

# Creating Calderwood Clans 2026/27



## Clan Allocation

As the Calderwood area continues to grow, our school roll also increases each year. Additionally, the maximum number of children in a class increases at different stages.

Because of this, our clan structure is determined by Pupil Placement at West Lothian Council to ensure we maintain enough spaces at each stage to support future growth. Pupil Placement also advises when composite clans are required, or when we are required to reduce the number of clans in a year group due to the increase in class sizes from one stage to the next.

As a result, children may work with different groups of peers during their time at Calderwood as they move through the stages.

At Calderwood Primary, our classes are known as clans. Where there is more than one clan within a stage, we use the West Lothian criteria when creating clan groupings:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Peer Group Relationships
- Chronological Age
- Gender Mix
- Progress in Learning

We do appreciate that this can cause concern for parents, and want to reassure you that creating clans is a careful and thoughtful process to ensure the best outcomes for all children. During May and June, champions will ask children about friendships within their clan and across the stage. Clan champions and the leadership representative for the stage then meet several times to plan clan allocations. Observations of social groups within clans and across the stage are also taken into consideration.

## Terminology

**Clan:** At Calderwood we refer to our **classes** as Clans, this is because the term clan can mean a close knit group, like a family and gives the feeling of belonging. Their clan name changes each school session dependent on the learning space they are using.

**Stage:** Refers to the year group, for example, Primary 3.

**Composite Clan:** Composite classes are where children from two or more stages are grouped together and can be found in schools of all sizes. [You can find a leaflet with more information here.](#)

**Clan Clusters:** Groups of clans within a stage who collaborate together.

**Cabins:** Temporary Units situated in our playground. There are 3 cabins, and each cabins has 2 learning spaces.

## Stages

Across a stage champions will plan together to ensure consistent, progressive approaches to learning, teaching and assessment. This ensures that we support and challenge our children.

Clans with similar learning interests may take part learning experiences collaboratively, this is known as a cluster.

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

## Clan Sizes

Class sizes in Scottish primary schools are set by government regulation as follows:

P1 – 25,

P2 – P3 – 30

P4 – P7 – 33

## Clan Structure

In session 2026/27, Calderwood Primary will have 25 clans.

This will involve us using all the available spaces, including one stage using the cabins. If a clan has been allocated a cabin they will have access to both learning spaces within the cabin – a clan room and a breakout space.