



From mountain to sea

Kemnay Primary School

Handbook 2024/25



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4: Introduction to Kemnay Primary School

1 Introduction to Kemnay Primary School



Welcome to Kemnay Primary School.

As Head Teacher, I hope that the partnership between home and school will be productive and enjoyable and that your child settles and enjoys his/her time with us.

We take pride in the fact that this is a happy and industrious school with a real sense of team spirit, and we value that the education of the child/children is shared with parents, who have a very important role to play. This handbook aims to explain how that partnership develops successfully through help, support and expectations. Early communication from parent or school will help to promote this partnership also.

This Aberdeenshire Council handbook is designed to inform parents of as many aspects of life at Kemnay Primary School as possible and has been written in response to School Handbook Guidance (Scotland) Regulations 2012.

We hope you find this handbook informative.
Please feel free to contact us with any suggestions for improvements.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'D. Williams'.

David Williams
Head Teacher

Please note – “Parent” includes guardian and any person who is liable to maintain **or** has parental responsibilities (within the section 1 (3) of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995) in relation to, **or** has care of a child or young person.

1.1 School Contact Details

David Williams (Head Teacher)
Kemnay Primary School

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Kemnay.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
<http://kemnay-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/>

Grove Road, Kemnay. Inverurie
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[Facebook](#)

Kemnay School Parent Group (KSPG)

Chairperson
Facebook Page



kspgchairperson@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/kemnayschoolparentgroup/

