring snacks or lunches containing nuts to school at any time.

Support for parent/carers

Clothing grant

In certain circumstances the Council provides support to parents/carers for the purchase of school wear.

Applications can be made online at www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk.

If you are required to submit evidence of your Tax Credit income it is important that a copy of this evidence is attached to your online application. 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).

Our School Day

P1 start at 8.50am and finish at 2.50pm.

P2-7 start at 9.00am and finish at 3.00pm.

Morning interval-10.30am- 10.45am/ 10.45am-11.00 (staggered).

Lunch time -12 noon- 12.45pm/ 12.45pm-1.30pm (staggered).

Please see appendices for school holiday dates 2023-2024.



Transport

South Lanarkshire Council has a policy of providing school transport to primary pupils who live more than one mile by the recognised shortest walking route from their catchment school. This policy is more generous than the law requires. This means that the provision of transport could be reviewed at any time.

Parents who consider they are eligible should complete a form from the school online at www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk or contact 0303 123 102. These forms should be completed and returned before the end of March for those pupils starting the school in August to enable the appropriate arrangements to be made. Applications may be submitted at any time throughout the year and will be considered by Education Resources.

A privilege transport scheme is operated for mainstream school contracts where a pupil is not entitled to free school transport. Privilege transport will only be granted providing there is spare capacity on an existing school contract and will be from and to designated pick up and drop off points. Privilege transport will not be provided where a service bus is used on the school run. Any spare capacity will be allocated using agreed priorities. More information on school transport is available at

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200188/secondary_school_information/545/school_transport or phone 0303 123 1023.

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.

School buses transport our pupils to and from Dovecastle and Kypeview areas of the town, and the pupils from outlying areas such as Carnduff, Muirkirk Road, Darvel Road and Hamilton Road.

More details of the areas covered by school buses can be obtained from the school office.

Insurance for schools – pupils' personal effects

South Lanarkshire Council is concerned at the level of claims being received for loss or damage to pupils' clothing or personal effects. Parents are asked to note the Council's position in terms of insurance for pupils' personal effects:

(i) Theft/loss of personal effects

The Council is not liable for the loss or theft of pupils' clothing or personal effects for example mobile phones, tablets etc. and any items are therefore brought into the school at the pupil/parents' own risk.

Parents can assist by ensuring that valuable items and unnecessarily expensive items of clothing are not brought to school. Teachers and other staff have been advised not to accept custody of any such items.



The same principle applies to musical instruments and other equipment used for activities within the school, which belong to the pupil, but are brought into the school. Parents should be aware that if such equipment is left in school, it is done at the pupil/parents' own risk. In the case of valuable items such as musical instruments, parents should ensure that these items are covered by their own household insurance.

(ii) Damage to clothing

The Council is only liable for damage caused to pupils' clothing where the damage has resulted from the negligence of the Council or one of its employees. Claims arising otherwise will not be accepted by the Council's insurers.

Promoting positive behaviour

It is the responsibility of staff within the school to ensure that parent council members, parents and pupils are involved in the creation of a positive school ethos that encourages good behaviour. Equally, the school whilst trying to promote positive behaviour must support young people should incidents or bullying occur.

Parents have a significant role to play in working with the school so that teachers, parents and pupils know what is expected of them in trying to change the behaviour and attitudes that contribute to bullying behaviour.

Our approach is to create an environment where better behaviour will encourage better learning. The school, along with the support of parents, can work together to create a learning environment which young people can enjoy and feel safe.

Incidents of bullying should be reported to the school immediately so that each alleged incident can be looked at. Together we can work towards creating a safer school for children and staff.

