



Education Resources

Canberra Primary School

Handbook 2024-25



Belmont Drive
Westwood
East Kilbride
Tel: 01355 224362

Email: gw14canberrapsoffice@glow.sch.uk

Website: www.canberra-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Twitter @CanberraPrimary

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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.

Introduction by the Head Teacher

Canberra Primary is one of 125 primary schools throughout South Lanarkshire Council.

I would like to extend you a warm welcome to Canberra Primary School. At Canberra we pride ourselves on our nurturing, inclusive and ambitious ethos; putting our children at the heart of everything that we do. We carefully support them by focusing on their particular talents and interests, helping them develop as rounded individuals.



We continually strive to provide a wide range of exciting learning opportunities which stimulate, motivate and challenge our pupils, taking account of each child's strengths and development needs, to support them in reaching their potential.

Partnership with parents is very important to us and we are delighted that a sense of supportive community is so evident within the school. Parents are key partners in their child's learning and work closely with us to improve our curriculum and the experiences that we offer to our pupils.

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.

The priorities for all schools in South Lanarkshire are set out on the back page of the handbook.

For some of you this may be your first contact with our school. We hope you find the information in this handbook helpful. The handbook is intended as a guide to all parents of new pupils in session 2024-25.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any problems or queries connected with your child's education.

Welcome to Canberra!

Yours sincerely

Angela Heasman

Mrs Angela Heasman
Head Teacher

About our school

Name and Address: Canberra Primary School
Belmont Drive
Westwood
East Kilbride
G75 8HD

Phone No: (01355) 224362

Fax Number: (01355) 263392

E-mail: office@canberra-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Website address: www.canberra-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Parent Council email address: canberraparentcouncil@outlook.com

Head Teacher: Mrs A. Heasman

Principal Teacher: Mrs L Gourlay

Present Roll: 182

Status: Non-denominational and co-educational

Stages covered: Nursery to Primary 7 inclusive

Parents should note that the working capacity of the school may vary, dependent upon the number of pupils at each stage and the way in which the classes are organised.

Children come to Canberra Primary from a variety of pre-primary experiences. The school builds links with all the pre-school education establishments. This helps to ensure a smooth transition to Primary 1 and to build on the children's experiences.

If at any time you have any queries or concerns about your child's education, please contact the Head Teacher in the first instance. A meeting will be arranged at the earliest convenience.

Enrolment during session

A telephone call to the Head Teacher is all that is required if a parent wishes to visit the school prior to enrolling a prospective new pupil.

Any parent who wishes a more detailed discussion and a tour of the school is welcome to contact the Head Teacher for an appointment at a mutually agreed time.

To enrol a pupil a guardian must apply online with the birth certificate and two letters showing proof of address e.g. utility bill, council tax statement etc.



School Ethos

At Canberra our main aim is to ensure that our children are happy, successful and fulfilled. By helping our children to become confident, resilient and ambitious about their learning we aim to motivate them to acquire and develop the skills that they need to make the most of the opportunities offered to them now and in the future. The atmosphere in our school is happy, relaxed and supportive. We have very high standards of pupil behaviour and children are guided to make responsible choices within a positive, whole school behaviour system. Our nurturing and inclusive ethos develops the skills, confidence and abilities of all of our pupils and we take pride in the high level of care that we offer.

Providing a high quality education is possible because all members of the school community are encouraged to be lifelong learners who continually evaluate their own skills and reflect upon how to improve the experiences and learning opportunities for our children. We celebrate our pupils successes and achievements, both within and out with school and provide opportunities for them to develop a strong sense of responsibility and citizenship within and beyond school life. Pupils are rewarded for their effort and achievements increasing motivation and self esteem.

Partnership with parents is central to our success and we view the school community as an extension of the family, aiming to develop relationships in an atmosphere of trust. We have a very supportive and active Parent Council who consult on all aspects of school life.

In session 2022-23 we worked together as a school community to refresh our shared Vision, Values and Aims and these underpin every aspect of school life.

