

Clan Allocation

The continued development of Calderwood means that our school roll will continue to grow over the next year/years. As a result of this we must keep adequate spaces at each stage to accommodate that growth.

At Calderwood Primary our classes will be known as clans. In cases where there are more than one clan within a stage or a composite clan we have used the following criteria to allocate children to a clan:

- date of birth
- gender mix

As our children are joining us from a range of different settings and schools, local and outwith West Lothian, this criteria will allow children to create friendships and mix with peers.

Notification of Clans

Children will be notified of their clan through their Calderwood Seesaw account or Calderwood Team. If your child does not have their Seesaw account please contact us on the email address below and we will forward you their log in. The Teams code was previously emailed to those children moving into P5 and 6. wcalderwood-ps@westlothian.org.uk

Class	Clan Name	Teacher
Primary 1	Mull	Mrs Robertson
Primary 1	Orkney	Miss Cunningham
Primary 1	Shetland	Miss Greig
Primary 2	Bramble	Mrs Findlay
Primary 2	Bluebell	Miss Swift
Primary 3	Ness	Miss Reid
Primary 4/3	Rannoch	Mrs Scobie
Primary 4	Tay	Miss Redmond
Primary 5	Ben Lawers	Mrs Clarkson
Primary 7/6	Ben Lomond	Miss Watt
STEM	STEM Studio	Miss Christie

Calderwood Clusters

Our clans will be arranged in clusters and across these clusters staff will plan together to ensure consistent, progressive approaches to learning, teaching and assessment, ensuring that we support and challenge our children.

There will be planned opportunities for the children within a cluster to learn together, especially as we move into Calderwood Primary. Also when we move into Calderwood Primary each cluster will have a 'wing' of the school.

Children within a cluster will also have the opportunity to play together at break and lunch times.

Our Clusters are:

- Primary 1
- Primary 2
- Primary 3-4
- Primary 5-7

We currently have no Primary 7 children enrolled for Calderwood Primary but we are keeping spaces as this they may change over the year. Initially, Primary 5 and 6 will learn together supported by Mrs Clarkson and Miss Watt.

Composite Classes

Background

Schools are given a staffing allocation dependent on the total school roll. Currently, government and local policy have set a maximum pupil number for single year stage classes of:

- 25 in Primary 1
- 30 in Primaries 2 and 3
- 33 in Primaries 4-7

There is an agreement of a **maximum composite class size of 25 pupils**. If the numbers in year groups across school vary considerably it is often not possible to create single year stage classes.

Formation of classes

A composite class is a class organisation where children of two or more stages are grouped together.

As we are establishing our classes for the first time we are using the following criteria for composite and multiple classes within a stage:

- Gender mix
- Chronological age

To structure the school without composite classes would mean larger class sizes and the possibility of having to restructure all classes at any point during the school year as new pupils move into the area.

Learning and Teaching

Class teachers have professional expertise in teaching classes with a wide range of abilities and therefore your child's education will not be disadvantaged through being taught in a composite class. Teachers group children of similar ability in a number of areas for learning and teaching purposes e.g. reading, writing and mathematics. Teachers will adapt their teaching methods and approaches appropriately whatever the class organisation may be.

In a composite class, children will not experience repetitive work. Class teachers will plan topics which are new for all of their pupils and children will be working at different ability levels. Differentiated programmes will be provided wherever appropriate.

Your child will meet and interact with his/her friends at playtimes, and often during class times. There will also be some opportunities for children to participate in activities particular to their year groups.



Calderwood
Primary

Will my child continue in this class throughout Primary School

Not necessarily – school rolls go up and down and government policies change – classes are re-organised every year and pupils will always be placed in the most appropriate class available.

How will I be sure my child is settled into class and receives the education they need?

Being in a composite class is no different from the point of view of the child. All children are treated as individuals and teachers are very skilled at meeting learning needs within a wide range of abilities and needs – in straight or composite classes.

Will my child have a different learning experience?

No – teachers have always worked with broad ranges of abilities and needs and group children with similar abilities. Composite classes are no different.

Can I refuse to have my child taught in a composite class?

No. The management of class organisation in school is the responsibility of the Head Teacher. Schools consult regularly with parents regarding children's progress and will communicate with you if there are any specific concerns.