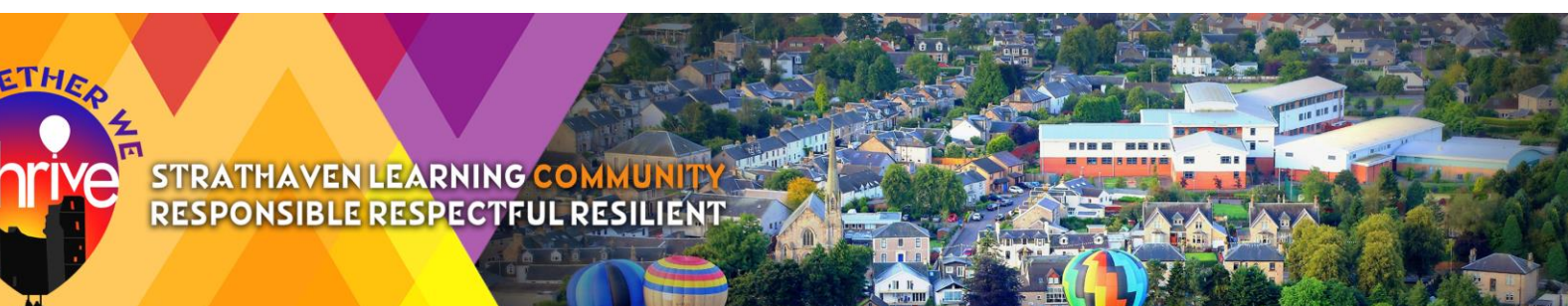
In addition, a guideline (Promoting Positive Relationships and Understanding Distressed Behaviour) has been produced to support all teaching and support staff and inform them of their roles and responsibilities in respect of dealing with the small number of children and young people who display challenging behaviour.

Early identification is crucial so that intervention can be provided to support children and young people to help them address their issues and concerns. Staff training is provided to help develop the skills needed to respond to and manage challenging behaviour. A wide range of appropriate staff development opportunities has been developed for this purpose.

Child Protection

All staff in educational establishments in South Lanarkshire Council receive an annual 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 on how to help them keep their children safe. The website is: www.childprotectionsouthlanarkshire.org.uk

Information on emergencies

We make every effort to ensure the school remains open during term-time for pupils. However, on occasions circumstances may arise which can affect the school. Schools may be affected by, for example, severe weather, power failures or through any other circumstances that may impact on the school day.

In such cases we shall do all we can to let you know if this happens. We shall keep you in touch by telephone, text, where appropriate, letters, web news and through local radio stations particularly if there are prolonged periods of severe weather. The Council’s website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk will be used to let you know if the school is closed and when it will re-open.

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



Your commitments

We ask that you:

- support and encourage your child's learning
- respect and adhere to the school's policies and guidance
- let the school know if you change your mobile/telephone number and/or address
- enjoy and take part in school activities
- accept your responsibility to respect staff who work in the school and for the school to be proactive in taking forward its commitment to care for and educate your child.



13) 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 services 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:

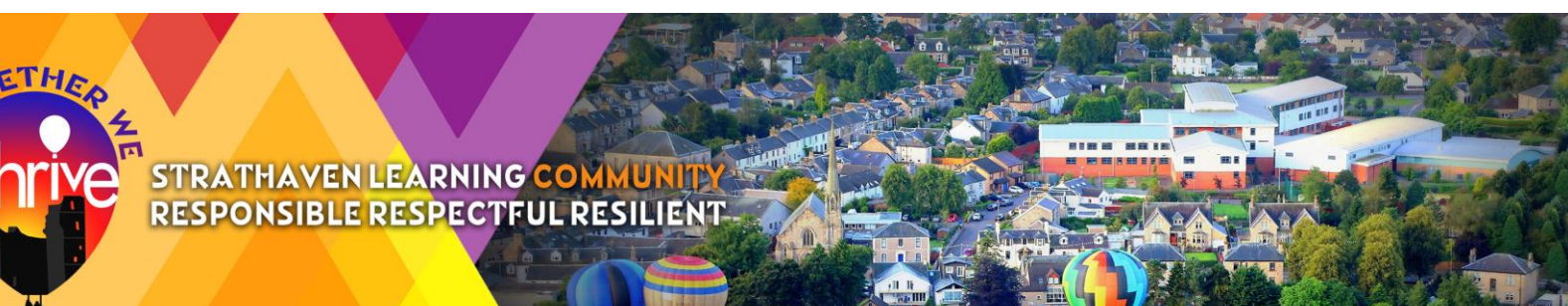
- The Scottish Government and bodies such as Education Scotland, Scottish Qualifications Authority, Skills Development Scotland and other organisations that support children and young people's learning;
- Other parts of the Council when required for services such as school meals, school transport, education 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.