Canberra's Vision Statement

Nurturing, Inspiring, Striving and Working Together at Canberra and Beyond

Canberra's Aims

To promote a culture of hard work, dedication and Growth Mindset

To create an innovative and flexible learning environment that encourages achievement for all

To encourage a school community where everyone feels they belong and no-one is left out

To ensure that we all have the confidence and skills to maximise our potential

Canberra's Values

Happiness

Belonging

Respect

Honesty

Inclusion

Safety

Current staff

Head Teacher: Mrs A. Heasman

Principal Teacher: Mrs L Gourlay

PRIMARY 7	Miss E. Bryce
PRIMARY 6	Mrs A. Glen
PRIMARY 5	Miss L. Cosgrove
PRIMARY 4	Miss L Scott/Mrs M. Perrie
PRIMARY 3	Mrs K. Dickie/Mrs J. Burns
PRIMARY 2	Miss H. McMillan
PRIMARY 1	Miss K. Bhopal

CLASS REDUCTION TIME TEACHER: Mrs J. Burns and Mrs L. Gourlay

PUPIL EQUITY FUND & ADDITIONALITY TEACHER: Mrs M. Perrie

Early Years staff:

- Mrs J. McNulty (Team Leader)
- Mrs M Bradley
- Ms K Ciciala
- Mrs K Kaczan
- Mrs S McIntosh
- Mrs A. McPhee
- Mrs D Wakeham
- Mrs M. Rankin

School support staff:

- Mrs J. Fourie (Team Leader)
- Ms C. Cairns
- Mrs V. Ewart
- Mrs E. Cuthbert
- Mrs A. Mogford
- Mrs N Palfreman

Janitor: Mr L. Nicholls & Mr B. Penman (job share)



Attendance

Absence procedures

It is important for the school to work with parents in encouraging all children to attend school. All absences from school 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, **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, telephone us or let us know in writing. Please give your child a note on his/her return to school, telling us the reason for absence.
- Notify the school first thing in the morning when your child is 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 telephone number
 - Mobile number
 - Work number
 - Emergency contact details
- If your child is late, please remind them that they must report to the office before going to class.
- 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 and arrangements for their continuing education. On these occasions the pupil will be marked as an authorised absentee in the register.



To protect your child we will:

- Endeavour to have someone available to take messages from 8.45am
- Telephone parents of a child where no notification of absence has been received by 9.20am and 1.15pm.
- Telephone the emergency contact if parents of the child cannot be reached.
- Work with partner agencies to support families, under specific circumstances e.g. where attendance is impacting on a child's learning.

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.

Parental Responsibilities

- If unsure about the school's status, visit the website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk or email education@southlanarkshire.gov.uk.
- Support and encourage your child's learning.
- Respect and adhere to the school's policies.
- Respect school staff and support the school's commitment to your child's education.

Family Holidays During Term Time

Please ensure your child attends school during term time and avoid holidays during this period as it disrupts education and reduces learning time. If a holiday during term time is unavoidable, inform the school in advance by letter.

Holidays during term time will be marked as unauthorised absences, except in exceptional circumstances where parents can demonstrate the inability to obtain leave during school holidays. Unexplained absences will be recorded as unauthorised.

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.

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

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.

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Clearly, 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



Parental Involvement/Parent Council

Parental Involvement

The Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 offers guidance for education authorities, Parent Councils, and others. Parentzone Parentzone Scotland | Education Scotland provides resources for parents and Parent Councils, and the National Parent Forum for Scotland offers additional information at www.npfs.org.uk.

Parental Involvement/Parent Council

South Lanarkshire Council values parents as partners in their child's education and has published a strategy called 'Making a difference – working together to support children's learning', available on the Council's website:

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/13457/parents_as_partners_-_strategy_2019

The Importance of Parental Involvement

- Parents, carers, and family members are the most significant influences on children's lives.
- Children spend only 15% of their time in school between the ages of 5 and 16.
- Research shows that parental involvement in learning leads to better outcomes at school and in life.

Our Aims for Parents/Carers

- To be welcomed and involved in the life of the school.
- To be fully informed about their child's learning.
- To be encouraged to contribute actively to their child's learning.
- To be able to support learning at home.
- To be encouraged to express views and participate in discussions on education-related issues.

Parent Forum and Parent Council

- Every parent with a child at school is automatically a member of the parent forum.

