

Aberuthven Primary School



School Handbook Academic Session 2026-2027



Education and Learning
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Ambition | Compassion | Integrity



Introduction

In accordance with the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and the Education (School and Placing Information) (Scotland) Regulations 2012, Perth and Kinross Council Education and Learning schools produce handbooks covering the following categories of information:

School information

Local Authority information

Whilst the information contained in this school handbook was accurate at the time of publication (December 2025), further changes may have occurred since then.

If you cannot access the internet, please ask the school office if you require copies of any of this information.

School information

The information in this handbook meets the requirements of the Education (School and Placing Information) (Scotland) Regulations 2012.

The purpose of the handbook is to communicate the ethos of the school and provide a welcome for parents to the school, help parents to choose a school, prepare their child for school and act as a reference tool while their child is at the school. The handbook also communicates with parent about the child's learning journey and in doing so, facilitates parental involvement in the school and helps parents support their children.

A copy of the school handbook is posted on the Perth & Kinross Council website and on our own website at <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/>

A hard copy of the handbook is available should parents require one, as is a version in an alternative format e.g. Braille, or a version translated into a community language other than English. Please contact the school in this event and we will be happy to help.

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Introduction

Aberuthven School, situated 12 miles south west of Perth just off the A9, is a rural, village school.

As a small school both our classes are composite, that is, they contain more than one stage of pupil within the same class. We have two multi-composite classes, Primary 1/2/3 and Primary 4/5/6/7. Both classes have a differentiated curriculum so that every child is working at an appropriate level across all curricular areas.

The school is part of its surrounding community and as such it welcomes and encourages parental and local interest in its activities forming a successful and celebrated School Community.



Delineated Area

The school's catchment area boundary extends from the railway line at the east up to Broom of Dalreoch, west to Lawhill and down the railway line south of Damside.

Contact Details

Aberuthven Primary School, Aberuthven, Auchterarder, PH3 1HE.
Tel: 01764 661410

Website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/>
E-MAIL: aberuthven@pkc.gov.uk

Stages P1 – P7
Present roll: 34
Non-denominational.

Headteacher: Mrs Nicola Tyrrell

Attendance

It is a legal requirement that parents ensure their children attend school regularly unless other arrangements have been officially put in place such as home or part-time schooling. The school is required to make official returns to the education authority showing numbers of absences and whether these are authorised or unauthorised. Any absence for which the school does not receive an explanation from the parent must be recorded as unauthorised, so it is important that we are always notified of the reasons for any absences.

If a child is going to be absent from school, parents should contact the school between 8.45 a.m. and 9.00 a.m. on the morning of absence if they have not already notified the school in advance. Unless the period of absence is specified (e.g. the pupil will be off all week), parents should continue to update the school daily. Pupils will be marked absence if not in School prior to 9.30a.m.

Parents are discouraged from withdrawing their children from school for family holidays during term time due to the adverse effect this has on the continuity and progression of learning. Family holidays will be marked in school as an unauthorised absence. See our school website for further information
<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/pkc-attendance-guidance-for-parents/>

Complaints

We foster positive relationships with our parents and carers and follow an 'open door' policy. We are always open to suggestions about anything we need to improve. We certainly want to know about anything which dissatisfies our parents or is making our pupils unhappy.

If parents have a complaint, it should in the first instance be addressed either to the Class Teacher or the Head Teacher, depending on the situation. If any other pupil or member of staff is involved further investigation may be necessary at this stage to establish exactly what happened from all points of view and according to all witnesses. Formal complaints will be responded to, recorded and sent electronically to Perth and Kinross Council in line with its current Front Line Resolution policy.

There will be feedback to the parent who has made the complaint about:

- a) the outcome of any investigation which has been necessary
- b) action to be taken, if any, as a result of the complaint.
- c) the agreed actions having taken place
- d) the result of any such actions.

The parent's reaction to the above will then be noted and if the complaint is still unresolved its Front Line Resolution report will lead to its automatically being passed to the relevant officer of Perth and Kinross Council for further investigation.

The school deals with complaints as part of Perth & Kinross Council's Complaints Handling Procedure. More information is available on the Council's website as follows:

www.pkc.gov.uk/complaints

Communication with Parents and Parental Visits

Parents, both current and prospective, who wish to visit the School are asked to telephone the Headteacher to arrange a mutually convenient time for the visit. Parents are welcome to visit at any time should they have any matters they wish to discuss with staff and need not wait for formal contact evenings. Homework diaries and email can also be used as a method of communication between Home and School.



Our school follows an Open Door Policy and aims to form an effective partnership with parents through good communication regarding all aspects of our children's school lives. Our 'Reporting Jigsaw' which can be found on our School website, shows all of the ways in which we communicate with Parents.

Monthly Newsletters are issued to help keep Parents up to date with School news and forthcoming events. A noticeboard is available near the School gate on which parents as well as school staff can display information of general interest. Our School website offers up to date information. Information is largely shared through J2E and/or email.

