

Welcome to Sunnybank Primary School



Primary 1 Induction Booklet for Parents/Carers

Sunnybank Primary School

Sunnybank Road

Aberdeen

AB24 3NJ

Tel. 01224 261700

School Email: sunnybank@aberdeencity.gov.uk

School Website: www.sunnybank.aberdeen.sch.uk

Twitter: [@sunnybanksch](https://twitter.com/sunnybanksch)

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Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our school!

I hope that this booklet will be a useful tool for you to refer to, leading up to your child starting with us for Primary 1. I hope to give you the necessary information to make you and your child's start in Primary 1 as smooth and as easy as possible, especially in these uncertain times.

Mrs Kidd
DHT

Our Vision, Values and Aims

Our Vision

Sunnybank is a nurturing school. Our vision is to provide a happy, vibrant and safe environment in which we work to ensure the highest quality learning takes place and where success is celebrated.

Our School Values

- **Empowerment**
Which captures the Child's Voice - Pupil Groups - Master classes - Rights of the Child - Celebrate Diversity
- **Ambition**
Involves Learning, Teaching & Assessment - Learning Experience - Visible Learning/Learning Dispositions
- **Nurture**
Promoting our School Ethos - Health & Wellbeing/SHANARRI

Our School Aims

- To build a nurturing school ethos based on inclusion, fairness and respect for ourselves and others, promoting the health and wellbeing of all
- To provide stimulating, challenging and meaningful learning experiences, meeting the needs and aspirations of all our children enabling them to face the challenges of the future
- To foster interest and enjoyment in learning, supporting children to become successful and confident lifelong learners
- To work in partnership with families and the wider school community

Our school motto is



STARTING SCHOOL

Who will you meet and speak to when you arrive at school?

Staff

Head Teacher – Miss Taylor
Depute Head Teacher – Mrs Kidd
Depute Head Teacher – Mrs Benson
School Administrator – Mrs Fraser
School Support Assistant – Mrs Walker
School Support assistant – Mrs Brownie



SCHOOL HOURS 9-3

On your child's first day please come to the playground and help your child line up at their line. There will be staff to help you.

Warning bell to line up at 8.55.

9.00am – 10.30am - 1st Morning Session

10.30am – 10.45am - **Break Time**

10.45am – 12.30pm - 2nd Morning Session

12.30pm – 1.15pm - **Lunch Time**

1.15pm – 3.00pm - Afternoon Session

***Please note these times may change depending on Covid restrictions.
Any changes will be sent to you.***

In thinking about your child joining primary school, you may have heard of legislation – the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, or more commonly known as the GIRFEC Approach.

What is GIRFEC?

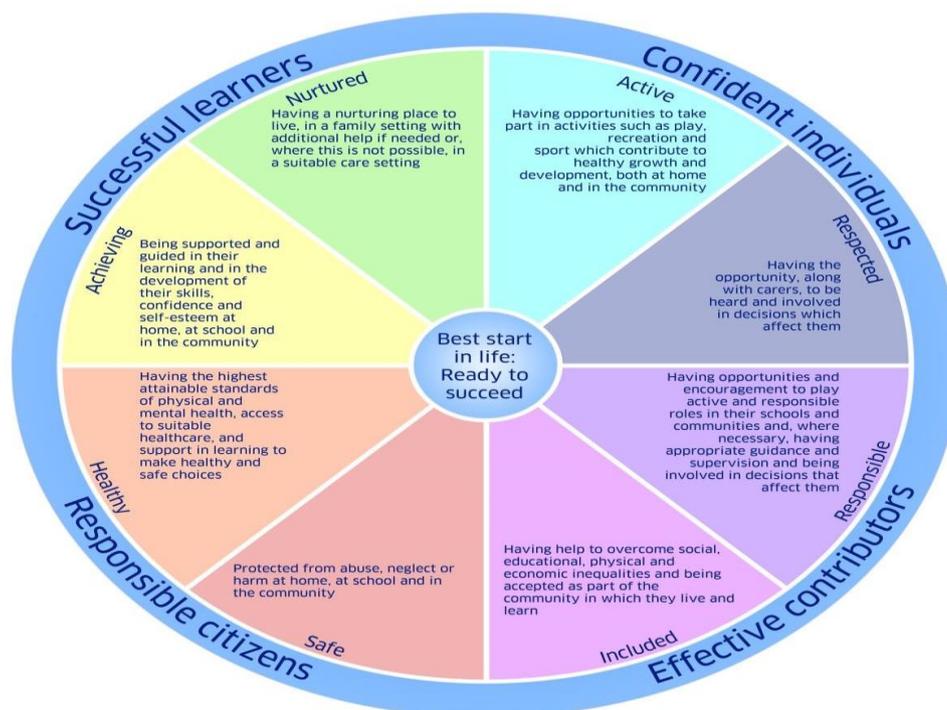
GIRFEC stands for 'Getting It Right for Every Child'. It is the Scottish Government led approach to making sure that our children and young people – and their parents or carers – can get all the help and support they need from birth right through to the age of age 18.