- The Parent Council is a formal group with a constitution that acts as the Parent Voice of the school.

Getting Involved

- To learn more about becoming a parent helper or joining the Parent Council and/or Parent Teacher Association, contact the school or visit our website.

A guide on the role of a Parent Council, created by parents for parents, is available via this link
[Parent Councils](#)

Parentzone Scotland

- A unique website for parents and carers in Scotland, offering information from early years to beyond school.
- Provides up-to-date information about learning in Scotland and practical advice to support children's learning at home.
- Offers more detailed information on additional support needs
- Explains how parents can get involved in their child's school and education.
- Includes details about schools, performance data for school leavers from S4-S6, and links to national, local authority, and school-level data on the achievement of Curriculum for Excellence levels.



The Curriculum

Curriculum for Excellence is the name given to the new 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 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 these 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 curriculum 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

Early

Stage

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.



Curriculum for Excellence: Developing the four capacities

Successful learners with

- enthusiasm and motivation for learning
- determination to reach high standards of achievement
- openness to new thinking and ideas

and able to

- use literacy, communication and numeracy skills
- use technology for learning
- think creatively and independently
- learn independently and as part of a group
- make reasoned evaluations
- **link and apply different kinds of learning in new situations**

Confident individuals with

- self-respect
- a sense of physical, mental and emotional wellbeing
- secure values and beliefs
- ambition

and able to

- relate to others and manage themselves
- pursue a healthy and active lifestyle
- be self-aware
- develop and communicate their own beliefs and view of the world
- live as independently as they can
- assess risk and take informed decisions
- achieve success in different areas of activity

To enable all young people to become

Responsible citizens with

- respect for others
- commitment to participate responsibly in political, economic, social and cultural life

and able to

- develop knowledge and understanding of the world and Scotland's place in it
- understand different beliefs and cultures
- make informed choices and decisions
- evaluate environmental, scientific and technological issues
- develop informed, ethical views of complex issues

Effective contributors

- an enterprising attitude
- resilience
- self-reliance

and able to

- communicate in different ways and in different settings
- work in partnership and in teams

- take the initiative and lead
- apply critical thinking in new contexts
- create and develop
- solve problems

Spiritual, social, moral and cultural values (religious observance)

In line with Curriculum for Excellence and South Lanarkshire Council Policy the programme of study in Canberra involves the children developing an understanding of the customs and beliefs of four world religions: Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Buddhism. The children also explore moral values and the recognition that some people do not have any religious belief.

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 the 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. Parents who wish their child to be exempt from all or part of the Religious Education programme will be invited to discuss the matter with the Head Teacher. If after discussion, parents/guardians still require withdrawal, the request should be put in writing.

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 on the register.



Assessing and Tracking Progress

Continuous assessments are made of every child's progress throughout the school session. Teacher observation of the child at work combined with the results of any classroom based and school based assessment procedures gives a very full picture of the child's progress.

On entry to nursery our families are given the opportunity to pass on important and relevant information to help us challenge and support each individual child. The interests and developmental milestones of children are used in a responsive way to assist the staff in planning for learning. Targets are set with children and their parent/carer in an ongoing way as they are achieved to ensure that children make progress at an appropriate pace.

To support our new Primary 1 children, we use the transition information gathered during nursery visits and through the Nursery transition document, to give us a starting point for learning and teaching in Primary 1. In December, March and June we carry out phonological awareness screening which provides valuable information about children's progress in reading, spelling and phonological awareness.

Standardised assessments are completed at key points throughout the year and combined with teacher professional judgements assist teachers in ensuring appropriate challenge and support for individual pupils and groups of children.

Standardised assessment calendar for 2024-25:

August/September 2024 – Spelling P2-7

August/September 2024 – Sight reading P3-7

May 2025 – QUEST reading & mathematics P2

May 2025 – Reading Comprehension P3, 5 & 6

May 2025 – Mathematics P3, 5 & 6

May 2025 – Scottish National Survey of Attainment (Literacy & Numeracy) P1, 4 & 7

Children's progress is tracked and monitored throughout the school year with interventions to support or challenge individuals and groups being implemented as they are required. Full records of the child's progress and the results of any standardised assessments are kept and these are available to parents. Full reports are issued annually and opportunities to discuss these with the class teacher are made.