Parent Contact Evenings are held in November and March and Open Afternoons and Evenings also provide parents with opportunities to find out more about curriculum in both classes.

School Ethos

Development of Pupils' Values

In Aberuthven Primary School, we are committed to providing a happy, safe, welcoming, nurturing, calm and purposeful school environment in which every member of the school community feels valued, respected and treated fairly; our young people can learn effectively and reach the highest standards of which they are capable.

The ethos of our school is built on our core values of 'Respect and Opportunities for All'. These values are the basis for the social, intellectual, emotional and moral development of the whole young person. We encourage pupils to consider these values, thereby acquiring knowledge, skills and attitudes which enable them to develop as responsible citizens, successful learners, effective contributors and confident individuals.

We use a restorative approach when dealing with any difficulties, encouraging pupils to collaboratively find an appropriate way forward and to make amends and reach mutual consequences where necessary.

Children are encouraged to treat others and their belongings with care and respect, to listen to and value the beliefs, opinions and feelings of others and to express their own views confidently. The value of kindness to others is stressed continually and reinforced during whole School Circle Time and Assemblies.

Perth and Kinross Council's Equalities policy is fully implemented in our school, and linked across the curriculum where possible in activities such as discussing local, national and international current affairs.

We celebrate and embrace empowerment for all within our school community and regularly discuss ways to ensure all feel that their voices and opinions are heard, particularly our pupils. Through a number of initiatives, including school committees and our pupil council, we provide opportunities for pupils to develop personal and social skills within enterprise and global citizenship. Children are regularly consulted on a range of issues via regular meetings, class discussions, assemblies, reflection time, learner conversations etc.

School Aims

Aberuthven Primary School aims to:

1. Provide high-quality learning and teaching where learning is positive, constructive, active and enjoyable.
2. Provide a well-balanced, challenging but achievable learning experience for each child, extra-curricular as well as curricular, physical as well as emotional, which matches his or her needs and leads to the development of a wide range of skills and knowledge.
3. Enable all young people to develop the four capacities of responsible citizen, effective contributor, successful learner and confident individual.
4. Maintain a secure, nurturing, happy and positive atmosphere in which pupils develop a love of learning, learn effectively, appreciate that learning is a lifelong process and strive to achieve their full potential.
5. Develop in young people a sense of responsibility, fairness, independence, tolerance and respect for the rights and property of others through mutually acceptable behaviour.
6. Encourage young people to be outward-looking and prepared for involvement in the community, society and the world of work by developing personal qualities, skills and ambitions necessary for success in an ever-changing world.
7. Encourage young people to consider health in terms of all its elements - physical, social and emotional.
8. Build a good working relationship with parents, the community and associated agencies through communication, consultation and multi-agency working.
9. Support staff in their professional development.
10. Promote interaction between nursery, primary and secondary to deliver a coherent, continuous and progressive educational experience from 3 - 18.
11. Actively promote links with other schools in our Local Management Group to ensure sharing where appropriate of resources, experience and expertise.
12. Actively engage with the local community both during the school day and after school hours.
13. Act as a resource for the wider community, acknowledging that the wider community is also a resource for the whole school.

Culture, Ethos, Values, Aspirations for Pupils and celebration of Achievement

Our school culture is one which accepts each person completely, whatever strengths and challenges they may have. Children, staff and parents are encouraged to recognise their own value and worth through positive reinforcement and reflection. We value each member of our School community. We work hard to embrace a 'Growth Mindset' and encourage pupils to build a resilient approach to their own learning.

We celebrate pupils' success and achievements both in and out of school, during our weekly celebrating success Assemblies and via our displays around the school which provide a constant positive reminder of all our learning and work.

A copy of our school Curriculum Rational can be found on our school website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/curriculum-rationale/>

Rights Respecting Schools

Our School earned our Gold: Rights Respecting Award in March 2022. Our Pupil Council help to guide our Rights Respecting Schools journey. More information can be found on our website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/rights-respecting-schools/>

Sports Award Scotland

Our School earned our Silver Sports Award in September 2023. We are working through our Gold Award Action Plan and hope to achieve this in academic year. Our Sports & Wellbeing Committee help to guide our Sports Award journey. More information can be found on our website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/our-committees/>

School & Community Links

Many local businesses have supported our School Book Pledge and have donated funds which have allowed us to transform our School Library Area into an exciting environment filled with current reading materials which appeal to our pupils' interests.

The Community Council and local Rotary group also take an interest in the school. Our older pupils participate, along with other local schools, in a variety of competitions including the Rotary Quiz, Rotary Photography Competition and Rotary Writing competition.

We have a very well-supported and positive Parent Partnership, who support in school in a variety of ways, such as effectively organising fund-raising events for the benefit of the children.

We believe that pupils from a small school benefit from linking up with others to broaden their friendship base and we join with other schools in the Auchterarder cluster throughout the year for a variety of sporting activities. We also take part in larger PKC cultural events such as the Creative Day of Dance.