The wellbeing of children and young people is at the heart of the GIRFEC approach. Wellbeing is about how things are going for children in their lives. The GIRFEC approach uses eight words to describe what it looks like when things are going well –

- ★ Safe
- ★ Healthy
- ★ Achieving
- ★ Nurtured
- ★ Active
- ★ Respected
- ★ Responsible
- ★ Included

These words can be used to find out where a child's strengths lie and also, if there are concerns, to see where some advice, help or support might be needed. They help everyone to understand wellbeing in the same way and use the same language to talk about it. You can expect to hear wellbeing referred to when your child's health visitor or school contacts you.

These wellbeing words are often known as the SHANARRI indicators and illustrated in the SHANARRI wheel, which you may see dotted around the school and medical centres, etc.



SAFE

Health and Safety

Safety takes a high priority in school. Our main school doors are locked, this means that when you require entry you will have to be let in by the office staff. Remember though, you are always welcome in school.

When travelling to and from school you can encourage good road safety habits by using the marked crossings, which are patrolled by our lollipop people and by always holding your child's hand when crossing roads.



We ask also that when entering/leaving school, that the school car park should not be used.

Lining Up



In the morning and after lunch, the children line up outside the Primary 1 door where they will be met by their teacher.

At the end of the day, we ask that parents wait in the playground for the children to be dismissed by their teacher. If you need to speak to your child's teacher at the end of the day, please wait until all children have been picked up. If you have a lot to discuss it would be appropriate to make an appointment first, as the Class Teacher may have after school commitments such as staff meetings etc.

It is very important that children are collected on time. Young children can become confused and upset if they are left at school once all their classmates have left. If you are going to be late for any reason please contact the school office as soon as possible. If your child is to be collected by anyone other than their parent/carer you must let the school know too.

Child Protection

Schools are required by law to report any suspected harm done to a child by possible abuse. Every school has a named senior member of staff appointed responsible for Child Protection matters. GIRFEC legislation refers to this as the '*Establishment Contact*.'

In our school that person is the Head Teacher, Miss Taylor.

HEALTHY



Health Promoting School

As a health promoting school we reinforce a positive message about food to children through the snacks and drinks provided. In doing so, we hope to support you, the parent, in developing good eating habits for your child.

***Please let us know if your child has any allergies or religious reasons for avoiding certain foods.**

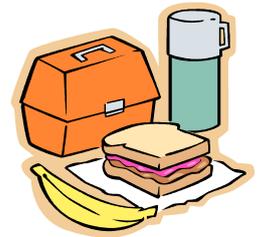
Snacks

Each day, children should take a small snack for break time along with a drink, preferably water. A piece of fruit is what we encourage. As we are a health promoting school, crisps, sweets, biscuits, etc. are discouraged. Also, it is only a short time between break and lunchtime; if the children are eating only fruit they are more likely to enjoy a hearty lunch.

