

2023

# Torrance Primary School Handbook





**Torrance Primary School** 

West Road, Torrance, G64 4DE

Tel: 0141 955 2229

Email: office@torrance.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

Website: www.torrance.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

Twitter: @TorrancePS

2023

Dear Parent/Carer

On behalf of our school community, welcome to Torrance Primary School! The information contained within this handbook is designed to give you an overview of our school; I hope you will find it beneficial.

Torrance Primary is at the heart of the local community. Above all, we value our relationships with our families and the wider community and strongly believe in working together to ensure all our children achieve their full potential. We encourage our children develop positive attitudes to learning and foster values such as perseverance, respect, kindness and achievement. We provide a safe, nurturing environment to ensure children are happy and ready to learn.

At Torrance Primary we provide a range of experiences through our diverse curriculum and celebrate our children's achievements both within and out with school.

I hope you enjoy getting to know our school community. If you require any further information about Torrance Primary School or Early Years Centre, please have a look at our school website <a href="http://www.torrance.e-dunbarton.sch.uk">http://www.torrance.e-dunbarton.sch.uk</a> or do not hesitate to contact the school. If you have not already visited the school, we would be delighted to welcome you and show you around.

We look forward to working with you and your family.

Kind Regards,

L. Law

Laura Law Head Teacher

#### **EDUCATION IN EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE**

East Dunbartonshire Council's vision statement is reflected in the ethos of the Education Service: "Working together to achieve the best with the people of East Dunbartonshire."

The Education Service works with staff in schools and services to ensure the best outcomes for all our children and young people.

We share the Council's commitment to:

- The Customer;
- Excellence:
- Innovation;
- · Partnership;
- Our Employees

#### PROVIDING THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF EDUCATION FOR ALL

# **VISION, VALUES AND AIMS**

At Torrance Primary our vision is to provide excellence and equity for all by: Working together to be all we can be

**Torrance Primary is committed to our values:** 

Respect, Kindness, Achievement, Perseverance

#### We aim to enable our children to SHINE and be:

- Successful and Safe; by building a caring school ethos based on showing respect to ourselves and others
- Healthy; by promoting and encouraging the health and wellbeing of the whole school community
- **Included**; by being involved in a motivating and inspiring curriculum, developing interest in the global community where all needs are identified and addressed
- Nurtured; building self-esteem and resilience where new ideas are encouraged and everybody has a voice
- **Engaged**; through the highest quality of learners' experiences and an ethos of achievement, enabling leadership across the school community

# SECTION 1: SCHOOL INFORMATION

Torrance Primary is an open plan school consisting of three separate octagonal buildings with adjoining corridors. In each building, the classrooms are open to a central activity area with sinks and surfaces where children can work, while remaining easily seen and supervised by the class teacher.

In addition, we have a newly refurbished library which the children visit twice per week. The school has benefits from a large sports/assembly hall and separate dining area. The school has a 'Bistro' located within the senior area of the building. The children of all classes have the opportunity to visit the cooking kitchen to develop their food technology skills. In addition, we have infant and upper school wellbeing rooms; "The Rainbow Room" and "The Willow Room."

The school celebrated its centenary year in March 2000, although the present school building was opened in 1978 and was then extended in 1984 due to the growing population of the village. In August 1997, a separate building was erected in the school ground to accommodate our Early Years Centre. Our outdoor facilities include a football pitch and grassy play areas, in addition to two concrete playgrounds for P1-3 and P4-P7. Local groups and organisations use the school some evenings during the week.

# **SCHOOL DETAILS**

Official Address: Torrance Primary School

West Road Torrance G64 4DE

**Telephone Number:** 0141 955 2228

**E-mail:** torrance.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

School Website: www.torrance.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

Twitter: @TorrancePS

@TorranceEYC

**Present School Roll:** 177 + 40 Early Years Children

Stages of Education provided for: Nursery – Primary 7

**Class Sizes:** P1 – 25

P2-3 - 30

P4-7 - 33

**Denominational Status:**Non-Denominational

Single Sex or Co-Educational: Co-Educational

#### The school Day:

8.55am: Children can enter school

9am: School day starts

10.30-10.45am Break

12.15 – 1.00pm Lunch

3.00pm Home

Primary 1 children attend school for full days from the first day of term.

# **Applebays Afterschool Care:**

Applebays provide a breakfast club from 7.30-9.00am and an afterschool club from 3.00-6.00pm, Monday - Friday. For more information, please email applebaystorrance@yahoo.com

#### **Community Facilities:**

Those wishing to let the premises should contact: East Dunbartonshire Council Business Support Southbank House, Strathkelvin Place, Kirkintilloch, G66 1TJ

Tel no: 0300 1234510

Email: letting@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



### **SCHOOL STAFF**

Head Teacher: Mrs Laura Law

**Depute Head Teachers:** Mrs Gillian Bonar/Mrs Charlotte Copeland

Teaching staff:

Primary 1 Miss Sara Moffat

Primary 2 Miss Charlotte Meldrum
Primary 3 Miss Nicola Harrison
Primary 4 Mr Chris Tolmie
Primary 5 Mrs Lyndsey Wells
Primary 6 Miss Jasmine Webb
Primary 7 Mr Ryan O'Connell

Education Support Teachers: Mrs Gillian Bonar/Mrs Charlotte Copeland

Wellbeing Teacher Mrs Anne Tytler

Non-class contact Teachers Miss Jenny Mullin/Mrs Laura McKay

Classroom Assistants: Mrs Jac Miles

Mrs Melanie Quince

Support for Learning Assistants: Mrs Caroline MacMillan

Mrs Amanda McKenzie

Mrs Karen Melvin

**Early Years Staff:** 

Depute Head of Centre Miss Adele Loughran
Nursery Teacher Mrs Karen MacDonald

Senior Early Years Worker Mrs Jennifer Henderson Early Years Workers Miss Monica Lyons

Mrs Jillian Russell
Miss Karen MacLellan
Mrs Cheryl Dodds
Mrs Deborah Knight

Mrs Deborah Knight Miss Heather Woolen Miss Cheryl Hughes Mrs Fiona Carrick Mrs Rachel Dupree Mrs Alison McDonald

Early Years Support Worker Miss Rebecca Chalmers

Clerical Staff: Mrs Angela Murdoch (Administration Assistant)

Mrs Susan Nicholson (Clerical Assistant)

Site Co-ordinator: Mrs Julie McLean

Catering Staff: Mrs Fiona Daley

Mrs Jacqueline Mieklejohn

# **SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2023/2024**

Aua	ust	2023

Teachers return (In-service day)	Monday 14 August
In-service day	Tuesday 15 August
Pupils return	Wednesday16 August
September 2023	
September weekend	Friday 22 September to Monday 25 September
Pupils return	Tuesday 26 September
October 2023	
In-service day (Teachers)	Friday 13 October
October break	Monday 16 October to Friday 20 October
Pupils return	Monday 23 October
December 2023 and January 2024	
Last day of term	Friday 22 December
Christmas and New Year	Monday 25 December to Friday 5 January
Pupils and teachers return	Monday 8 January
February and March 2024	
February break	Monday 12 February to Tuesday 13 February
In-service day (Teachers)	Wednesday 14 February
Pupils and teachers return	Thursday 15 February
Last day of term	Thursday 28 March
School Closed (Easter break)	Friday 29 March to Friday 12 April
April 2024	
Pupils and teachers return	Monday 15 April
In-service day (Teachers)**	Thursday 2 May
May 2024	
May Day (closed)	Monday 6 May
Pupils and teachers return	Tuesday 7 May
May weekend	Friday 24 May to Monday 27 May
Pupils and teachers return	Tuesday 28 May
June 2024	
Last day of school	Wednesday 26 June

<sup>\*</sup> In-service Day – no pupils attend, school staff only. \*\* This date coincides with UK Parliamentary elections, but may be subject to change

#### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCE

Under Section 30 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 parents of school age children must provide education for their children either by attendance at a public school or by other means. Schools in turn must take steps to ensure attendance, maintain an attendance register and record pupil absence. All schools must record pupil absences in respect of each morning and afternoon of every day the school is open to pupils.

Authorities are supported in this process by Children Missing from Education (Scotland), a national co-ordinating body, piloted by the Scottish Government, developed to track and trace children and young people missing from education.

Scottish local authorities have the responsibility to review and revise their procedures for managing situations where children fail to attend their school/early years centre and no explanation for absence is received from their parents/carers. East Dunbartonshire Council recognises that under such circumstances, children may be vulnerable to harm and that timely steps must be taken to ensure that an absent child is safe and well.

Children missing from education are children and young people of compulsory school age who are not on a school roll and are not being educated otherwise (at home, privately or in an alternative provision). They have usually not attended school for a period of time.

Children missing from education will have well-being needs around inclusion and achievement. Consideration also needs to be given to other issues in their lives relation to non-attendance.

Section 30 of the 1980 Education Act lays a duty on every parent of a child of 'school age' to ensure that their child attends school regularly. Attendance must be recorded twice a day, morning and afternoon.

Regulation 7 of the Education (School and Placing Information) (Scotland) Amendments, Etc, Regulations 1993 requires each child's absence from school to be recorded in the school register as authorised i.e. approved by the authority, or unauthorised i.e. unexplained by the parent (truancy) or temporarily excluded from school.