We embrace the UNCRC and are a Rights Respecting Schools. In the past we support national initiatives such as Children in Need and raise awareness on behalf of a wide range of charities such as STV Kids Appeal, MacMillan Cancer, Blythswood, CHAS etc.

Relationships and Behaviour

Strong relationships based on mutual respect are at the heart of our school. Every member of Aberuthven Primary School must respect each other's rights to;

- feel safe and happy within our school
- be treated with courtesy and consideration
- learn and work

At Aberuthven Primary School staff are encouraged to adopt a restorative approach in dealing with challenging behaviour and conflict, focusing on building, maintaining and repairing relationships rather than managing and controlling behaviour.

The approach is solution based and looks at how we rebuild relationships and move forward. Pupils are encouraged to review and analyse their choices and impact, with the focus on communication, responsibilities, feelings and relationships.

Serious, continuing or recurrent behaviours are dealt with in consultation with parents/carers and in line with local authority and statutory policy. We also have access to a range of support agencies if necessary, such as the social work department, educational psychologist or behaviour support.

The school takes a firm stand against bullying. Incidents are dealt with promptly, then followed up to ensure they are properly settled with no repercussions or recurrence.

Perth and Kinross current procedures state that any established case of bullying must be recorded in the appropriate manner.

Our Relationships Policy & Anti-Bullying Policy can be found on our School website.
<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/school-policies/>

Parental Involvement

There are a number of ways in which parents can help their children's learning in school and a number of organisations which help and promote this.

Many are online and are well explained on the relevant page of the PKC website which can be seen by clicking the following link:

<https://www.pkc.gov.uk/parental-involvement>

The school has a Parent Partnership group.

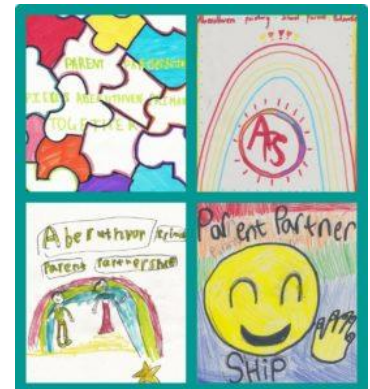
Our current members are:

Chairperson- Victoria McLaughlin

Secretary – Kymberley Robertson

Treasurer – Mariesha Payne

Members – Christine Boyle



<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/parent-partnership/>

Parents' help and interest is greatly valued. Local village and business interest and involvement in the school's activities is always welcome. An annual questionnaire is issued to parents to ask them how they or their families are able to help or support us in school, for example by helping in class, with after school activities or with transport to activities and events out with the school. In line with Perth and Kinross Council policy and for the safety and wellbeing of children, all parents and members of the community who help in school on a regular basis are required to be PVG checked and those who transport pupils other than their own children are required to submit their driver's licence and car insurance to be checked by the school on a regular basis.

Parents are encouraged to join their child's J2E journal prior to the beginning of Primary 1 to receive all regular, up to date information. J2E provides a platform where school and home can communicate on a regular basis in a manner which is easily accessible to all of our families.

Parents receive a monthly Newsletter giving them information on what has been happening at school, plus a news sheet containing school notices and a list of forthcoming events with relevant permission slips for trips, after school clubs, etc. Parents also receive an annual overview of events for the academic year.

Through 'J2E', Staff and pupils are able to record pupil experiences and achievements on a safe online portfolio containing observation notes, pupil reflections, pictures, videos, piece of work etc which are then shared with Parents. Staff are also able to log progress and next steps which are also shared with Parents.

Intergenerational Group

We have an 'Intergenerational Group' of local volunteers who provide additional support on occasion in our School. Further information can be found on our website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/intergenerational-work/>

We welcome parents' comments on progress in learning and are particularly keen to meet with parents and carers to discuss any concerns at the earliest opportunity. Parents are encouraged to telephone in advance should they wish to discuss any issue to ensure there will be someone available to speak with them properly, because the Head Teacher is class committed most of the week. Although the office is not manned continuously, any messages left are normally responded to within 24 hours and an appointment can usually be arranged within a day or two, sooner if the matter is urgent.

We invite parents into the school on a regular basis. We have informal open afternoons / evenings, as well as more rehearsed annual events such as our Scottish Afternoon, Harvest, Christmas and Easter church services, Sports Day, 'Share the Learning' afternoons, fundraising events, Christmas Show and Summer Concert. Once a term each of our classes host a class led Assembly. Parents are also invited into school for our 'Celebration of Success' Assembly in June.

Parents' and Carers' views are gathered regularly on many aspects of school life, often by means of simple questionnaires, and parents are encouraged to feedback on current school policies which are accessible on the school website at:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/school-policies/>

All parents are invited to become members the Parent Partnership, our parent council, and/or to attend some of its meetings.

Transitions

We believe that successful transitions are a vital part of pupils' success in school life. This includes transition on entering P1, transition between classes or staff, and the final transition when leaving us to go to Secondary school. At each transition point we try to ensure that children have as many experiences (for example visits) as we can provide to help make the transition easy for them, also that all relevant information is passed on and that meetings take place where necessary between staff from the different settings involved to ensure a smooth transition.