Where a teacher finds that a child's progress is causing some concern, the parent may be invited to the school to discuss the issues.

If, as a parent, you have specific concerns about your child's progress do not hesitate to contact Mrs Gourlay. An appointment to see the Mrs Gourlay will be made for you as quickly as possible.



Reporting

Reporting will be ongoing and is comprised of a range of activities, which can include children presenting their learning; newsletters; on-going oral discussions.

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 is progressing, receiving support and advice as required. 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.



Enrolment 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 2025, you can enrol online from Monday 6 January 2025. Your catchment school will contact you between Monday 13 to Friday 17 January 2025 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 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.



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)

Teachers and other staff continuously assess pupil progress throughout the year and we formally track and monitor pupil progress 3 times a year. Both of these processes allow us to quickly identify children's strengths and development needs. This allows us to ensure that interventions are put in place at the earliest possible opportunity.

We use the South Lanarkshire council Staged Intervention process, which is a tiered system (Stage 1-4) to track pupil need and the interventions implemented. This allows us to plan for and evaluate the success of interventions in securing progress for an individual child and guides access to escalated supports if required.

The Staged Intervention process is as follows:

Stage 1- Supports implemented in class as part of normal day to day learning experiences e.g. use of a number square, 1-1 reading with a child

Stage 2 – Supports implemented in school by an adult who implements specific interventions, which are not part of the normal day to day learning experiences e.g. Nurture, Catch Up Literacy

Stage 3 – Supports from with Education that are targeted and not part of the normal day to day classroom learning experiences e.g. working with the Specialist Support Teacher

Stage 4 – Support from other agencies or 3rd party groups e.g. Speech and Language Therapy

Where children have difficulties in literacy which require targeted support a Literacy Framework plan will be created. This allows the teacher in liaison with the Additional Support Needs coordinator (Mrs Gourlay, PT) to create a plan of literacy interventions which are evaluated and amended termly.

Where children, who are not yet on track with their learning, work in a group with other children attaining similar levels, learning will be differentiated and a plan for the group will be made through the teacher's weekly plan. This may lead to a Stage 1, Stage 2 or Stage 3 intervention plan being put in place depending on the supports put in place. These supports are reviewed during the tracking and monitoring period and amended/removed as required.

An additional support plan (ASP) will be created for a child who is not on track and works independently because there is no one else attaining the same level as them or if a child has specific wellbeing need that requires targeted support. This plan will be created in consultation with the child and their parent/carer and is evaluated termly by all concerned. SMART targets are written and

amended as the child makes progress. The plan details which interventions will be put in place and who has responsibility for delivering these. An additional support plan can be written for literacy, numeracy and health & wellbeing. ASPs can be written for children in nursery or school.

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.

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.

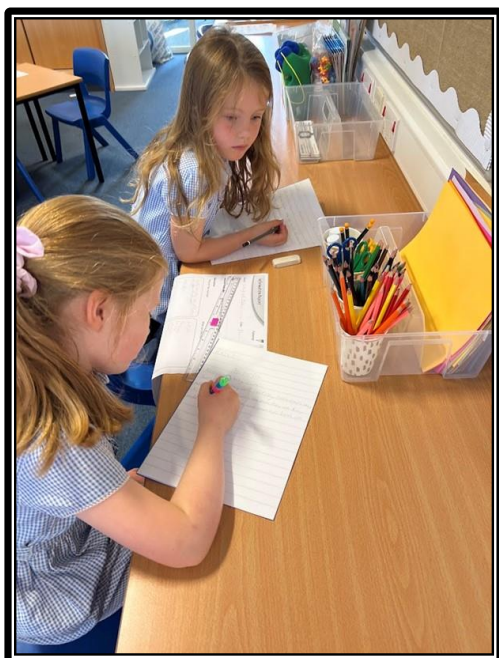
What does it set out to do?

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.



School improvement

The School Improvement Plan is the vehicle for school improvement. This is what drives forward school priorities and continuous improvement. Our Improvement Plan is a joint nursery and school plan.