Please note, nut products are not permitted in school due to staff and child allergies.

School Lunches

In Scotland, school meals are provided free for every child in Primary 1-3 and are offered once the children begin all day attendance. School meals are cooked within our own kitchen. The children are offered a choice of main courses and a dessert each day. A non-meat dish suitable for vegetarians is always one of the main courses on offer. Menus can be viewed at



<https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/education-and-childcare/view-school-meals-menu>

If you prefer, you can provide a packed lunch for your child. Please make sure that they can open packages and boxes with as little help as possible.

Sickness

Please do not be persuaded by an unwell child that – “they want to come to school.” Bringing a sick child to school puts all the other children and staff at risk. Children should not attend school for **48 hours after the last bout of any vomiting or diarrhoea.**



Head Lice

We encourage the regular checking of heads for live head lice and eggs (nits). Please, if you discover live head lice, do inform the school so that we can monitor the spread of any infection.

Medication

If your child needs medication at school, whether this is regular or infrequent, we are not able to administer it until the relevant permission forms and instructions are completed. These can be collected at the School Office. Medicines should only be handled by adults so please do not send anything into school with your child.



Tooth Brushing – Childsmile!



Childsmile aims to improve the oral health of children in Scotland and reduce health inequalities. At Sunnybank School, our tooth brushing programme begins in the nursery and continues through to the end of Primary 3. All of the children are given their own toothbrush and toothpaste. Supervised tooth brushing takes place in the classroom straight after lunchtime. There will be communication which will be sent to parents and carers, directly from Childsmile. Parents/Carers will be given the option to 'opt out' of this programme on behalf of the child, by writing to the school on receipt of the communication.

Runny Noses

As I'm sure you can imagine, we have many runny noses throughout the school year. We would thoroughly appreciate it if you could provide a box of tissues on occasion to encourage the best possible hygiene in class.



Covid-19

Parents/Carers

- Look out for any symptoms of Covid-19 within your household and contact school for advice

ACHIEVING

Our Curriculum

At the heart of the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence are the 4 capacities

- ★ Successful Learners
- ★ Confident Individuals
- ★ Responsible Citizens
- ★ Effective Contributors



The curriculum works towards achieving these through the 8 subject areas listed:

Language

- Listening
- Talking
- Reading
- Writing

Mathematics

- Number, Money & Measurement
- Shape, Position & Movement
- Information Handling

Health and Wellbeing

- P.E., Physical Activity and Sport
- Substance Misuse
- Food and Health
- Relationships

Expressive Arts

- Drama
- Music
- Art
- Dance

Religious and Moral Education

- Christianity
- World Religions
- Development of Beliefs and Values

Sciences

- Planet Earth
- Forces, Electricity and Waves
- Biological Systems
- Materials

Social Studies

- People, Past Events and Societies
- People, Place and Environment
- People, Society, Economy and Business

Technologies

- Technological Developments in Society
- ICT to Enhance Learning
- Computing Science
- Food and Textiles
- Craft, Design, Engineering and Graphics

Curriculum Levels

Progression is indicated through curriculum levels, as detailed below. Most children in P1 will be working within the Early level. Curricular workshops will be available later in the session.

Level	Stage
Early	The final two years of early learning and childcare before a child goes to school and P1, or later for some.
First	To the end of P4, but earlier or later for some.
Second	To the end of P7, but earlier or later for some.
Third	S1 to S3, but earlier for some.

Parents' Evenings normally take place around November and March. Formal written pupil reports are distributed once a year.

The Totality of Experiences

The curriculum includes all of the experiences which are planned for children and young people through their education, wherever they are being educated. These experiences are grouped into four categories:

Curriculum areas and subjects: As detailed above

Interdisciplinary Learning: How the curriculum should include space for learning beyond subject boundaries which will provide learners with the opportunity to develop insights and apply skills in a way and/or to a degree not offered through the study of a discrete curriculum area.