Enrolling for P1 normally takes place in January and is advertised locally. Children enrolling for P.1 at Aberuthven have opportunities to visit the school with their parents during the summer term. An induction morning is held in June when they come into school and spend time in their future classroom with their future classmates and, if possible, their future teacher. Both new Primary 1 pupils and their Parents are then invited to join us for an information meeting for parents and carers at which they receive an enrolment pack and have the opportunity to ask questions of the Primary 1 teacher, the Head Teacher and other professionals involved with the children such as our Community Link Worker and Live Active Co-ordinator.

School staff also visit children in local nurseries to get to know them and if possible new entrants are invited to come into school for activities such as messy play and rhyme time. We also ask parents to complete an information booklet for us to alert us to any individual needs that might not be recorded elsewhere and help us know how best to support each child, for example if they become upset. Our school has a family atmosphere and we treat every child very much as an individual from the moment they come into our care.

When children transfer to Aberuthven Primary from another school or area we try to obtain their records from the previous school as soon as possible and where appropriate we may also contact the child's previous school for further information or clarification to ensure we have enough background knowledge to give him or her the best start possible with us. Families are also invited to join our J2E Transition journal which provided lots of helpful information about school and what our families can expect in August, and going forward.

We plan to ensure the smooth transition from class to class for each of our pupils and offer two 'jump up' days at the end of the summer term to support our pupils in this transition. Handovers between Staff members ensure consistence in approach across both classes in our School.

At the end of P7 children from Aberuthven transfer to:

The Community School of Auchterarder (Secondary)
Auchterarder PH3 1BL
Tel: 01764 661200

A number of transition events take place during Primary 7 to enable children from Aberuthven to meet up with and make friends with children from other schools in the cluster

who will be their classmates in S1. These include activities such as a joint ski trip with Blackford and Dunning and the annual Enterprising Maths morning. Several of our transition events take place at The Community School of Auchterarder (Secondary) which allows our pupils to familiarise themselves with the school layout as well as coming into contact with some of the Secondary staff.

Secondary staff from the Community School of Auchterarder visit pupils at Aberuthven at various points throughout the School year. Transition meetings are held to allow the opportunity for Primary School staff to handover information regarding the strengths and needs of each individual pupil, particularly in the case of children with any worries or barriers to learning.

Our P7 pupils have the opportunity to go on a residential trip to Nethy Bridge outdoor education centre which is arranged annually for all feeder primaries in the Auchterarder catchment area.

If a child is at Aberuthven as a result of a placing request and lives outwith the catchment area for The Community School of Auchterarder (Secondary) another placing request form must be completed to apply for a place at The Community School of Auchterarder (Secondary). This request is then considered by Perth and Kinross Council.

Should any parent wish their child to transfer to a secondary school other than The Community School of Auchterarder (Secondary), they are recommended to read the 'Placing in Schools' section of the Basic Information Booklet which can be referred to in school or obtained from Education and Learning Services at Perth and Kinross Council.

Pupils take part in a variety of school and community based transition activities throughout their P7 year. Some pupils may benefit from an enhanced transition where additional visits/ social experiences may be arranged.

Their transition arrangements, visits, etc. will usually begin earlier than their classmates' and there will be close liaison between our class teachers, Head Teacher, Pupil Support Teacher, our Community Link Worker and the relevant Support and Guidance Teachers in Secondary Schools to ensure that all necessary support is in place.

All pupil records we have will be passed on to Staff at Secondary school.

The Curriculum

Our curriculum is based on the experiences and outcomes of the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence. These can be found on the Education Scotland website.

<https://education.gov.scot>

Learning within the school is active as much as possible and is designed to allow children to develop and progress at their own individual rate, supported and challenged as appropriate to attain the highest standards they can. We recognise the value of a range of teaching approaches and learning styles within. We link pupil learning to activities in a real to life context to deepen pupil understanding and reinforce the purpose of their learning.

Language

The development of children's Literacy skills takes place in all areas of the curriculum. The skills necessary for communication to be developed are listening, talking, reading and writing. From the early years an atmosphere is created which encourages children to appreciate reading as an activity which will bring them great pleasure and personal satisfaction. Teachers ensure that children read a wide range of quality texts covering a variety of genres. Teachers model and teach the children in a systematic way in all aspects of reading and writing. From an early stage, reference skills are taught and practised within a meaningful context.

Maths

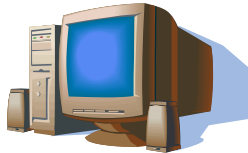
All aspects of Numeracy and maths are taught in a structured and interactive way. When appropriate, teachers develop children's numeracy skills within a context and will look for opportunities to ensure that these are linked to real life situations. Teachers will plan to teach mathematics using a variety of differing resources and approaches, children are encouraged to become independent mathematical thinkers, developing strategies that enable them to tackle problems alone, or in co-operation with peers.