Details on the main achievements of the school over the last 12 months, how the school has improved standards for pupils in relation to literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing and the plans for future improvement can be found in the Standards & Qualities Report and School Improvement Plan. (Please ask the School Office for a copy or visit our website www.canberra-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk should you wish to read more)

Our Improvement Priorities for 2024-25

- To develop high quality teaching and learning in all curricular areas and with a particular focus on science, play-based approaches and skills which take account of sustainability and embed literacy, numeracy and HWB across the curriculum.
- To further develop high quality teaching and learning in literacy and numeracy which focuses on raising attainment and Closing the Gap for P1-7.
- To improve children's development and learning physically, emotionally and intellectually.
- Learning Community plan: To enhance children's wellbeing through the provision of high-quality transition experiences Nursery-P1 and P7-S1

We endeavour to involve parents and children; both in our self-evaluation process and in moving our improvement plan forward. We do this in a range of ways including asking Parents/carers opinion on school development and consulting with the Parent Council. From time to time we seek the views of all parents by asking them to fill in surveys. Pupils both consult on and help us evaluate improvements.



School policies and practical information

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.

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

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 four meal options everyday. These are all served with vegetables or side salad. All meals also come with fresh chilled drinking water, 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, Universal Credit (where your take home pay is less than £796 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 £9,552 as assessed by the HM Revenues and Customs), Child Tax Credit Only (where your gross annual income does not exceed £19,995 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 to ensure anonymity is protected of children who receive free meals and we encourage all children to remain in school at lunch time.

South Lanarkshire Council also offers a free Breakfast service. The service runs from 8.15am to 8.45am each school day.

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.

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.

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.

Applications can be made online at www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk. If you are required to submit evidence of your Tax Credit income or your Universal Credit Statement it is important that all pages of this evidence is submitted with 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).

School hours/holiday dates

09:00	-	10:30	-	Session 1
10:30	-	10:45	-	Interval
10:45	-	12:15	-	Session 2
12:15	-	1:00	-	Lunch Interval
1:00	-	3:00	-	Session 3

School holiday dates and in-service dates are noted below and are available from the website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk





Education Resources

School Holiday Dates Session 2023/2024

Transport

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.

The calculation on the measurement of distance from home to school is measured using a Geographical Information System (GIS), which is used for all measurements to ensure that Council Policy is consistently applied across the Authority.

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 free 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

Insurance for 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:

Theft/Loss of Personal Effects

- The Council is not responsible for the loss or theft of pupils' personal items, such as mobile phones or tablets. These items are brought to school at the pupil's and parents' own risk.
- To prevent loss, please avoid bringing valuable or unnecessarily expensive items to school.
- Staff members are instructed not to take custody of any personal items.
- This policy also applies to musical instruments and other equipment used for school activities. If such items are left at school, it is at the pupil's and parents' own risk.
- For valuable items like musical instruments, parents should ensure they are covered by their own household insurance.

Damage to Clothing

- The Council is only liable for damage to pupils' clothing if it is caused by the negligence of the Council or its employees. Claims for other reasons 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 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 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



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.

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

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 literary, 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

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.

School holidays

2025/26 school holidays (approved)

These school holiday and in-service dates were approved by the Education Resources Committee on Tuesday 29 October 2024.

August 2025

- Tuesday 12 August - teachers return
- Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 August - in-service days (all schools)
- Thursday 14 August - pupils return to school

September 2025

- Friday 26 September and Monday 29 September (September weekend holiday)

October 2025

- Monday 13 to Friday 17 October (October break)

November 2025

- Monday 10 November (in-service day)

December 2025 and January 2026

- Friday 19 December (schools close at 2.30pm)
- Monday 22 December to Friday 2 January 2026 (Christmas/New Year break)
- Monday 5 January 2026 - pupils return to school

February 2026

- Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 February (February break)
- Wednesday 18 February (in-service day)

April 2026

- Thursday 2 April* (schools close at 2.30pm)
- Friday 3 April to Friday 17 April (Easter/Spring break)
- Monday 20 April - pupils return to school

May 2026

- Monday 4 May (May day)
- Thursday 7 May** (in-service day - all schools)
- Friday 22 May and Monday 25 May*** (Local holiday)

June 2026

- Thursday 25 June (schools close at 1pm for summer break)

*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

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