# **Un-notified Absence Policy**

It is East Dunbartonshire Council's policy that parents should notify their child's school if their child is going to be absent. In some instances it might not be possible for parents to pre-notify the school of an absence because their child may have become unwell during the night. In these circumstances, parents should notify the school before registration begins.

If parents do not inform the school of their child's absence, the school will take action to find your child. This will involve contacting you and, where necessary, your emergency contact person(s). If these actions are not successful, the school will ask the school's Attendance Officer to visit your home. In some exceptional circumstances, where the school believes your child could be at risk of harm, contact will be made with the Police and/or Social Work. Parents should also give their child a note on his/her return to school confirming the reason for absence.

#### **Family Holidays**

Every effort should be made to avoid family holidays during term time as this seriously disrupts a child's education and greatly reduces learning time. It should be noted that it not only has an adverse effect on a child while he/she is absent from school, but also leads to extended disruption to a child's education for a period of time when he/she returns to school after the family holiday. Family holidays will only be regarded as authorised absence where prior agreement from the school has been obtained and where it is judged the holiday is important to the wellbeing and cohesion of the family, following serious or terminal illness, bereavement or other traumatic events.

Parents may request that their children be permitted to be absent from school to make an extended visit to relatives. This leave will be regarded the same as a family holiday but will be recorded separately from school holidays for attendance purposes. Requests should be made in writing detailing the destination and the duration.

Clearly with no explanation from the parents, the absence is unauthorised.

#### Information regarding exceptional closures

We make every effort to maintain a full educational service, but on some occasions circumstances arise which lead to disruption. Schools may be affected by, for example, severe weather, temporary interruption of transport, power failures or difficulties of fuel supply. In such cases we shall do all we can to let you know about the details of closure or re-opening. We shall keep you updated using the usual digital methods of communication used by the school i.e. email, groupcall, twitter, facebook. There will also be updates on the website www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk.

(a) Parental Communication with School in Case of Emergency

It is important that parents keep contact with the school to a minimum in the case of an emergency. When you telephone the school you will be asked for a contact number and your

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message will be repeated back. Please ensure the pupil's name, class and/or teacher's name is given.

Please ensure that your child knows their home/pick up plan each day. If there are any changes to childcare arrangements, please inform the school before 2.30pm. This should only happen in exceptional circumstances.

# **Comments, Compliments and Complaints Procedure**

We are keen that you should be completely satisfied about your child's education and we encourage feedback on our services from parents and pupils. We are, therefore, interested in feedback of all kinds, whether it be comments, compliments, or complaints.

If you want to register a comment of any type about the school you can do this by writing, e-mailing, telephoning or making an appointment to see someone. All feedback is welcome and keeps us in touch.

If, in particular, you have a complaint about the school, please let us know. It is better that these things are shared openly and resolved fairly, rather than being allowed to damage the relationship between the family and the school. There will be no negative consequences arising from making a complaint and we will deal with the issue as confidentially as possible.

In relation to making a complaint:

- Stage 1 Frontline resolution, we will always try to resolve the complaint quickly and to the customer's satisfaction wherever we can. This resolution will be provided within five working days, unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- Stage 2 Investigation, if you are dissatisfied with the decision at stage 1, the complaint will be investigated, acknowledge in three working days and decision provided as soon as possible but within twenty working days.
- If you are still unhappy after the further investigation and reply you can take the matter up with the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman, our reply will include the contact details.
- You should also note that you have the right to raise unresolved concerns with your local councillors, MSP or MP.

#### PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

All East Dunbartonshire Council schools welcome parental involvement as research has shown that when parents are involved children do better in school. At Torrance Primary, we strive to provide many opportunities for parents to become involved in school life through supporting learning at home, volunteering in school, participating on the Parent Council/PTA/School committees, or helping out at school trips and events. For further information on East Dunbartonshire Council's Parental Engagement Strategy please visit East Dunbartonshire Council's website.

We want to work in partnership with you to provide an effective and inclusive educational experience for your child. At Torrance Primary we operate an open-door policy and parents are welcome to contact the school office to make an appointment to discuss any aspect of their child's school experience with a member of the senior management team or a member of staff.

We strive to keep you informed of your child's progress in their learning and about all aspects of school life. Pupil reports are usually issued towards the end of each session, providing information on pupil's progress across the curriculum. Parent Meetings are held twice a year, October and March, which provides parents the opportunity to meet with their child's teacher to discuss progress made by pupils and exchange information. Ongoing feedback and next steps in learning have been communicated through Microsoft Teams Assignments and through the use of SeeSaw, an online learning platform for sharing learning and experiences.

A monthly newsletter will keep you informed of everything that is happening within the school and will provide you with up to date information and noteworthy dates. The school website aims to provide helpful advice, information and links to support parents and children. We are also on Twitter, please do choose to follow us for up to date information @TorrancePS and @TorranceEYC. We use email and text messaging as our primary methods of contacting parents and we ask that you keep us informed of any changes to your contact details.

We continue to develop and refresh our parental involvement programme to provide a range of opportunities to engage with parents and to strengthen home and school links. Many parents have been involved in working with groups of children - particularly our younger pupils during infant play activities. Some parents have given talks to classes on their occupations or particular interests they have. We have recently re-instated our Masterclass programme and look forward to welcoming any parents who are willing to share their expertise! We also appreciate any help parents can offer in accompanying classes on excursions. Throughout the school session we often host curricular workshops for parents to provide them with an overview of how learning can be supported at home. Additionally, parents are invited to attend class assemblies to provide pupils with an opportunity to showcase their learning to parents.

We seek to consult parents about key decisions in the life of the school and always welcome parental feedback. Forms and surveys allow us to continue this collaboration, as well as in-person feedback.

#### **PARENT COUNCIL**

Parent Councils are the formal representative body for parents/carers with children attending school. Parent Councils are different in each school to enable them to meet the needs of parents/carers locally.

Parents are welcomed to be:

- involved with their child's education and learning;
- be active participants in the life of the school; and
- express their views on school education generally and work in partnership with their children's schools.

All parents / carers are automatically members of the Parent Forum at their child's school. As a member of the Parent Forum all parents can expect to –

- receive information about the school and its activities;
- hear about what partnership with parents means in our school;
- be invited to be involved in ways and times that suit you;
- identify issues you want the parent council to work on with the school;
- be asked your opinion by the parent council on issues relating to the school and the education it provides;
- · work in partnership with staff; and
- enjoy taking part in the life of the school in whatever way possible.

The Parent Forum decides how their representatives on the Parent Council are chosen and how the Parent Council operates. Parents/carers are encouraged to volunteer or put themselves forward to be chosen as representatives of the Parent Council if they wish.

The main aims of the Parent Council are:

- To support the school in its work with pupils
- To represent the views of parents
- To promote contact between the school, parents, pupils, providers of Early Learning and Childcare education and the community
- To report to the Parent Forum
- To be involved in the appointment of senior promoted staff.
- To raise funds for the school for the benefit of pupils (in some schools the PTA fulfils this
  role).

The Current Chair of the Parent Council at Torrance Primary is Mrs Rhona McParland. She can be contacted through the school office or via their email address torranceparentcouncil@gmail.com

For more information on parental involvement or to find out about parents as partners in their children's learning, please contact the school or visit the Parentzone website at <a href="https://www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk">www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk</a>.

#### PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

At Torrance Primary we are also fortunate to have a very active PTA. The PTA is mainly responsible for arranging events for parents and children and raising funds for the school. Volunteers are welcome to contact the PTA if you would like to join. Further details are available from the school office. The chair of Parent Teacher Association is Mrs Emma Laurie. She can be contacted through the school office or via their email address ptatorrance@outlook.com

The Scottish Parent Teacher Council is the national organisation for PTAs in Scotland and runs an independent helpline service for all parents. They can be contacted by phone on 0131 226 4378, fax 0870 706 5814 or email on <a href="mailto:sptc@sptc.info">sptc@sptc.info</a> or write to SPTC, Mansfield Traquair Centre, 15 Mansfield Place, Edinburgh EH3 6BB.

#### **PUPIL INVOLVEMENT**

To ensure all pupils at Torrance Primary have the opportunity to have their voice heard and exercise their responsibilities as members of a community, we re-launched our pupil House system, widened our pupil committee offer and reinstated our Masterclass programme in session 2022-23. The cycle of Houses, Committees and Masterclasses is repeated each term giving children the opportunity to develop a range of skills and be involved in the wider ethos and life of the school. The committees on offer to children are as follows:

# **Pupil Council**

At Torrance Primary we have a very active Pupil Council. The Pupil Council discuss various issues relevant to school life and they help take forward improvements identified by pupils. They often take the lead in organising charity fundraising events in the school.

#### **Eco Committee**

The ECO committee work hard to ensure we are ECO friendly through environmental projects, recycling and energy saving schemes. We have recently been awarded our fourth Green Flag in recognition of our commitment to ensuring Torrance Primary is an Eco friendly school.

#### **Digital Leaders**

At Torrance Primary we continually review and develop our curriculum to ensure it is progressive, relevant and engaging. We continue to integrate ICT and technology into the curriculum and the Digital Leaders support this work across the school. Pupils work alongside staff to develop their skills in using innovative apps and technology to enhance their learning.

# **Rights Respecting Ambassadors**

Children's Rights is at the heart of all we do at Torrance Primary and Early Years Centre. Our ambassadors are fully involved in our journey to becoming an accredited Rights Respecting School.

#### **Junior Road Safety Officers**

Our Junior Road Safety Officers are involved in active travel surveys and encouraging children to travel to school by different ways. They help raise awareness of road safety across the school.