Through primary years, practical experiences are incorporated alongside the computer and calculator to combine in fostering skills such as estimation prediction and data handling, whilst promoting a positive attitude towards mathematics and its value in everyday life.

Information on the content of Curriculum for Excellence maths experiences and outcomes is available on the Education Scotland website.

<https://education.gov.scot>

Digital Learning



Digital learning skills are developed and used across the curriculum and where possible within the contexts for learning. Pupils in P4/5/6/7 also take part in discrete digital skills lessons. Interactive Whiteboards are used in both classrooms to provide class access to motivating materials from the Internet. Pupils are encouraged to develop independence in accessing and using the iPads available to both classes. Digital Learning also plays a part in providing additional support for some of our pupils. The school has a class set of iPads. All teaching members of staff have access to an iPad.

Environmental Studies

Our children are provided with motivating experiences in social subjects, enterprise and sciences which are responsive to current events and as far as possible linked across the curriculum. The big questions for investigation during topics are carefully planned to broaden the children's experiences across Curriculum for Excellence but the level of depth and particular subject matter come primarily from the children's own input with teacher guidance only if required. Activities are planned to motivate all styles of learners and to ensure that all the thinking skills are covered as far as possible during each block. At least one topic-related trip out of school is usually planned for each class during the course of a school session.



Aspects of CfE studied in each class are recorded and tracked for each stage to ensure the coverage of a broad general education over each level as pupils move through the school.

All pupils are given the opportunity to develop skills in Enterprise throughout the year, for example in making objects to sell or raising money for charity.

Social Studies are the study of:

- People, past events and societies
- People, place and environment
- People in society, economy and business

Expressive Arts

Art, Music and Drama, are integrated into each whole class Topic but also stand as individual subjects. We also celebrate Expressive Arts through our School Christmas show and Summer Concert.

Details of the authority's music instrumental tuition are available in the second part of this handbook or can be obtained from the school.

Health and Wellbeing

We deliver a strong, nurturing ethos across our School and support each child individually to help them reach their full potential and flourish.

Pupils study aspects of Safety, Nutrition, Drugs and Relationships on a rolling programme, covering the experiences and outcomes of Curriculum for Excellence. Where possible these aspects are included in class topics to make them more relevant and some such as Social

Wellbeing and Mental and Emotional Wellbeing will be constantly developed through the school ethos, Circle Time and Rights Respecting Schools.

Some important aspects of Health and Wellbeing (e.g. sexual relationship education, drugs and road safety) may not naturally form part of class topics and these are programmed to be taught discreetly at certain points in the school year.

When sensitive areas such as drugs or sexual health are being covered in school, parents will be advised in advance. They will have the opportunity to view these materials if they wish.

We promote healthy eating on an ongoing basis and pupils are continually encouraged to take school lunches, bring healthy packed lunches and / or bring healthy snacks for playtime.

We provide a number of opportunities for pupils to take part in cooking and baking activities over the course of the year, sometimes using produce we have grown in our own grounds or polytunnel.

Pupils have two hours of physical education per week enabling staff to deliver a full and varied programme of activities and at least one block of after-school sports activities is usually provided for each class during the session. Pupils take part in a block of Scottish Country Dancing in the lead up to Christmas and Burns Celebration.

Pupils have the opportunity to take part in swimming lessons on a four-year rotation from P4-7. The school also has an annual Health Week containing a wide variety of health-related activities led by several visitors including coaches, instructors and members of the local community.

Modern Languages

French is taught to all pupils from P1-P7.

In addition, pupils in P4-7 have the opportunity to learn Mandarin, Spanish and German on a 3-year rolling rota.

The emphasis is on oral work. Children are encouraged to speak up confidently, use correct words and phrases and also to listen carefully so that they can develop an accent which would be understood by a native speaker. P4-7 develop basic written French.

We celebrate 'Languages Week' annually, where pupils take part in a variety of activities which celebrate various languages spoken around the world.

Religious and Moral Education

We aim to develop knowledge and understanding of the religious dimension of life. Pupils

at Aberuthven explore the cultures and beliefs of many different religions, including Christianity, in a variety of ways. These will be linked where possible to current events or topic work and following as far as possible the questions raised by the children themselves.

Children are encouraged to explore their own personal responses to a range of moral issues while building their knowledge of people of other cultures and beliefs. Where possible RME activities will involve a practical element e.g. using role play, research, song, debate, modelling or art activities. We attempt also to invite a variety of speakers into the school to give different perspectives on belief.



It is continually made clear to the children during their R.M.E. work that there are many different opinions about religion and that everyone is free to believe what they choose, including making the choice to have no religious beliefs at all.

Religious Observance

The Scottish Government report “Curriculum for Excellence – Provision of Religious Observance in Schools” (21st Feb 2012) says that every school should provide opportunities for religious observance at least six times a year, not including traditional celebrations like Christmas and Easter, and preferably more often than that.