Ethos and Life of the School: The starting point for learning is a positive ethos and climate of respect and trust based upon shared values with genuine engagement across the school community.

Opportunities for Personal Achievement: Children and young people need opportunities for achievements both in the classroom and beyond, giving them a sense of satisfaction and building motivation, resilience and confidence.

Homework

After settling into the Primary 1 routines, the pupils will begin to receive homework.

This may be reading and another activity related to the curriculum.

Parental Support

At all stages, parents are requested to sign the homework diary to show that they are both aware of the tasks set and have seen the completed work. Parents are also encouraged to become involved in supporting their child with tasks, comment on the efforts of their child and engage in dialogue with the class teacher with their queries or observations.

NURTURED

As a school, we are a nurturing school. We follow the six principles of Nurture which are noted below. We have been awarded the Nurturing School's Award for our nurturing ethos in school.



The Six Principles of Nurture

1. Children's learning is understood developmentally
2. The classroom offers a safe base
3. The importance of nurture for the development of wellbeing
4. Language is a vital means of communication
5. All behaviour is communication
6. **The importance of transition in children's lives**

Ref: Lucas, S., Insley, K. and Buckland, G. (2006)

**Nurture Group Principles and Curriculum Guidelines Helping Children to Achieve,
The Nurture Group Network**

What does this mean for you and your child?

Settling into Primary 1 can be emotional! At Sunnybank Primary, when your child needs care, comfort and guidance, we give it to them. We talk, we listen and we look for solutions to any problems. Please let us know of any helpful hints to settle your child.



ACTIVE



The Scottish Government recognises the positive impact physical education can have on a pupil's health, educational attainment and life chances and that it can form a key element of a school's plan to deliver the broad health and wellbeing outcomes and experiences contained within Curriculum for Excellence.

Sunnybank School is committed to ensure, as much as possible, that every school pupil will benefit from at least 2 hours of physical education, per week, in primary school.

For health and safety reasons, we ask that children have a suitable gym kit.

This should consist of:

- a drawstring gym bag
- slip on gym shoes
- shorts
- hair bobbles/bands for tying up hair
- spare pants/trousers/tights/skirt in case of any "accidents".



***PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHING (GYM KIT AND SCHOOL UNIFORM) CLEARLY**



We work closely with Russell Anderson Development School who help to develop and support the delivery of quality sporting opportunities for our pupils. Further information can be found [here](#).

RESPECTED

We always promote a respectful relationship and culture between:

- Pupils and Pupils
- Pupils and All Staff
- Pupils and Parents
- Parents and All Staff
- Pupils, Parents and the Wider Community



Aberdeen City Council Schools are committed to becoming “Rights Respecting Schools (R.R.S)” where we make children, parents, staff and the wider community aware of the United Nations Convention for Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

Sunnybank School has achieved Level One of the Rights Respecting School initiative and received our Award. We aim to take R.R.S. further and embed it into our curriculum and wider school activities. Look out for more information coming to you about this, soon!

Pupil and Parent Participation

We respect and appreciate **pupil participation** in developing the life and accomplishments of the school. Your child will receive opportunities to participate in various committees, groups, and activities to widen their experience, and most importantly, to let their voice be heard. In these groups, we encourage **parent participation**. If you have a certain skill, interest or passion for any of the following, do let us know, so that we can benefit from your parental participation too!

- ***Pupil Council***
- ***Fairtrade Group***
- ***After-School/Lunchtime Clubs***



RESPONSIBLE

School Uniform

We strongly encourage the wearing of school uniform – it promotes a sense of identity and belonging to the school, the children look smart and it is relatively inexpensive. **Uniform with the school logo is not mandatory!**

Sunnybank School uniform is available online:

<https://www.myclothing.com>

<https://www.koolskools.co.uk/product-category/sunny-bank-school/> for a Fairtrade option

Or from **The Dugout**, 687 George Street, Aberdeen Tel 01224 641071.