# **Playground Committee**

Our Playground Committee members have the opportunity to suggest improvements within our playground environment. They can work with our Rights Ambassadors to ensure our playground continues to be a safe place for everyone to enjoy.

#### **Sports Committee**

Sports Committee members are able to voice their opinions on our Health and Wellbeing programme, suggesting improvements in PE provision, extra-curricular clubs and play a key role in planning sports day.

#### **Library Committee**

Our Library Committee aim to increase reading engagement and reading for enjoyment across the school. They have opportunities to design the school and class libraries ensuing a welcoming environment whilst maintaining a current and interesting range for books for all ages.

# **SCHOOL ETHOS**

# **VISION, VALUES AND AIMS**

At Torrance Primary our vision is to provide excellence and equity for all by:

Working together to be all we can be



**Torrance Primary is committed to our values:** 

Perseverance, Kindness, Respect, Achievement

#### We aim to enable our children to SHINE and be:

- Successful and Safe; by building a caring school ethos based on showing respect to ourselves and others
- **Healthy**; by promoting and encouraging the health and wellbeing of the whole school community
- **Included**; by being involved in a motivating and inspiring curriculum, developing interest in the global community where all needs are identified and addressed
- **Nurtured**; building self-esteem and resilience where new ideas are encouraged and everybody has a voice
- **Engaged**; through the highest quality of learners' experiences and an ethos of achievement, enabling leadership across the school community

We celebrate our pupils' achievements both within the school and out of school activities through our weekly assemblies. Our pupils' achievements are also displayed on wall displays throughout the school. Termly Wider Achievements Assemblies celebrate pupils' achievements on a whole-school level.

# THE SCHOOL AND THE COMMUNITY

The school plays an important part in the local community. We are involved annually in the local gala day and encourage our pupils to take part in and make a contribution to the community life of the village. We have participated in the Junior Wardens Programme, encouraging our pupils to be responsible citizens within the community. Our children regularly provide entertainment at Friendship Clubs in the church and we are pleased to have as our school chaplain, the Rev. Stuart Irvin – minister of Torrance Parish Church. Mr Irvin leads our school services and helps us in our religious education programme. In addition, we regularly use the museum service and any other resources available locally to enrich our environmental studies and Interdisciplinary Learning. We have worked with Torrance Greenspaces to plant several trees within the school grounds and local community to promote local and global citizenship.

# **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION**

In East Dunbartonshire, all children and young persons are entitled to participate fully in a learning community which promotes equality of opportunity and seeks to protect against all forms of discrimination.

The school believes that pupils and staff have the right to learn in a caring and safe environment. Staff will not tolerate any behaviour or attitudes which lead to staff and pupils being humiliated or harmed because of their race, colour, language, nationality, ethnic origin, cultural and religious beliefs, sexual orientation, gender, marital status and disability.

# The Equality Act (2010)

The General Equality Duty was created by the Equality Act (2010) and replaces the race, disability and gender equality duties. The duty came into force in April 2011 and covers age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

The school is committed to the requirements of the Equality Act (2010) and as such we will have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Advance equality of opportunity between children and young people who share a characteristic and those who do not;
- Foster good relations between different groups.

The school will take cognisance of the Equality and Human Rights Commission's 'Technical guidance for schools in Scotland' in the development of its policy and practice.

A copy of this document can be obtained from all schools in East Dunbartonshire Council, and from the Chief Education Officer who is based at The Marina, Strathkelvin Place, Kirkintilloch, Glasgow G66 1TJ. Tel: 0300 1234510.

#### Development of Pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Cultural and Social Values

The school is committed to supporting the development of its pupils as whole people and as a result, wishes to encourage their development in spiritual, moral, social and cultural terms.

These key human aspects of learning are supported through the following arrangements by:

- Creating a school ethos which, in every way possible, gives value to these aspects of
  development, especially by providing an overall atmosphere that is both caring and
  challenging and which provides opportunities for the development of personal responsibility.
- Promoting social and moral learning through the way in which disciplinary issues are handled.
- Ensuring that staff and adults within the school provide positive models for pupils.

- Arranging regular gatherings of the school as a community and using such occasions to encourage and reinforce the values on which the school is based.
- Enriching the curriculum in all appropriate areas with an emphasis on spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Providing opportunities within the curriculum to advance personal and social development.
- Providing a programme of religious education in which consideration will be given to responses to basic questions relating to the meaning, value and purpose of human life.
- Providing a programme of moral education.
- Taking every appropriate opportunity to acknowledge, value and appreciate the various cultures and heritage of the pupils and to encourage them to appreciate and value the cultures and heritage of others.

#### **SCHOOL DISCIPLINE**

In Torrance Primary we believe that it is fundamentally important to promote a positive, nurturing environment, in which our pupils will develop their self-esteem, sense of worth and have respect and consideration for others. Our school community promote "The Torrance Way" and encourage all our pupils to be Ready, Respectful and Safe. We recognise children who consistently go 'over and above' by use of praise, issuing postcards home, and use of a recognition board within classes. Children who consistently uphold our school values are invited to "Tea with SLT" to ensure their efforts are recognised by our Senior Leadership Team. Our staff agree to visible consistencies such as meet and greet with a smile, promoting calm, consistent behaviour, giving first attention to positive behaviour and recognising those who go over and above. We expect relentless routines within Torrance Primary including smart, respectful walking, hands up to signal attention and polite manners.

We use a variety of strategies to promote good attitudes to school work and behaviour. Where there is persistent disregard for school rules, parents will be informed so that their help and co-operation can be enlisted and we can work in partnership to provide positive outcomes. Restorative, solution focussed approaches will be employed at all times.

#### **ANTI-BULLYING PROCEDURES**

Torrance Primary promotes positive behaviour and operates a strict anti-bullying policy. Any incidents are thoroughly investigated by a member of the Senior Management Team. A copy of our anti-bullying policy is available on request and can be found on the school website.

#### ANTI-WEAPONS/KNIFE CRIME GUIDANCE

East Dunbartonshire Council has issued anti-weapon/knife crime guidance to schools. Parents and carers have a responsibility for ensuring that their child receives appropriate guidance, which should include education them about the dangers of weapons. As well as stressing to young people that they should never carry a weapon, parents should encourage their children to share information when they know someone else is carrying a weapon.

#### **CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE**

#### BRINGING LEARNING TO LIFE AND LIFE TO LEARNING

The recently refreshed Curriculum for Excellence spans learning from 3-18 years. Its aims are to improve our children's life chances, to nurture successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors, and responsible citizens, building on Scotland's reputation for great education.

It develops skills for learning, life and work, bringing real life into the classroom, making learning relevant and helping young people apply lessons to their life beyond the classroom. It links knowledge in one subject area to another helping make connections in their learning. It develops skills which can enable children to think for themselves, make sound judgements, challenge, enquire and find solutions.

Curriculum for Excellence balances the importance of knowledge and skills. Every child is entitled to a broad and deep general education, whatever their level and ability. All teachers are responsible for the development of literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

There is an entitlement to personal support to help young people fulfil their potential and make the most of their opportunities with additional support wherever that's needed. There will be a new emphasis by all staff on looking after our children's health and wellbeing – to ensure that the school is a place where children feel safe and secure.

#### **ATTAINMENT LEVELS**

Our curriculum includes the areas of English Language and Literacy, Mathematics and Numeracy, Health and Well Being, Expressive Arts, Religious and Moral Education, Science, Social Studies and Technology. The school follows Curriculum for Excellence Experiences and Outcomes in the implementation of the curricular areas. Children will be taught according to their ability level and needs, and will be encouraged to achieve their maximum potential by following carefully planned programmes of study presented in progressive levels of attainment. We aim that the majority of children should progress, broadly speaking, at the following pace of development:

Early Level: Nursery and P1
First Level: P2, P3 and P4
Second Level: P5, P6 and P7

Some children will achieve these attainment levels sooner than others and some may require a little longer achieving each level.

#### **CURRICULAR AREAS**

#### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERACY**

Language is at the heart of children's learning. Our aim is to provide a range of stimulating opportunities for pupils to develop their literacy skills within meaningful contexts.

#### **Listening & Talking**

Our pupils learn to listen attentively and are encouraged to speak with confidence and fluency in individual, group and class lessons. They are given the opportunity to develop skills through activities such as role play, discussions, reports and presentations.



#### Reading

The reading programme of study takes the children from the pre-reading stage through the mechanics of learning to read and toward increasing the level of understanding and appreciation which the individual child can attain. The core reading schemes, Oxford Reading Tree at the early stages and Literacy World from P4-P7, are used along with a range of other resources. Children are encouraged to read for enjoyment at all stages. We hope that our children will love reading and that it will be an endless source of pleasure for them.

#### Writing

In writing, we encourage and support children to write down their thoughts, feelings and experiences clearly and with imagination. A range of excellent resources and strategies, including the Talk for Writing approach, support our writing programmes of study and helps pupils develop fluency and clarity in their writing. We also believe that correctness and neatness are important and emphasise this through our spelling and handwriting programmes.

#### **MODERN LANGUAGES**

French is taught in all classes across the school. The approach encourages spoken language and is designed to foster confidence in speaking French among the pupils. Children in the upper stages learn about Spanish culture and learn some basic Spanish phrases. This is part of the Scottish Government's vision to have all children learning 2 languages other than English by the time they leave Primary Education. (Language Learning in Scotland, A 1+2 Approach).