Scotland is a society with a longstanding Christian tradition and our school assemblies focus mainly on that tradition, but Scotland is also home to people of many other religions whose beliefs may also be celebrated at our assemblies, particularly at times of the year when their important festivals are being celebrated.

Rev. Sandy Gunn, Minister at Aberdalgie and Forteviot with Aberuthven and Dunning, may visit the school on occasion to lead some of our religious observance assemblies. Church Elders may also join us on occasion for our weekly Assemblies. At Christmas, Harvest and Easter we hold services in the Village Hall or Church to which parents are warmly welcomed.

Parental Rights

Parents are advised that they have the right to withdraw their children from religious observance or education but should meet with the head teacher to discuss the matter first.

Assessment & Reporting

Assessment

The children’s progress is continuously assessed by teachers using formative assessment of children’s everyday class work and a keen observation of what they say, write, make and do. Assessment of written work may be done using traffic light system, “two stars and a wish” comments, or a combination of all three.

We use a wide range of different ways to assess children’s learning. Both self and peer assessment are planned for and give pupils the chance to consider the quality of their own work. We encourage pupils to use assessment information to celebrate their own achievements as well as form their next steps.

Writing

As well as ongoing formative assessment of writing in class we assess four times a year with “On My Own” writing tasks of various genres across the whole school P1-P7. These pieces of writing are marked and assessed using Write to the Top criteria and children’s individual progress from year to year is tracked and discussed with the pupils.

Staff are currently undergoing training in the ‘Explicitly Teaching Writing’ resources and plan to embed this across our school over the next few years.

Reading

Pupil Reading skills and abilities are assessed formatively in class through ongoing observation and benchmarking assessments. Reading skills are taught explicitly in class and are given a real life context through Teacher led Guided Reading sessions.

Spelling

Pupils complete Jolly Phonics/ ‘Single Word Spelling Test’ at the beginning of the academic year and again in January of the same academic year to establish the spelling age of each child, pinpoint any gaps in knowledge or understanding and ensure all pupils are progressing in their spelling ability.

Maths / Numeracy

Summative assessments may be used by teachers to confirm children’s understanding in real context tasks may be given to confirm that a pupil is secure at that level and can apply information and skills to solve an unfamiliar problem. Tasks can be taken from classwork as long as it is done under conditions where it is guaranteed to be the child’s own unsupported work. Identified next steps are discussed between pupils and Teachers setting collaborative targets.

Other areas of the Curriculum

Teachers’ comments and assessments will be based on their professional judgement as to the extent to which each child is:

- a) Successfully learning new skills and information, supported by the teacher
- b) Working independently at a good standard, demonstrating knowledge and skills and
- c) Able to apply what they have learned in problems and new situations.

The summary of these across the curriculum provides a good picture of children’s overall progress through their broad general education and ensures they are progressing in their learning.

Tests

Teachers may use tests in any area of the curriculum if they wish to check on learning or understanding of particular facts or concept. Formative, ongoing assessment, however, will always be the main focus of our judgements and be moderated against local and National Expectations, for example Curriculum for Excellence Benchmarks.

Reporting

Reports are sent home on three occasions over the academic year, in October, March and June. Parents will receive two Interim Reports (in October and March) followed by an end of year Pupil Report.

Parent-Teacher meetings to discuss children's overall progress are arranged in November and March. We contact parents to arrange a suitable time but in cases where parents can manage neither of the two dates chosen, staff are happy to meet them after school on another day. Each child has a 10-minute interview time allocated with the teacher but again if there is more needing to be dealt with than can be fitted into the time available teachers are happy to arrange another meeting to continue the discussion.

Parents are welcome to arrange an appointment with class teachers to discuss their child's progress and attainment at any time. Initial discussions regarding progress should be with your child's Class Teachers.

Support for Pupils

We provide support for pupils both in and out of class, throughout the day, and are always considering their individual and wider needs in accordance with GIRFEC (Getting it Right for Every Child). More information on GIRFEC is available on the Scottish Government website.

Children are supported in their learning and social skills during class times, lunchtime and playtimes. The lunch hall is welcoming and supportive, catering for individual needs as much as possible. We have 2 playground supervisors on duty each playtime so that one member of staff is always monitoring and available even if a child requires first aid. All issues raised by parents regarding playtimes are communicated to playground supervisors and carefully monitored. We record all instances where children have been upset at play or lunchtime and take action where necessary to ensure that this is not repeated.

Pupils with Additional Support Needs

Our school welcomes pupils with Additional Support Needs, whether these are physical, behavioural/emotional or specific learning difficulties. Individual needs of each child will be considered and reasonable adaptations made in class where appropriate e.g. for seating or particular resources which may aid learning. Playground and lunchtime supervisors will pay particular attention to pupils with Additional Support Needs where necessary to ensure they benefit fully from the play and social opportunities available.

The support required for each child is given full consideration and where appropriate a Child's Plan Meeting may be held to which all interested parties will be invited. Pupils who have significant additional support needs may have an Individual Child & Young Person's Plan (CYPP). These plans will build on pupils' strengths and outline clear targets which are reviewed on a regular basis by the child's Class Teacher and any other agencies providing support. Where appropriate, Pupil Support Assistants and/or additional teaching staff may be appointed or allocated to provide particular support for any such pupils.