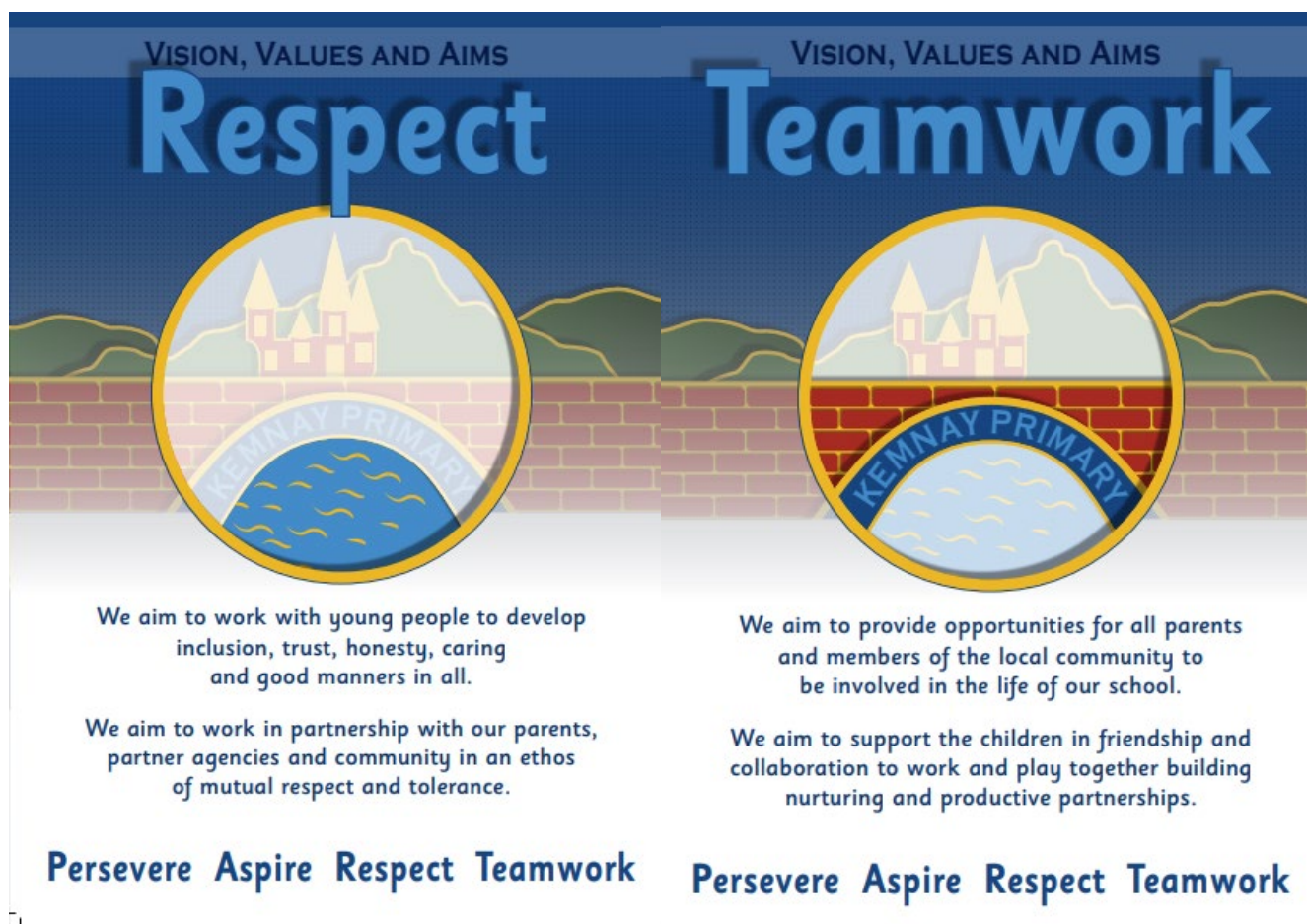
1.2 Our Vision, Values and School Ethos

At Kemnay Primary School, our vision, values and aim/s (constructed and agreed by staff, pupils, parents and the wider community) provide the underpinning principles and beliefs for the development of the four capacities from Curriculum for Excellence where all learners will be successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors to society and responsible citizens.

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VISION, VALUES AND AIMS	VISION, VALUES AND AIMS
 <h1 data-bbox="279 1227 746 1332">Persevere</h1>	 <h1 data-bbox="970 1227 1316 1332">Aspire</h1>
<p data-bbox="288 1771 740 1859">We aim to support all learners to embrace challenge and have increasing amounts of resilience.</p> <p data-bbox="269 1881 759 1942">We aim to promote a steadfast determination to resolve problems and increase confidence.</p>	<p data-bbox="908 1785 1406 1845">We aim to engage young people in the highest quality learning activities and experiences.</p> <p data-bbox="970 1865 1345 1924">We aim to maximise success for all learners to be the best they can be.</p>
<p data-bbox="217 1998 815 2042">Persevere Aspire Respect Teamwork</p>	<p data-bbox="860 1998 1458 2042">Persevere Aspire Respect Teamwork</p>



1.3 Context

Ethos and Life of the School

The village of Kemnay has a population of approximately 5000. Kemnay School serves the catchment area on the south side of the village. Around 3% of pupils travel to school by bus from the Blairdaff/Fetternear area.

Kemnay Primary School is one of two primary schools in the village. It is co-educational, non-denominational & provides education for approximately 216 pupils in Primary 1-7 and up to 24 (per session) ante-pre and pre-school pupils in nursery.

Devolved budgets are managed in accordance with authority guidelines in order to support planned improvements in the school.

Aspects of children's learning are developed through the Ethos and Life of the School. At Kemnay Primary we are proud of our warm and welcoming ethos where all are valued. We work in partnership with parents to instil a sense of pride for our learners and demonstrate mutually respectful relationships. Children learn, that together, we have high expectations of behaviour, good manners, fairness, equality, inclusion and learning potential. Children also have opportunities to learn through a range of annual events that feature in the life of our school. Some examples of these are annual class assemblies to parents and visitors, annual class trips (including a whole school trip to the pantomime at His Majesty's Theatre), the P6 Parents' Ceilidh, residential trips at P6 and P7 and First Aid Training from P5 – P7 to name but a few. These experiences are valued by our parents, and support for funding is provided by the Kemnay School Parent Group (KSPG).

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1.4 Organisation of the School Day

School Hours

9.00am – 10.40am	Morning interval	10.40am – 11am
11am – 12.30pm	Lunch	12.30pm – 1.25pm
1.25pm – 3.15pm		

Nursery Hours

8.00am – 1.00pm: Morning Session
8.00am – 6.00pm: Full Day Session
1.00pm – 6.00pm: Afternoon Session

2 Curriculum

Within our school, we aim to provide a curriculum that is both inclusive and ambitious for all – a curriculum which is both academically challenging as well as providing opportunities to develop skills for learning, life and work.

Our curriculum will be based around the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence – to ensure our pupils are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors, and responsible citizens. Our curriculum will also reflect the principles of curriculum design to ensure breadth, depth, personalisation & choice, challenge & enjoyment, progression, coherence, and relevance. We will, therefore, have a curriculum which we will adapt continuously over time to meet the needs of our pupils.