#### **MATHEMATICS AND NUMERACY**

Primary Mathematics involves understanding ideas and developing skills in number, measure, shape and information handling. There is a strong focus on developing numeracy across all stages. We develop a problem solving and investigative approach in mathematics to help our pupils apply their skills and understanding to real situations. Practice with apparatus and concrete materials is given to help understanding and competence. The appropriate use of calculators is established. The core maths schemes used to implement the programmes of study are Heinemann Mathematics and Heinemann Active Maths. Maths Recovery approaches are used throughout the school to aid understanding of numerical concepts.



Developing skills in mental maths is an important aspect of our maths curriculum and all children are regularly involved in Number Talks sessions allowing children to discuss and explore strategies in varying learning contexts. Resources have been purchased for each stage to support a variety of teaching strategies to develop mental maths.

#### **HEALTH & WELLBEING**



Our Health and Wellbeing programme is aligned with Curriculum for Excellence experiences and outcomes. Some areas covered within this programme deal with mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing. Emotion Works helps frame our thinking around 'cogs' of emotion and help our children develop strategies to recognise and support their wellbeing. Weekly Outdoor Learning sessions encourage a sense of wellbeing for pupils and staff and allow children to develop their skills in a natural environment. We are fortunate to have ample grounds and

local community spaces to explore and encourage a love of nature.

Other important aspects of our programme are food and healthy eating, drug and alcohol awareness as well as building relationships and sexual health and parenthood. A letter is issued to parents prior to the delivery of sexual health and parenthood programme. Parents can contact the school if they would like any further information about the content of our health and wellbeing curriculum and the content of lessons is available online.

# SOCIAL STUDIES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGIES (INTER-DISCIPLINARY THEMES)

Inter-disciplinary learning allows children to use skills in literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing, while engaged on topics linked to other curricular areas. In Social Studies, Science and Technologies, our pupils experience a range of topics to explore and discover the world about them. The importance of children learning about their local area is also reflected in our programme. Class

teachers send home a letter at the start of each term outlining the topic studies to be undertaken. A programme of class visits linked to topics is also carried out.

#### **INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY**

All classes have access to computers in each of the teaching areas and good use is made of our laptops and iPads at all stages. iPads



are available to support the curriculum in every class. Programmes of study are in place to develop the necessary computing skills within each year group.



#### **EXPRESSIVE ARTS**

In expressive arts (music, art & design, drama and dance), our pupils are given a wide variety of experiences and activities. We hope that their participation will provide enjoyment and that they will learn skills which then can develop more fully. Instrumentalist teachers provide instruction to children from Primary 5 for violin and from Primary 6 for woodwind.

#### **RELIGIOUS AND MORAL EDUCATION**

The programme of work includes the study of four main religions – Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Hinduism. The school has purchased a range of material to support the programmes of study and class visits take place to places of interest connected with the topics, such as the local churches and the mosque.

#### RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION AND OBSERVANCE

Parents who wish to exercise their right to withdraw their child from religious instruction and / or observance should contact the Head Teacher, in writing, and alternative arrangements will be made for your child.

#### **DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE**

Through a variety of interdisciplinary approaches, we develop skills for lifelong learning and work including a specific careers focus for Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils. Our Masterclass Programme allows children to develop a range of skills of their choice and make links to learning and work.

#### **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Our P7 pupils have the opportunity of taking part in a residential or outdoor activity week experience. We are also very fortunate that teachers and parents volunteer to take a variety of excellent after-school clubs at varying times throughout the year including football, netball, basketball, hockey, Scripture Union, dance, choir and art. We value parental participation and would welcome parental support in delivering extra-curricular clubs.

When children are going on school trips parents will be required to give their permission and also provide relevant medical information. Parents will be given full details of outings including links to the curriculum, costs, insurance details, behaviour expectations, supervision levels and accommodation where appropriate. Parents should note that pupils will not be allowed to use mobile phones on any school excursions.

Parents should contact the school with any queries well before any excursion occurs and attend any parents evening regarding the P7 residential week.

#### SENSITIVE ASPECTS OF LEARNING

Parents can be provided with any information regarding sensitive aspects of education such as our health and wellbeing programme e.g. sexual health, LGBT, relationships, drug awareness and online safety by making an appointment to visit the school.

#### **HOMEWORK**

East Dunbartonshire Council Education Service's Parental Engagement Strategy recommends that "in the primary stages, homework has a family learning approach rather than routine, rote tasks" stating that "maximising children's learning is best facilitated by parents engaging in learning activities in the home, in tandem with similar critical instructions being received at school." (Crosnoe 2012).

Homework and Family Learning activities vary from stage to stage. Homework may include reading, number work, spelling work or topic work. It is important that the children have time to play, read books of their choice and enjoy relaxing leisure activities.

During the year there will be homework grids related to children's interdisciplinary topic work. This homework format gives parents and children the opportunity to work together on a variety of tasks. We appreciate parents taking an interest in homework and giving encouragement.

#### **ASSESSMENT**

Assessment is an important part of the education process. Our class teachers ensure that all our pupils make progress at their own rate of learning, and will provide appropriate teaching for each child across all areas of the primary curriculum. In order to assess this progress, class teachers carry out a programme of continuous assessment which may involve informal/formal testing included in regular class routines and programmes of work.

Every child in P1, P4 and P7 will undertake national standardised assessments (SNSA) covering some aspects of reading, writing and working with numbers. For further information, please refer to 'Assessment within East Dunbartonshire Schools' which can be obtained upon request.

Records of pupils' progress are ongoing in the school and we welcome parents to discuss them with the class teacher at our parents' evenings or, where there is any concern, at any time during the school session. Written reports on pupil progress are issued in June.

The school offers high-quality universal and targeted support to enable all children to achieve success.

#### LIASING WITH AND INVOLVING PARENTS IN THEIR CHILD'S EDUCATION

The Education Service is keen to ensure that it involves all parents appropriately and sensitively in their child's education. Under Education Law, "parents" include:

- Non-resident parents who are liable to maintain or have parental responsibilities in respect of a child;
- Carers who can be parents;
- Foster carers, relatives and friends who are caring for children under supervision arrangements;
- Close relatives, such as siblings or grandparents caring for children who are not "looked after and accommodated" by the local authority or are under home supervision (looked after) arrangements.

Everyone who is a "parent" (under Education Law) has the right to receive advice and information about their child's education and take part in activities.

The Education Service will treat all parents equally. The exception to this is where there is a court order limiting an individual's exercise of parental rights and responsibilities.

Schools collect information about a child's family circumstances on an annual basis. Where family circumstances change during a school session, it is important that parents inform their child's school of these changes.

Further information about how the Education Service seeks to work with parents is available in the publication Schools, "Parents" and "Parental Responsibility": A briefing paper for schools and education support services under the management of East Dunbartonshire Council (2007).

This publication is available from schools or the Chief Education Officer who can be contacted at:

East Dunbartonshire Council, The Marina, Strathkelvin Place, Kirkintilloch, Glasgow, G66 1TJ, Tel: 0300 1234510, Email: <a href="mailto:greg.bremner@eastdunbarton.gov.uk">greg.bremner@eastdunbarton.gov.uk</a>

#### TRANSITIONS & ENROLMENTS

East Dunbartonshire Council is committed to the provision of high quality early years' experiences for all children. We aim to provide places that meet the needs and demands of both children and families, offering accessible, flexible and affordable provision where possible. The Early Years Admissions Policy sets out the options available to parents, including location of early learning and childcare providers, the available hours and the way that places are prioritised and allocated.

It is important to note that there is no automatic entitlement for a place in any East Dunbartonshire primary school following a funded place at any early learning and childcare provider/early years centre.

Early learning and childcare provision is non-denominational. This means that all early years centres are open to children and parents of all religions and beliefs. Placement in the early centre does not guarantee a place in the primary school.

Our early years centre provides places for children aged 3-5 and eligible 2 year olds who meet qualifying criteria. Full details on delivery models within Local Authority Early Years Centres can be found on the East Dunbartonshire Council website

Funded places can be accessed either in a local authority early years centre or with a Funded Provider. Funded Providers, include early learning and childcare providers in the private, voluntary and independent sector, as well as childminders who have been accepted into East Dunbartonshire Councils early years procurement framework to provide early learning and childcare.

The <u>East Dunbartonshire Council website</u> sets out clear information to guide the online application process for all funded early years places. Applications for 3 and 4 year old places normally open on the first week of January and close on the last day of February each year. Applying before the closing date will give you the best chance to get the early years centre and pattern that you have requested, however, this is not guaranteed and all places are allocated as per the <u>Early Years Admissions Policy</u>. Parents are required to upload a copy of their child's birth certificate, their council tax notice as proof of residency and a recent utility bill (gas, electric, broadband or TV licence) at application stage.

Some two year olds are also eligible to access funded early learning and childcare, where their household meets Scottish Government criteria. This criteria can be found under the FAQ's section on the East Dunbartonshire Council Early Years webpage. Applications for a funded two year old place can be made at any time. When applying, parents are required to upload a recent confirmation of qualifying income, a copy of their child's birth certificate, their council tax notice as proof of residency and a recent utility bill (gas, electric, broadband or TV licence). Eligible two year olds can start from the term after their second birthday, as per the Early Years Admissions Policy. Parents will also be required to complete an application for their child's 3 and 4 year old place.