Where necessary, a Coordinated Support Plan (CSP) may be established after consultation with parents, other agencies e.g. School Doctor, School Psychologist and Perth and Kinross Education and Learning Services.

If parents or carers feel that a child has Additional Support Needs which have not been recognised they should contact the class teacher or Head Teacher in the first instance to discuss this. We welcome this contact from parents as we are keen to identify and support children through any barriers to their learning.

Perth and Kinross have a website providing excellent information and advice for parents of children with Additional Support Needs. Full details are available at the following link:

www.pkc.gov.uk/article/17278/Schools-additional-support-

The following organisations are also available to provide advice, further information and support to parents of children and young people with Additional Support Needs:

- (a) Children in Scotland: Working for Children and Their Families, trading as “Enquire – the Scottish advice and information service for additional support for learning”, a charitable body registered in Scotland under registration number SC003527; www.enquire.org.uk We have a number of leaflets from this organisation on display in school for parents and pupils. Enquire offers independent, confidential advice and information on additional support for learning through their

Telephone Helpline: 0845 123 2303

Email Enquiry Service: info@enquire.org.uk

- (b) Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance, a charitable body registered in Scotland under registration number SC033576; and
- (c) Scottish Child Law Centre, a charitable body registered in Scotland under registration number SC012741.”

School Improvement

Our Standards and Quality Report for 2024-2025 is available on our school website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/standards-quality-report-2024-2025/>

Plans for improvement of the school's performance over the next three years

The School's strategic plan for the next 3 years and its Improvement Plan for the current session is available on the school website. All parents are encouraged to contribute ideas for school improvement through feedback forms provided in various ways throughout the School year or by speaking to the Head Teacher.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/school-improvement-plan-2025-2026/>

Information on School Performance

The last inspection of the school was in June 2015. To access the report from this Inspection on the Education Scotland website please click on the link below:

https://www.pkc.gov.uk/media/32866/Aberuthven-Primary-School-HM-inspection-report-2015/pdf/AberuthvenPS_Ins250815_tcm4-867336.pdf?m=1440583296827

School Policies & Practical Information

Uniform/Clothing

Uniform Expectations

Our current expectations for pupil uniform are as follows:

- School jumper or cardigan paired with dark bottoms
- Appropriate PE wear, suitable for indoor and outdoor use



Our School colours are:

Jade Green, Black & White

Items of school uniform can be purchased from 'Border Embroideries' should Parents wish from their website [here](#). All orders should be placed directly with Border Embroideries and will be delivered to your home.

Forms for those entitled to a clothing grant are available from school.

Further information can be found on our school website:

[School Uniform | Aberuthven Primary School \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](http://www.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/school-policies/)

Homework

Children will be given homework on a weekly basis to support and extend their learning. The content and quantity will vary from stage to stage. For this work to be of most value to the child it is important for parents to support these assignments and encourage children to take pride in their completion. Our Learning at Home Policy is available on our website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/school-policies/>

Extra-Curricular Activities

We aim to provide a range of extra-curricular activities:-

Sports Clubs: As part of the Auchterarder Cluster of primary schools, our pupils have access to a large variety of sports clubs at the Community School of Auchterarder. In addition to these clubs, some sports activities may be offered for four or five week blocks at Aberuthven in association with our Live Active Co-ordinator.

Our Staff provide a range of Afterschool Clubs every term for a block of 4-5 weeks at a time. Clubs offered are changed every term to provide our pupils with a variety of activities to choose from. Some Clubs offered include Glee Club, Coding Club, Karate Club, Body Combat Club, Football, Gymnastics and Reading Club. Staff regularly consult with pupils and take their feedback on the type of club that they would like to take part in in future terms.

Bikeability Training is programmed for P6/7 pupils on alternate years and is run by staff and Parent Volunteers.

Health Care

Precautions are taken to ensure the safety of the children whilst they are in school and safety issues and procedures are regularly discussed. Parents are asked to support the school's efforts to ensure a responsible attitude on the part of all pupils.



Dental and medical inspections of height, weight, vision and hearing take place at regular intervals throughout children's school lives.

It is important that the school is informed of any allergies or specific medical conditions that children have. It is important that the school is informed of any specific medical conditions that a child may have so that appropriate action can be taken. The school should also be informed if any child is taking a course of medication which may affect their performance in school. Should it be necessary for medication to be taken during the school day, parents should contact the school. Staff may agree to administer medicine on a voluntary basis, but are not able to do so unless necessary forms have been completed by a parent or carer.

In the event of a child being taken ill or involved in an accident whilst at school the parents or emergency contact will be informed as quickly as possible. It is therefore very important that parents ensure the school has up-to-date details of the necessary telephone contact numbers. Parents will always be informed in the case of a head injury.

