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**As a community we grow and learn together to achieve our ambitions**

**OUR CURRICULUM AUG 2021**

Whatever their age and stage, all children in Scotland follow the same general programme of learning. This is called Scotland’s Curriculum for Excellence (CfE).

This aims to help children develop, at their own pace, so they can learn what they need to know and be able to do, as adults. Although the word ‘curriculum’ suggests something very rigid, CfE is actually pretty wide and very flexible, with the idea that it will fit around each child. So, it’s not so much about what age and stage and level your child is at, but how these all fit together and how, in their own way, your child can become a:

**Successful learner**

With:

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

and be 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 individual**

With:

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

and be able to:

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

**Responsible citizen**

With:

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

and be 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 contributor**

With:

* an enterprising attitude
* resilience
* self-reliance

and able to:

* communicate in different ways and different settings
* work in partnership and in teams
* take the initiative and lead
* apply critical thinking in new concepts
* create and develop
* solve problems

**These are known as the four capacities.**

All through CfE children and young people develop these four capacities, exploring their talents and gaining the skills that will be useful for the world of work and everyday life. Learning can happen wherever children are, and all the time. In classrooms, outdoors, online, in the community and at home. Although children spend a lot of time in school, they spend much more time at home.

**How does the Curriculum fit together?**

Cross Curricular/ Interdisciplinary Learning Children learn to use their knowledge and skills, and to make connections, across different disciplines and subjects. For example, Pupils might create a website for school pupils in a twin town in France, using what they’ve learned from studying local history, geography, art and design and French language. It helps children apply and deepen their learning.

Hobbies and achievements

Children develop their own interests too.

These interests and their hobbies and achievements out of school are all part of who your child is and what they can do.

**Curriculum for Excellence and your child**

Learning areas

All children learn across eight areas:

• Expressive arts

• Health and wellbeing

• Languages *including English, and modern languages*

• Mathematics

• Religious and moral education

• Sciences

• Social studies

• Technologies

Community

All children are an important part of their school community and so they learn how to be a member of the community, and why this matters for life beyond school.

**The Eight Learning or Curriculum Areas – containing a range of subjects:**

• **Expressive Arts** – including art and design, dance, drama and music

• **Health and wellbeing** – mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing, PE, food and health, substance misuse and relationships, sexual health and parenthood

• **Languages** – listening and talking, reading and writing in literacy and English and modern languages.

• **Numeracy and Mathematics** – including analysing information, solving problems and assessing risk

• **Religious and Moral Education** – learning about Christianity, other world religions, and developing values and beliefs

• **Sciences** – understanding important scientific concepts across planet Earth, forces, electricity and waves, biological systems, materials and topical science

• **Social Studies** – understanding people, place and society in the past and present including history, geography, modern studies and business education

• **Technologies** – including computing science, food, textiles, craft, design, engineering, graphics and applied technologies.

Each of the 8 learning or curriculum areas are broken down to a set of experiences and outcomes (often referred to as the ‘Es and Os’):

• Experience – describes the learning

• Outcome – what the learning will achieve. This is often explained, from the pupil’s perspective, as an ‘I can’ statement.

Teachers plan lessons using the e’s and o’s for each curricular area.

All children from Early Learning and Childcare up to the end of Secondary 3 learn in the Broad General Education.

There are five levels between ELC and S3.

* Early Level – pre-school to the end of P1
* First Level – to the end of P4
* Second Level – to the end of P7
* Third and Fourth Levels – S1 to S3

When children are ready, they move to the next level. Although it is understood that children progress at different rates, and that they may be at different levels for different subjects. For example, a child could be at first level for numeracy and second level for literacy. CfE allows for that kind of flexibility.