East Dunbartonshire Council has some availability for parents to purchase childcare for children aged 3 months to two years, and for two year olds; online applications can be found on the website.

Parents and carers have the legal right to defer their child's entry to primary school if their child's fifth birthday falls between the first day of the school term in August and the last day of the following February.

From August 2023, a change in Scottish Government legislation means that all children are automatically entitled to 1140 hours of funded early learning and childcare for their child's deferred entry year. Applications for deferred entry and FAQ's can be found on the East Dunbartonshire Council website.

It is important to note that parents who are applying for deferred entry for their child must also register their child for Primary 1. The Early Years Admissions Policy provides the framework for allocation of early years places in local authority early years centres in East Dunbartonshire.

Please note: Children who have their fifth birthday between 1st March and the first day of term in August must start school. Exceptions are only made in extraordinary circumstances, and where it would be considered in the best interests of the child to further delay their school commencement date. This would normally only apply to children with significant additional support needs.

# **Transfer from Early Learning and Childcare Centre to primary**

# Registration and enrolment

Information on new school entrants can be found on the council's website, <a href="www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk">www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk</a>. Enrolment is in January each year. Pupils should be registered in only one school for their catchment area. Information about the school, can be found on the school website. Parents who want to send their child to a school other than the catchment school must make a placing request. Parents of pupils who have moved into the catchment area or, who wish their child to transfer to the school, should contact the school office for information.

Before leaving an Early Learning & Childcare Centre, a transfer of information record for each child will be prepared by Early Year's staff to ensure a smooth transition and continuity of care and education for the child transferring to primary.

#### **School Admissions**

When commencing Primary 1 education, your child will normally attend the local denominational or non-denominational Primary school (regardless of religion) and transfer from it, after Primary 7, to its associated Secondary school. Details of the catchment areas and boundaries can be obtained from Shared Services – Education by emailing sharedservices.education@eastdunbarton.gov.uk or calling 0300 1234510.

Enrolment dates will be set by the Education Service and the enrolment should be completed in January prior to the start of term in August. The authority will provide information on enrolments on the website, in the local press and Early Learning & Childcare Centres advertising the date(s) for registration. Parents are asked to provide the relevant birth certificate(s) and proof of residency when enrolling their child(ren).

You are still required to enrol your child(ren) at your catchment school even if you do not wish him/her to attend that school.

You are still required to enrol your child(ren) at your catchment school even if you are also applying to defer their entry and take up an additional year of early learning and childcare.

Enrolment dates will be available through the East Dunbartonshire Council website at www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk.

Children eligible for enrolment are those whose 5<sup>th</sup> birthday falls between 1<sup>st</sup> March and the end of February the following year.

#### **Secondary School Admissions**

Transfer Information will be issued to Primary 7 parents in December/January each year.

If you wish your child to attend a secondary school other than the catchment denominational or nondenominational secondary school(s) for your home address, you will be required to make a Placing Request as detailed in the Placing Request section below.

You do not need to submit a Placing Request if you want your child to transfer from a non-denominational secondary school or vice-versa at the primary to secondary transfer stage, as long as the intended secondary school is still the catchment school for your home address. Parents of children who are planning to change from denominational to non-denominational or vice-versa between primary and secondary school should ensure that both the primary school and the intended secondary school know what is to happen.

#### **CATCHMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL**

The catchment secondary school for Torrance Primary is Boclair Academy:

Inveroran Drive Bearsden Tel. 0141-955-2358

There is a robust system of liaison in place with our secondary school so ensuring a smooth transfer for our pupils from P7 to S1. Levels, progress and strengths in curricular areas are passed to the secondary school. During transition arrangements, parents are also invited to view the school and are given information relating to their new school.

The liaison for children with additional support needs will start early in the year to ensure a successful transition.

#### **Placing Requests**

As a parent, you have the right to make a Placing Request for your child(ren) to be educated in a school other than the catchment school. Applications for Primary 1 and Secondary 1 Placing Requests to commence school in August will be considered following the application process detailed on the Placing Request section of the East Dunbartonshire Council website.

Every effort will be made to try to meet parental wishes, but you should note that it is not always possible to grant every Placing Request to a particular school. You should also note that a

successful Placing Request for one child does not guarantee a successful one for another child. It may be, therefore, that a parent could end up with children at different schools.

Primary 1 children must also be enrolled at their catchment school using the registration process detailed on the East Dunbartonshire Council website whilst awaiting the outcome of their Placing Request Application. If the Placing Request is granted, the child's enrolment at the catchment school will automatically be withdrawn by the Education Service.

Placing Requests can only be approved when there are sufficient places remaining in the class after all catchment area children have enrolled and if staffing and accommodation at the school are able to meet the numbers of Placing Requests at that school. The Education Service can also reserve places in a class for future catchment pupils they expect to move into the area in the following school year.

If more Placing Requests are made for admission to a particular school than places available, these Requests will be prioritised according to East Dunbartonshire Council's Admissions Policy and requests accepted and refused accordingly.

Your Placing Request will be considered against a set of criteria which is set out in the Council's priorities for admission. Further information is available on the East Dunbartonshire Council Website.

Any Placing Requests received after the 15<sup>th</sup> March for Primary and Secondary will not be considered in the first round of Placing Requests. Parents / Carers will be notified of the outcome of their request within 2 months of receipt your Placing Request.

As soon as a decision has been made, you will be notified of the result. If your Placing Request is successful, you will be asked to contact the school to establish arrangements for enrolment.

Parents should note that in cases where your child is currently in attendance at a primary school as a result of a successful placing request, there will be the need for a further request to be made to transfer to the secondary school associated with the primary school. Parents should, however, be aware there is no guarantee that any such request will be successful and therefore contact should be made with your local secondary school to inform them of your intention to request a place in a school of your choice. Parents are requested to contact the education office to clarify this position if they are unsure.

#### **Mid-Session Transfers**

You may make a Placing Request at any time during a school session. If your child is experiencing problems at school, you are advised to discuss the matter with the Head Teacher prior to making a Placing Request. Completing the Application Form does not guarantee a place for your child at your chosen school. Your Placing Request will only be granted if there are surplus places available at the school.

#### **Transport for Placing Requests**

If a Placing Request is successful, parents will be responsible for the safety and transportation costs of their child to and from their chosen school.

#### SUPPORT FOR LEARNERS

#### CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

East Dunbartonshire Council's policies, procedures and practices relating to children and young people with additional support needs are in line with the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 which place duties on education authorities and provide rights for parents of children with additional support needs and young people with additional support needs.

All children require support to help them learn. However, there are some children and young people who need some extra support or support which is a bit different from the support provided for all children to make sure they benefit from school education. That support may come from education services but can also be provided by an NHS Board, Social Work, Skills Development Scotland or independent and voluntary organisations. Children and young people in school who need extra support or a different sort of support from which is generally available have additional support needs.

These additional support needs can arise for lots of different reasons. The reasons which a child or young person may have additional support needs are too many to list here, however the following are examples:

That the child or young person:

- Finds it difficult to focus and engage in school;
- Is hearing or visually impaired;
- Has a particular health need;
- Is living with parents who have drug or alcohol dependency;
- Has English as an additional language.

Some additional support needs may only last for a short period of time while others will be life-long.

If you think your child may have additional support needs, you should talk to your child's school or pre-school provision.

All children and young people have their needs continuously assessed and reviewed. Your child's school will be able to show you their assessment of your child's needs and will send you copies of reports on how your child is progressing in school.

All schools and early years establishments in East Dunbartonshire look at children's needs through a wellbeing pathway that ensures a continuum of support from Universal to Targeted in line with the national Getting It Right For Every Child approach. This process allows teachers and others to:

- Identify those children who may need additional support;
- Make plans to support those children identified;
- Deliver the support the child requires; and
- Regularly review the support provided.

In addition to the additional support which schools themselves can provide through individual planning or making specific resources available, schools can also request support from East Dunbartonshire Council's specialist educational support services. The Council can also provide

individual children with special equipment and resources if necessary. Some children may also benefit from attending the special schools and specialist resources which East Dunbartonshire manages.

Parents have a very important role to play in their child's education and the views of parents and young people will always be taken into account when making decisions which affect the child or young person. If your child requires additional support at school, you can provide the school with important information about your child which will be helpful in making plans to support your child. Parents and young people will always be invited to participate in reviews of progress.

A small number of children and young people with additional support needs require a co-ordinated support plan (CSP). All of these children and young people will already have a staged intervention plan provided for them in school which sets out targets for their learning and timescales for achieving those targets. Parents, professionals and the child or young person can all be involved in regularly reviewing the plans. The CSP sets out the educational objectives for an individual which can only be achieved by services such as health or social work working together with education to support the child or young person i.e. where the support required must be co-ordinated.

If you have a concern that your child's additional support needs are not being met, you should always, in the first instance, contact the school to arrange a time to discuss that concern. Every effort will be made by the school and the education authority to resolve you concern at that point. If you are not happy with the way the matter has been dealt with and you continue to have concerns, you may be able to make use of one (or more) or the following:

- Mediation
- Independent adjudication
- The Additional Support Needs Tribunals for Scotland to assist in reaching a satisfactory conclusion.