School and authority policies

School Policies can be found on the School website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/aberuthvenprimaryschool/school-policies/>

Parents are encouraged to read and feedback any comments they may have on the above policies so that they can be amended as required.

Perth and Kinross Council Policies for schools are available on the Perth and Kinross website.

www.pkc.gov.uk

Activities, groups and clubs for pupils outwith school

In association with our Live Active Schools Co-ordinator we try to make pupils and parents aware of the wide variety of clubs, sporting activities and groups for young people which operate in Auchterarder. This is done by means of posters in school and on the outside notice board. Flyers are also sent home to parents when we

receive notification of any forthcoming activity that our children might enjoy. Our Co-ordinator, Cat Fairlie also supports pupils in our School.

Opportunity for pupil representation and involvement

Pupils from P1 – P7 have the opportunity to represent their classmates and take a role in the decision making of the school by becoming members of the Pupil Council, who are elected by our pupils at the start of each school year. Our Pupil Council act as our 'steering group' for Rights Respecting Schools and have been providing feedback about our School using the 'Wee HGIOS' toolkit.

We have three Pupil Committees. They are the Green, Sports & Wellbeing, and Celebrations Committees. All of our pupils have the opportunity to contribute positively to the school, take on individual responsibilities and develop their citizenship skills.

Older pupils serve as House Captains and Vice Captains of the four school houses which develops their leadership skills and makes them significant partners with staff in establishing and maintaining positive rather than negative patterns of behaviour among the children in their house.

School Meals

School meals are delivered from the kitchens at The Community School of Auchterarder and served in the school hall. All P1-P5 pupils are eligible for free school meals, while for older children information on the eligibility criteria for free school meals and how to apply for these is contained in the second half of this handbook.

Arrangements for Emergency Closures

In exceptional circumstances where the Director wishes a blanket closure of schools, he will contact Radio Tay and an announcement will be made at 7a.m. In the event of severe weather conditions, the Head Teacher contacts Radio Tay and an announcement is made for full or part closure. Information can be found on school website.

Details of arrangements for Emergency Closures are available on the Perth and Kinross website

www.pkc.gov.uk

The Head Teacher will attempt to contact all parents via J2E as soon as any decision to close the school has been made. As it may not always be possible for the Head Teacher to contact everyone via J2E, Parents are encouraged to listen to Radio Tay visit the Council website.

In the event of closure during the school day, parents or emergency contacts will be alerted by a phone call from school and asked to collect children at their earliest convenience. In the event that some members of staff are sent home, there will always be adequate staff (in accordance with Perth and Kinross supervision ratios) to cater for any children who have not yet been collected.

In the event of planned closure for any reason the school will if possible give at least two weeks' notice.

Organisation of School Day

School Hours

9.00 a.m.	Beginning of school day
10.30 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	Interval
12.15 p.m. – 1.15 p.m.	Lunch Break
3.15 p.m.	End of school day

Parents are informed of any changes to these normal school hours as soon as is reasonably possible.

Name of Child Protection Officer

Each school has a Child Protection Officer appointed to be responsible for Child Protection matters and specially trained for the task.

In our school that person is Mrs Nicola Tyrrell. She is also the Named Person for each pupil and the point of contact for any concerns about any of the pupils at the school.

Please be aware that we are required by law to report concerns to PKC Duty Social Work Team or Police Scotland.

We work alongside a variety of professionals who engage with school and family if Child Protection concerns are suspected.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of our Child Protection procedures, please contact Mrs Nicola Tyrrell (HT) for further information.

GIRFEC

Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) is the Scottish Government's approach to promoting the wellbeing of children and young people. Wellbeing is described by 8 'indicators':

Safe	Healthy	Achieving	Nurtured	Active	Respected
Responsible	Included				

These eight words help everyone to understand wellbeing in the same way and use the same language to talk about it. Sometimes the initials of the words are used, and the wellbeing indicators are referred to as SHANARRI.

The vast majority of Scotland's children and young people get all the help and support they need from within their families and their wider, local communities. But at times a child, young person or family might need extra help or support. The GIRFEC approach aims to make it as easy as possible for any child or young person (and their parents) to get the help or support that they need. Within schools, key staff are available to children, young people and their parents/carers to provide help, advice or support should they choose to make use of it.

The Child or Young Person's Plan is one single plan which coordinates all the services and agencies involved in supporting a child/young person, will help ensure that everyone works together to deliver better outcomes for the child or young person who needs additional support and their family.



Each nursery provision will have a defined locality which may not be the same as the primary school catchment area. Localities are agreed and registered with the Education Services within Education & Children's Services. Parents of children attending nursery should be aware that a place in a local authority managed nursery class does not give children priority in gaining a place in the same school when enrolling for primary school. Entitlement to primary school is determined by the child's home address. The designated council nursery provision for this school is at The Community School of Auchterarder (Primary).

Further details of nursery provision in Perth and Kinross are available in the Council's "Policy & Guidelines for Admission to Nursery Schools and Classes for School", which can be accessed on the Council's website at the following address:

www.pkc.gov.uk/families