If buying from other shops and supermarkets, our colours are: green cardigan/jumper, black/grey trousers/skirt and white polo shirt. **Please note, the black sweatshirt is for Primary 7 only!**

School Clothing Grants

Clothing Grant Application Forms are available online

<https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/education-and-childcare/school-life/apply-school-clothing-grant>

Praise and Positive Behaviour Management

All young children respond favourably to praise and recognition, along with clear, firm but fair boundaries. Our staff will deal with your child in a kind and caring manner. Similarly, the children are encouraged to treat each other and adults with respect and to be kind and caring.

We ask that parents co-operate with us in encouraging children, by offering praise when their child copes with a difficult situation, achieves a goal, masters a new skill or behaves well.

We have been working on refreshing our School's Positive Behaviour Policy, and developing School Charters, detailing rights and respectful behaviours. Our behaviour policy is available to view on our website.

INCLUDED

Parents and Home/School Communication

We consider our daily contact with you to be vitally important – time for us both to exchange information – for the benefit of your child. Please don't rush away! It is helpful to share with staff any special events, or problems, happening out-with school – weddings, deaths, family splits etc. If we are informed we can help your child should they become unsettled. Please use the Reading Homework Diary or class messaging system that your child will receive, to note down any queries/concerns if you cannot see the teacher at the end of the day.



English as an Additional Language (E.A.L.)

We have teachers and Pupil Support Assistants from the EAL service who support children with EAL. They support children with talking and listening, reading, writing, phonics and spelling. We have, and value, the many different languages being spoken at Sunnybank. We believe it adds to the culturally diverse and vibrant nature of the school. If any pupils are struggling in their understanding, we do our best to ask an older pupil to come and translate, if/when necessary.

Additional Support Needs (A.S.N.)

We at Sunnybank, aim to identify and support any additional support needs children may have, be it social, emotional, behavioural or academic, short or long-term. If you feel your child is requiring further support in any of these areas, please speak to the class teacher in the first instance.

Welcoming and Including Parents

Finally, this induction is not simply all about your children! As parents, you are a hugely valued part of the school community – you have been your child's first teachers and provide the main role-model in their lives. It, therefore, makes sense that we work together as much as possible.

Parent Council

Sunnybank School has an active Parent Council (Parent Voice), which relies on the support of every parent in the school. You are a member of the Parent Forum and will receive regular updates on its activities. Please try to help by becoming involved and supporting organised events.

Parent Helpers

We hope that many of you will consider lending a hand as a parent helper in school, either on an ad hoc or regular basis. Aberdeen City Council requires all parent and adult helpers in school to complete a PVG application before helping out in school. If you would like to help in any way, please see the class teacher.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR SESSION 2021-2022

Further information for sessions after 2021-2022 can be found on Aberdeen City Council Website: <http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/>

Term 1

16 August 2021 to 8 October 2021

- In-service day - Monday 16 August 2021
- Term starts - Tuesday 17 August 2021
- September holiday - Friday 24 September to Monday 27 September 2021
- Term ends - Friday 8 October 2021
- October holiday - Monday 11 October to Friday 22 October 2021

Term 2

25 October 2021 to 21 December 2021

- Term starts - Monday 25 October 2021
- In-service day - Friday 19 November 2021
- Term ends - Tuesday 21 December 2021
- Christmas holiday - Wednesday 22 December 2021 to Wednesday 5 January 2022

Term 3

6 January 2022 to 1 April 2022

- Term starts - Thursday 6 January 2022
- Mid-term holiday - Monday 14 February 2022
- In-service day - Tuesday 15 February 2022
- In-service day - Wednesday 16 February 2022
- Term ends - Friday 1 April 2022
- Spring holiday - Monday 4 April to Friday 15 April 2022

Term 4

18 April 2022 to 2 July 2022

- Term starts - Monday 18 April 2022
- May Day holiday - Monday 2 May 2022
- In-service day - Tuesday 3 May 2022
- Term ends - Friday 1 July 2022

Booklet correct at time of printing