The Education (Additional Support for Learning) Act 2004/2009 places duties on local authorities to provide access to independent mediation for resolving disputes with parents and carers of children and young people with additional support needs when or if they arise. East Dunbartonshire Council uses Resolve Scotland. For further information contact: 0131 313 8844 or go to www.resolve.org.uk

#### SUPPORT FOR LEARNING SERVICES

East Dunbartonshire Council, in supporting inclusion in its schools, has a number of support for learning services. These are:

- Education Support Team which includes English as an Additional Language Learning Support (Secondary), Sensory-Hearing Impaired and Visual Impaired, Language and Communication Resources
- Wellbeing Support Service

The Services support pupils through:-

- Consultancy
- Continuing Professional Development
- Co-operative Teaching
- Curriculum Development
- Partnership Working

#### SUPPORTING FAMILIES SERVICE

The core purpose of this service is to provide support to families in developing their skills and confidence in their parenting and to provide services to children to enhance their development and learning. Examples of the services available include group parenting workshops, bespoke 1 to 1 support and advice. Services also include a holiday play scheme for children and young people with additional support needs as well as our Snack and Play holiday programmes for children who meet certain criteria. If you wish to find out more about any of these services, please contact the team by emailing: parenting@eastdunbarton.gov.uk A member of the team will be in touch.

#### PROTECTING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

East Dunbartonshire Council has issued Child Protection Procedures and Guidance which all staff must follow to promote the welfare of children and to protect them from harm.

All adults must share the responsibility for promoting children's health and safety and ensuring, as far as possible, that all children are protected from abuse, neglect and exploitation. Children cannot be expected to take full responsibly for keeping themselves safe. Professional staff must work together and in co-operation with families and carers to enable children to grow up in a warm, stimulating and safe environment.

Education staff are required to assist in the protection of children by:

- · Creating and maintaining a positive and caring ethos
- Developing health and personal safety programmes
- · Being observant of children's needs, views and concerns
- Reporting and recording concerns about the welfare or safety of children
- Monitoring and supporting children in co-operation with relevant professionals, parents and carers.

Education staff cannot keep secret any allegations or concerns about child abuse, even if a child or adult request this. Information or concerns that a child may be at risk of harm must be passed on in order to protect the child. Staff will treat the matter sensitively, and information will only be passed to those who need to know in order to protect and support the child.

If parents or others have concerns for any child, they can speak to the Head Teacher about this. They can also contact social work services and/or the police.

When a member of staff, a child or another individual provides information and the Head Teacher considers that there is a possibility that a child has been harmed or is at risk of harm, the Head Teacher is required to immediately contact social work services to discuss the circumstances and agree the immediate action to be taken. School staff are then required to co-operate with any subsequent enquiries or support plans.

Every education establishment or service has copies of the East Dunbartonshire Council Child Protection Procedures and Guidance. These are available for reference from the Head Teacher.

#### **ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS**

As with all local authority schools in Scotland, this school operates under the term of the Additional Support for Learning Act (2009) and its accompanying Code of Practice. Further details of the policies and procedures can be found on the East Dunbartonshire Council website and the school's Additional Support for Learning Co-ordinator will also be able to outline the support that can be offered in school.

Working with other agencies and professionals, e.g. Social Work Services, Educational Psychology Service, NHS and parents, decisions are made with regards to the best possible education to meet the needs of the child within the resources available.

Parents, carers and children with additional support needs can also seek independent advice and support through the following:

- Enquire: Tel: 0845 123 2303 or www.enquire.org.uk
- Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance: Tel: 0131 260 5380 or www.siaa.org.uk
- Take Note: National Advocacy Service for Additional Support Needs (Barnardos in association with the Scottish Child Law Centre): Tel: 0131 667 6633 or <a href="https://www.sclc.org.uk">www.sclc.org.uk</a>

#### **Autism Adviser**

Every establishment has an Autism Adviser who is an established member of the school teaching team and who has been provided with training and ongoing support from a multi-agency team - led by an educational psychologist and a quality improvement officer. Every Autism Adviser is guided by a process of collaborative practitioner enquiry, which allows the school to develop the role of their Autism Adviser in response to the needs of their school context. Every Autism Adviser will be able to signpost colleagues to resources and sources of supports. While every establishment will use their Autism Adviser differently, the role of the Autism Adviser may include facilitating staff training within their school, supporting communication to parents/carers; planning for establishments' Autism Awareness Week; running a parents/carers' support group and supporting individual staff members using existing school structures (e.g. Pupil Support Group).

#### **Pupil Support Group**

At Torrance Primary we have a Pupil Support Group (PSG) led and co-ordinated by Mrs Bonar, Mrs Copeland and Mrs Law. At these meetings the needs of our children and young people are continually reviewed and monitored. Teachers, network support staff, health, educational psychologists, Senior Management Team and relevant support staff from within the school participate in the meetings to ensure we meet the needs of all learners. When additional information or action is required we work collaboratively with parents and pupils to plan appropriate interventions.

#### **Action Planning**

When required, Action Planning is a process which is used to identify, assess and support the learning needs of children and young people. It provides:

a) a record of intervention and achievement for individual children as they progress through early years and school provision;

- b) an inclusive approach which involves parents/carers, children and young people, relevant staff and support services;
- c) agreed learning and support plans which record the needs of the individual;
- d) a commitment to a solution focused approach to resolving issues early and at the least intrusive level of intervention; and
- e) a structured monitoring and review cycle.

#### SPECIALIST SUPPORT SERVICE

The Additional Support for Learning Team makes provision for children and young people who have a range of additional support needs. The service comprises of teachers who work in the pre-5, special primary and secondary sectors. Staff in the team work in partnership with staff in the establishments to plan and deliver an appropriate curriculum. The service also provides staff development and advice on resources.

The teams support of additional needs of:

- Children with a significant hearing and/or visual impairment
- Bilingual learners who are at early stages of learning spoken English
- Looked after and accommodated children and young people who are experiencing difficulties in school
- Children who have language and communication difficulties
- · Children who have social, emotional or behaviour needs
- Children at early stages of primary school who have a developmental co-ordination disorder along with attention difficulties
- Young people who attend special provision units
- Pre-5 children who have been identified as have significant support needs

#### **PASTORAL SUPPORT**

The school and nursery pastoral support is addressed by the child's Key Worker or Class Teacher in the first instance. Steps to support pupils would then pass to the Principal Teacher, then to the Depute Head Teachers responsible for their departments. Children with additional support needs may also have pastoral support from the Learning Support Co-ordinator for each department.

A number of organisations out with East Dunbartonshire exist to provide advice and support for pupils. These organisations are identified under The Additional Support for Learning (Sources of Information) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2011 as:

- (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;
- (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 SCO12741.

# PROMOTING WELLBEING, PROTECTING AND SAFEGUARDING

The Scottish Government introduced Getting It Right for Every Child (*GIRFEC*) as a programme of change, reaching across all children and adult services in the public and voluntary sectors in Scotland to achieve better futures for all of our children, young people and their families. It builds from universal health and education services and drives the developments that will improve outcomes for all children and young people.

We want all our children and young people to be fully supported as they grow and develop into successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens. We believe they should be: Safe; Healthy; Active; Nurtured; Achieving; Respected; Responsible and Included. These are the eight indicators of wellbeing.

The *Getting It Right* approach is about how practitioners across all services for children and adults meet the needs of children and young people, working together where necessary to ensure they reach their full potential. This approach, based on the United Nations Convention for the Rights of the Child, is:

- Child focussed, ensuring that the child and family are at the heart of decisions and supports;
- Based on a holistic understanding of wellbeing;
- Early interventionist to tackle needs as soon as they appear; and
- Joined up, to ensure services work together.

It is the entitlement of every child to be supported throughout their education. The *Wellbeing Pathway* provides a continuum of support from universal to targeted and ensures practice is underpinned by a shared understanding of wellbeing and in the dignity and worth of every individual child/young person.

Teachers plan experiences and assess progress in learning, and for most children this is sufficient. From time to time, however, approximately one fifth of learners may experience developmental or environmental difficulties which impact on their ability to learn. For most, modifications can minimise the impact of such difficulties and learning can proceed. These modifications are described as differentiation and in most cases teachers will differentiate as part of normal teaching and learning, without the need for intervention from promoted staff.

Within East Dunbartonshire schools, teachers employ the following model to provide a clear, structured pathway for learners.

- Modifying Content use of learning materials at different levels
- Modifying Process varying the length of time children take to complete a task
- Modifying Product giving children choice in how to express ideas or required learning
- Modifying Learning Environment giving children areas to work which suit their learning styles

Staff record differentiated approaches in their short and long term plans and ensure that the results of differentiation are clearly documented within evaluations of teaching and learning.

Where intended progress does not take place, the child/young person's needs are considered within the next stage of the Wellbeing Pathway, Targeted Support.

When a wellbeing concern has been brought to their attention, the pupil support coordinator will consider the following questions in relation to the eight wellbeing indicators:

- · What is getting in the way of this child or young person's wellbeing?
- · Do I have all the information I need to help this child or young person?
- · What can I do now to help this child or young person?
- · What can my agency do to help this child or young person?
- · What additional help, if any, may be needed from others?

All pupils who are considered for Targeted Support, access this through their Pupil Support or Support for All Group. This ensures that staff comply with duties in CYP Act 2014 and ASL Act 2004, 2009.

All assessments to determine the need for Targeted Support fully involve the views of the child and parents.

#### CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting, or by failing to act to prevent, significant harm to the child. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional setting, by those known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger. Child protection" means protecting a child from child abuse or neglect. If a child's wellbeing is considered to be at risk, relevant information must always be shared. It is our public responsibility to protect children. Anyone who suspects child abuse or neglect should contact East Dunbartonshire Council Social Work Advice and Response on 0141-777 3000, or the Police. Each school has a designated Child Protection Coordinator, who will work with other professionals, children and where appropriate, families to safeguard children. The name of the Child Protection Coordinator should be displayed prominently within the school.

#### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

#### **RAISING ATTAINMENT**

Monitoring performance and using the resulting information to secure improvement is an important part of the work of Head Teachers, school staff and officers within Education Services.

#### STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

Every year each school publishes a Standards and Quality report which highlights the school's major achievements. A copy of our Standards and Quality report can be accessed from our website.

#### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Every school has a school improvement plan which outlines the main areas of improvement to be undertaken. These areas are identified through our internal evaluation, parents' evaluations and pupils' evaluations. The school's current improvement plan can be accessed from our website or a hard copy can be provided on request. This school session, the School Improvement Plan priorities have directed the spending of the allocated funding to Torrance Primary through the Pupil Equity Fund in order to raise attainment, achievement and promote equity for all.

The main priorities for the coming session will continue to focus upon key national and local agendas, focussing particularly on literacy and health and wellbeing.

#### THE SCOTXED PROGRAMME

Education Authorities, the Scottish Government and its partners have, for many years, collected information about pupils on paper forms. The information is now transferred electronically through the ScotXed programme.

The following explanation has been provided directly by ScotXed:

#### Transferring Educational Data About Pupils

The Scottish Government and its partners collect and use information about pupils in schools (e.g. the number and characteristics of pupils, their attendance, absence and exclusions, their attainment and their destination when leaving school) to help to improve education across Scotland. This note explains why we need this information, how we use it and what we do to protect the information supplied to us.

#### Why do we need your data?

In order to make the best decisions about how to improve our education service, Scottish Government, education authorities and other partners such as the SQA and Skills Development

Scotland need accurate, up-to-date data about our pupils. We are keen to help all our pupils do well in all aspects of school life and achieve better examination results. Accurate and up-to-date data allows us to:

- o plan and deliver better policies for the benefit of all pupils
- o plan and deliver better policies for the benefit of specific groups of pupils
- o better understand some of the factors which influence pupil attainment and achievement
- share good practice
- o target resources better
- o enhance the quality of research to improve the lives of young people in Scotland

#### **DATA POLICY**

Information about pupils' education is collected through our statistical surveys in partnership between the Scottish Government and Local Authorities through the ScotXed Programme which aims to help schools and Local Authorities by supporting efficient collection, processing and dissemination of statistical information. The Scottish Government then provides analysis of the data to support research, planning, management and monitoring of education services as well as to produce National Statistics publications.

Education data within Scottish Government is managed effectively by secure systems and is exploited as a valuable corporate resource, subject to confidentiality restraints. As part of its data policy, Scottish Government will not publish or make publicly available any information that allows individual pupils to be identified, nor will data be used by Scottish Government to take any actions in respect of individuals. Data is held securely and no information on individual pupils can or would be made publicly available by Scottish Government.

The individual data about pupils in schools collected by Scottish Government through statistical surveys is used only for the statistical and research purposes for which it is collected.

#### YOUR DATA PROTECTION RIGHTS

The collection, transfer, processing and sharing of ScotXed data is done in accordance with the Data Protection Act (2018). We also comply with the National Statistics Code of Practice requirements and other legislation related to safeguarding the confidentiality of data. The Data Protection Act gives you the right to know how we will use your data. This note can give only a brief description of how we use data. Fuller details of each individual ScotXed survey, including the purpose of each and the published data, can be found on the ScotXed website (<a href="http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/ScotXed">http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/ScotXed</a>). Pupil names and addresses (other than postcode) are never collected in any ScotXed statistical survey.

Scottish Government works with a range of partners including Education Scotland, Skills Development Scotland and the SQA. On occasion, in order to help meet our aim of improving the life of young people in Scotland, we may make individual data available to partners such as the National Registers of Scotland to carry out research relating to the national population census and also to academic institutions and organisations to carry out additional research and statistical analysis which helps inform policy development and contributes to improving outcomes for Scotland's people. In order to carry out this research to support better decisions, policy making and practice, data may be linked to information from other sources.

Any sharing or linkage of data will be done under the strict control of Scottish Government, and will be consistent with our data policy and the National Data Linkage Guiding Principles. This will ensure that no individual level data will be made public as a result of the data sharing and that these data will not be used to take any actions in respect of an individual. Decisions on the sharing or linkage of data will be taken in consultation with relevant colleagues and individuals within and outwith Scottish Government. At all times pupils' rights under the Data Protection Act and other relevant legislation will be ensured.

#### **CONCERNS**

If you have any concerns about the ScotXed data collections you can email the Head of Schools Analysis, Mick Wilson, at <a href="mailto:mick.wilson@scotland.gsi.gov.uk">mick.wilson@scotland.gsi.gov.uk</a> or or write to Education Analytical Services, Area 2D, Victoria Quay, Leith, EH6 6QQ.

#### SCHOOL POLICIES AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION

#### **School Uniform**

It is the policy of the Education Committee to encourage pupils to wear an acceptable form of school dress as determined by Head Teachers, Parent Councils and parents. In encouraging the wearing of school dress, account must be taken of any proposals to prevent any direct or indirect discrimination on the grounds of race or gender. Any proposal will be the subject of widespread consultation with parents and pupils.

Parents are asked to co-operate with the school in encouraging the wearing of the school uniform.

The uniform was agreed in consultation with parents, pupils, staff and the Parent Council. It incorporates a range of popular items of dress, e.g. sweatshirts, T-shirts.

Wearing school uniform contributes to a positive school ethos and helps avoid discrimination and reduces peer pressure to wear expensive designer clothing.

The following is a description of our school uniform:
Grey or navy trousers/skirt
Royal blue school sweatshirt
White shirt/school tie
White polo shirt
Black shoes
Blazer

Blue summer dress

For PE: Trainers and school PE kit (white t-shirt and navy shorts).

A school's reputation can also be enhanced in the local community by the wearing of school uniform and school security will be improved as it will be easier to identify intruders.

The appropriate clothing and footwear for PE is a T-shirt, shorts and gym shoes with non-marking soles. These are necessary for health and safety reasons and your co-operation is requested to ensure that pupils are equipped to participate in the PE lessons. – <u>please note there is a requirement that all jewellery is removed prior to undertaking physical education activities.</u>

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled, particularly ties, sweat shirts and PE kit which are often lost. A protective apron or an old shirt should be worn for art and craft activities. Please help the school and the education authority by making sure that pupils do not bring valuable or expensive items of clothing to school.

Offensive clothing such as T-shirts or other items painted with obscene language or illustrations are not permitted. Football colours are also inappropriate as they can lead to incidents of rivalry.

Under no circumstances will pupils be deprived of any educational benefit as a result of not wearing uniform and, in particular, pupils will not be denied access to examinations as a result of not wearing school dress.

Parents are asked to assist by ensuring that valuable items and unnecessarily expensive items of clothing are not brought to school.

Some families may be may be eligible for school clothing grant and free school meals. Information on criteria and the application form for this can be found at www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk under School Clothing Grants and Free School Meals.

Approval of any requests for such grants made by parents in different circumstances is at the discretion of the Chief Education Officer.

If you have any queries regarding the school's dress code, please contact the Head Teacher.

#### **School Meals**

We know that maintaining a healthy diet is linked to a happy and active lifestyle. By eating a school meal provided by East Dunbartonshire Council's School Meals Service your child is guaranteed a balanced nutritious meal to keep them healthy and alert throughout the school day.

The meals are freshly cooked on a daily basis by our skilled staff who care about food and your child's wellbeing. Our staff will help your child to make balanced choices. The meals meet the Scottish Government's nutritional regulations.

Any Special diets or allergies should be discussed with the school.

Meal prices are reviewed annually. Please contact the School to be advised of the current price.

At Torrance Primary, lunch break is 12.15 – 1pm. Within this time, we have 2 lunch sittings for P1-3 and P4-7. Cashless Catering is used throughout the school and meals can be pre-ordered for children. All children eat in the dining hall whether they are packed lunch or school lunch and have the opportunity to play outside before or after their lunch sitting.

#### **Free School Meals**

From January 2022 all P1-P5 pupils are entitled to a Free School Meal. This is universal and in line with the Scottish Government Guidelines.

Some families may also be may be eligible for school clothing grant and free school meals. Information on eligibility criteria and the application form for this can be found at www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk under School Clothing Grants and Free School Meals.

#### **TRANSPORT**

#### (a) General

It is a parents' responsibility to ensure their child arrives at school and returns home from school in a safe and responsible manner. In order to assist parents in getting their child of school age to school safely and on time, the Education Authority has a policy of providing free transport to primary pupils who live one mile or more from their catchment primary school by the recognised shortest walking route. This policy is more generous than the law requires. This

means that the provision of transport could be reviewed at any time. Parents who consider they are eligible should obtain an application form from the school or education office or www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk. These forms should be completed and returned before the end of February for those pupils beginning school in August to enable the appropriate arrangements to be made. Applications may be submitted at any time throughout the year but may be subject to delay whilst arrangements are made.

Children not collected by parents are supervised until the end of the normal school day. Chief Education Officer has discretion in special circumstances to grant permission for pupils to travel in transport provided by the authority where spare places are available and no additional costs are incurred. This is known as concessionary travel and parents are required to submit concessionary travel applications each year in the period June – July to ensure that consideration can be given to their request for concessionary transport for August. Parents should obtain an application form from the education office or www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk.