Education Resources

School holiday Dates Session 2023/2024

2024/25 school holidays (approved)

These school holiday and in-service dates have been approved by the Education Resources Committee.

Teachers return on Monday 12 August 2024	
In-service days - all schools	Monday 12 and Tuesday 13 August 2024
Pupils return to school	Wednesday 14 August 2024
September weekend	Friday 27 and Monday 30 September 2024
October break	Monday 14 to Friday 18 October 2024 Pupils return on Monday 21 October 2024
In-service day - all schools	Monday 11 November 2024
Christmas/New Year	Schools close at 2.30pm on Friday 20 December 2024 Schools re-open on Monday 6 January 2025
February break	Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 February 2025
In-service day - all schools	Wednesday 19 February 2025
Spring break/Easter	Schools close at 2.30pm on Friday 4 April 2025* Schools re-open on Tuesday 22 April 2025
In-service day - all schools	Thursday 1 May 2025
May day	Monday 5 May 2025
Local holiday	Friday 23 and Monday 26 May 2025**
Summer break	Schools close at 1pm on Wednesday 25 June 2025

* Good Friday falls on Friday 18 April 2025

Pupils attend school for 190 days and teachers attend for 195 days.

Appendix A

This annex gives a list of useful information and the links to the content is now available from the Council's website by accessing the following link

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

Education Scotland's Communication Toolkit for engaging with parents:

The Scottish Government guide Principles of Inclusive Communications provides information on communications and a self-assessment tool for public authorities

Choosing a School: A Guide for Parents - information on choosing a school and the placing request system: A guide for parents about school attendance explains parental responsibilities with regard to 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

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

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 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



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

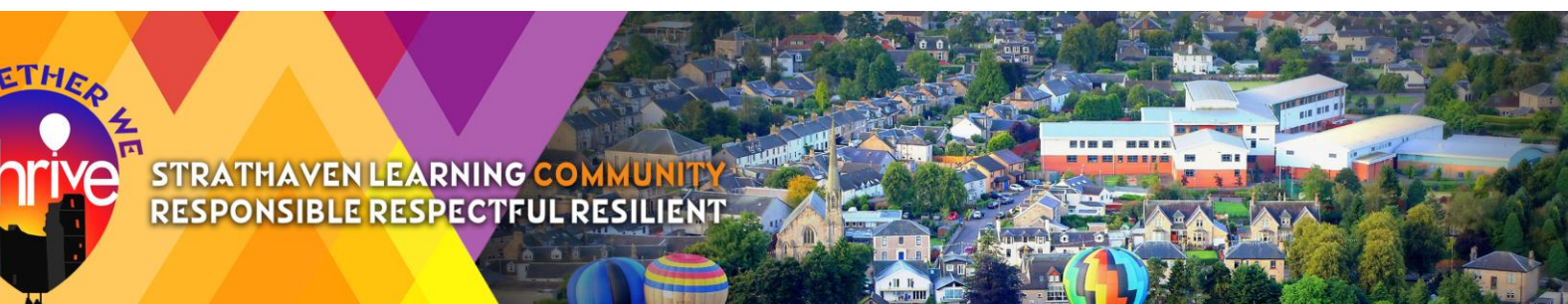
Supporting Children's Learning Code of Practice (Revised edition) - provides Statutory guidance relating to the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 as amended

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



The Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy (SSLN) is an annual sample survey which will monitor national performance in literacy and numeracy

Amazing Things - information about youth awards in Scotland

Information on how to access statistics relating to School Education

Policies and Practical Information

National policies, information and guidance can be accessed from the Scottish Government website on www.gov.scot