#### (b) Pick up Points

Where free transport is provided it may be necessary for pupils to walk a certain distance to the vehicle pick-up points. 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 limits (see above paragraph). It is the parents responsibility to ensure their child arrives at the pick-up point on time. It is also the parent's responsibility to ensure the child behaves in a safe and acceptable manner while boarding, travelling and alighting from the vehicle. Misbehaviour could result in your child losing the right to free transport.

#### (c) Placing Request

The education authority does not provide transport for those pupils in receipt of a placing request other than in exceptional circumstances.

In the case of early entry requests, if the child is offered a place in his/her catchment area school, transport will be provided in accordance with the council policy stated above.

#### **Adverse Weather Conditions**

#### DRIVER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- In adverse weather conditions drivers MUST liaise with Head Teachers to ensure the safety of the children.
- In periods of snow and ice the driver must use his discretion to decide if a road is passable or not. He should endeavour to choose a route which gives the greatest number of children a reasonable chance of getting to school safely.
- At their own discretion drivers may abandon a morning journey and return all pupils already picked up to their homes and inform the relevant Head Teacher concerned. See bullet point below.\*
- On homeward journeys pupils shall only be set down at their normal vehicle set down point. If there is a possibility that the vehicle will be unable to take the pupils to that point, contingency plans should be made with the Head Teacher.
- In the event that transport cannot continue due to blocked roads or any other obstruction, children will be instructed to stay in the vehicle until rescue can be organised.

# STRATHCLYDE PARTNERSHIP FOR TRANSPORT/EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- SPT will contact a Senior Officer within EDC to advise of difficulties with transport.
- Senior Officer will contact Head Teacher/s.
- Head Teachers to contact parents, where possible by text message, (at peak times there may be delays due to volume across local authorities).
- \* In the event of journey being abandoned, Head Teachers will advise the driver of any change to normal home address.
- At the beginning of every session, the school should update the contact details for all parents/guardians for pupils accessing school transport. This will allow school office staff to inform parents/guardians immediately of changes due to adverse weather.
- If the inclement weather is continuous, the school will update their website on a daily basis.

#### PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- To ensure child/children are at designated pick up point (please note that in adverse weather this may differ from original point, Head Teacher will advise).
- If concerns regarding bus arrival, contact bus operator and/or school.
- Parents should ensure that they notify the school of any changes to their contact details.
- If they have not already done so, parents are advised to register for the text messaging alert system within their child's school.
- Where inclement weather is present and it is probable that the current pick up point is unlikely to be accessed, parents should take a common sense approach and their child/children should be taken or directed to the closest accessible pick up point within a reasonable distance.

#### **MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE**

Information should be given on medical and dental inspections and on dental treatment. Parents should be given an indication of the procedures followed if a child takes ill at school. Parents should be made aware of the necessity to inform the school of any particular medical requirements and of arrangements to be made if a child has to be taken home.

Parents should provide the Head Teacher with sufficient information about their child's health care needs and treatment. Where necessary, this information should be updated annually or more frequently if there is a change in circumstances. Where there is concern about whether the school can meet the pupil's needs or where the parents' expectations appear unreasonable, the Head Teacher should seek advice from the school nurse or doctor and, if required, the Chief Education Officer.

#### **DATA PROTECTION ACT 2018**

East Dunbartonshire Council will process your child's personal data in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and all other relevant legislation. The Council may share your child's personal data with other Council services and public agencies to support the delivery of services to promote the health, safety and well-being of children and young people. For full details of how we will use your data please visit - www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/council/privacy-notices

# **ACCESSING YOUR CHILD'S PUPIL RECORDS**

Parents have a legal right of access to their child's core education records, regardless of the age of their child. These are the records held within your child's Personal Pupil Record (PPR). Parents do not have a general right of access to all records that mention their child. To access your child's file, please apply in writing to the Head Teacher.

A child has a legal right of access to all records held about them. This includes records that may be held out with of the PPR. If a child is aged 12 or over and can show suitable maturity and understanding they may exercise this right of access through a request to the Head Teacher in writing. If your child is aged 11 or younger, or is not considered to have suitable maturity or understanding, then a parent may make an application on their child's behalf for access to all records. The table below summarises who may access what records through writing to the appropriate Head Teacher.

AGE OF CHILD	CHILD'S LEGAL RIGHTS	PARENT'S LEGAL RIGHTS
Under 12	A child's parent or guardian may apply on the child's behalf for access to all records	Right of access to core education record (PPR)
12 and older	If able to show suitable maturity and understanding, the child may apply for access to all records	Right of access to core education record (PPR)
		No legal right to all records unless acting as child's representative because child is unable to show suitable maturity or understanding

# **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002**

The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act gives individuals a statutory right to the unpublished "internal" information and records held by Scottish Public Authorities such as East Dunbartonshire Council and its schools. Individuals have already used this legislation to find out about policy, procedures and how particular decisions have been reached. If you would like to use this legislation to access particular information please write to the Head Teacher, and subject to certain conditions and exemptions, you will receive a full response within twenty working days of receipt of the request.

Please note that you cannot access personal information on staff or pupils under this legislation. To access personal information about your own child, please see the section 28 on Accessing Your Child's Pupil Records.

#### **USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEO FILM INVOLVING PUPILS**

On occasion, the school may seek permission from parents to photograph/video pupils for internal purposes within the school, for Council publicity materials and/or for press/media related activities. If a pupil's image is being used on any webpage or on a webcam, parents will be asked for express consent as this image has the capability of being viewed by any person with Internet access world wide.

Pupil photographs will be held with the school's Management Information System (SEEMIS), parents will be asked for consent.

#### SCHOOL CAMPUS NO SMOKING POLICY

With the introduction of the Smoking, Health and Social Care (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Prohibition of Smoking in Certain Premises (Scotland) Regulations 2006, East Dunbartonshire Council now operates a no smoking policy across all authority's school campuses. Any person accessing the school must refrain from smoking in any of the school campus areas.

#### **PUPIL USE OF MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL**

There have been many concerns raised by Head Teachers, staff and parents about the extensive use of mobile phones by pupils and the associated risks of such use while in school.

The Education Committee of East Dunbartonshire Council as a result of these concerns, agreed that each school should have the power to set its own policy in relation to pupil use of mobile phones in school.

All establishments will incorporate the following points into their policy:

- 1. Schools will discourage, and will also advise parents to discourage, pupils from bringing mobile phones to schools.
- 2. Parents will be advised that East Dunbartonshire Council will not accept liability for the loss or damage of mobile phones which are brought into the school or school grounds by pupils.
- 3. If pupils bring mobile phones to school, the phones must remain switched off while the pupils are in class. Head Teachers will have the power to extend the switching off of mobile phones by pupils to the whole school building and also to the school grounds.
- 4. Where a pupil is found by a member of staff to be using a mobile phone outwith the policy of the school, the phone will be confiscated. When a phone is confiscated, a receipt will be passed to the pupil by the relevant member of staff, in order that the pupil can present the receipt at the end of the school day to uplift the phone.
- 5. If a pupil is found taking photographs or video footage with a mobile phone of either other pupils or staff, this will be regarded as a serious offence and the Head Teacher, depending on the circumstances, will decide on an appropriate discipline. In certain circumstances, the pupil may be referred to the Chief Education Officer. If images of other pupils or staff have been taken, the phone will not be returned to the pupil until the images have been removed.

#### APPOINTMENT OF ADULTS TO VOLUNTARY CHILD CARE POSITIONS

In order to meet a legal obligation under the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003 and as part of the policy in respect of child protection, the Council has introduced a policy to ensure that any individual who is appointed to a voluntary child care position is not fully listed on the Disqualified from Working with Children List.

This policy, which requires any adult appointed to a voluntary child care position, to undergo a criminal background check to ensure their suitability. The policy applies in particular to:

- parent volunteer helpers in schools who are considered to have regular contact with children and young people;
- parents and co-opted members of parent councils;
- parent members of local parent-teacher associations;
- elected members serving on committees relating to the development of children's services;
- any other individual working in a voluntary child care position within a service managed by East Dunbartonshire Council.

The policy builds on East Dunbartonshire Council's *Child Protection Interagency Guidance* (2002) which underpins all child protection work undertaken by local authority services. It also complements the Council's policy on the leasing of council premises to organisations which provide activities and services to children and young people.

# **USEFUL ADDRESSES**

#### **East Dunbartonshire Council**

Southbank Marina 12 Strathkelvin Place Kirkintilloch G66 1XQ

Tel: 0141 578 8000

# **Area Registration Service Office**

Area Office 38 Roman Road Bearsden G61 2SH

Tel: 0141 578 8669

# **Community Learning and Development (School Letting Section)**

Business Support Southbank House Strathkelvin Place Kirkintilloch G66 1XQ

Tel: 0300 1234510

# **Care Inspectorate**

1 Smithhills Street Paisley PA1 1EB

Tel: 0141 843 4230

Although this information is correct at time of printing, there could be changes affecting any of the matters dealt with in this document, before the commencement or during the course of the school year in question or in relation to subsequent years.



# **Torrance Primary & Nursery Class**

West Road Torrance G64 4DE

School Tel: 0141 955 2228 Nursery Tel: 0141 955 2229 01360 622 232 www.torrance.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