Following the principles of Curriculum for Excellence, achievement of children and young people is celebrated in its broadest sense. This means looking beyond formally assessed learning, to recognise activities like volunteering and participation in arts, sports, and community-based programmes. This approach complements the nurturing and aspirational outcomes of Getting It Right for Every Child, and our aim in Aberdeenshire to overcome inequality by Raising Attainment for All, promoting Equity and Excellence in schools, and Closing the Attainment Gap. Further information on the school's approach to Curriculum for Excellence including information for parents, can be found on the school website at:

<https://kemnay-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/>

2.1 Curricular Areas

- **Literacy and English Language:** Listening, Talking, Reading, and Writing.
- **Numeracy and Mathematics:** Number, Money & Measure, Information Handling, Shape, Position & Movement.
- **Health & Wellbeing:** Mental, emotional, social, and physical wellbeing, Physical education, activity and sport, Food and health, Substance misuse, Relationships, sexual health and parenthood.
- **Social Studies:** Past events and societies; Place and environment; Society, economy, and business.
- **Sciences:** Planet Earth, Forces, electricity and waves, Biological Systems, Materials, Topical Sciences.
- **Technologies:** Technological developments in society, Business technology skills and knowledge, Computing science, Food and textiles, Craft, design, engineering, and graphics.
- **Expressive Arts:** Music, Drama, Art and Design and Dance.
- **Religious and Moral Education:** Christianity, World Religions, Development of beliefs and values.

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- **Modern Languages:** French (P1-7) & Spanish (P5-7)

2.2 Curriculum Design

Our curriculum is designed based on the following 7 principles:

- Challenge and enjoyment
- Breadth
- Progression
- Depth
- Personalisation and choice
- Coherence
- Relevance

2.2.1 Developing Young Workforce

Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) is the Scottish Government's Youth Employment strategy to better prepare young people for the world of work.

Developing the Young Workforce is embedded in Scotland's Curriculum and along with the Curriculum for Excellence and Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) it is one of the three main building blocks underpinning Scotland's education offer for children and young people.

The DYW Aberdeenshire priorities are as follows:

- Development of the **DYW Curriculum** offer including embedding the Career Education Standard Entitlements 3-18 and the further development of BGE pathways and Foundation Apprenticeships in the senior phase.
- **Skills Development** – embedding skills for learning, life and work (**Metaskills**) and skills profiling
- **Partnership** Development, including partnership with employers
- Support for **Equalities**

As part of the 3-18 curriculum, pupils will develop skills for learning, life, and work. Throughout their time in school, from Early Years onwards, all pupils will have an opportunity to engage with employers, through experiences like workplace visits, career talks, employability events and courses, work experience and curriculum-based activities. They will also have the opportunity to learn about further and higher education as well as different career pathways into employment.

2.2.2 Curricular Levels

Early	The pre-school years and P1, or later for some.
First	To the end of P4, but earlier or later for some.
Second	To the end of P7, but earlier or later for some.
Third and Fourth	S1 to S3, but earlier for some. The fourth level broadly equates to Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework level 4. The fourth level experiences and outcomes are

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intended to provide possibilities for choice and young people's programmes will not include all the fourth level outcomes.

2.2.3 1+2 Language Learning

The Scottish Government policy 'Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 Approach' is now embedded in our curriculum. Children are growing up in a multilingual world and to allow them to take their place as global citizens, they need to be able to communicate in many settings. This approach entitles every child and young person to learn two languages at school in addition to their mother tongue language.

In our School the first foreign language is French. This language will be learned from P1 (in Primary School) through to S3 (in secondary school). Our second language is Spanish which is taught from P5-P7.

If you would like your child to access Gaelic Medium Education and they have not yet started to attend a primary school, you can make a request for an assessment of need for Gaelic Medium Primary Education (GMPE). For more information, please go to:

<http://aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/information/gaelic-in-schools/>

The parent or carer of any child or young person can make a request for their child to attend to any school which offers GMPE. This will enable your child to be taught by specialist staff. As there are currently no schools in Aberdeenshire which have GME provision learners are transported to school in Aberdeen City.

2.2.4 Further Information

Further information on the school's approach to Curriculum for Excellence including information for parents, can be found on the school website at: <https://kemnay-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/>

More general information on Curriculum for Excellence and the new Qualifications can be found by clicking on the hyperlinks below.

Policy for Scottish Education: <https://education.gov.scot/scottish-education-system/policy-for-scottish-education>

Early Learning & Childcare: <https://www.education.gov.scot/scottish-education-system/Early%20learning%20and%20childcare>

Broad General Education (Pre school – S3): <https://education.gov.scot/scottish-education-system/Broad%20general%20education>

Senior Phase and beyond (S4 – 16+): <https://education.gov.scot/scottish-education-system/senior-phase-and-beyond>

National Qualifications: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/58062.3806.html?pMenuID=5605>

2.3 Learning Teaching and Assessment

Staff at Kemnay Primary School have a shared understanding of effective learning and teaching approaches and engage regularly in career long professional learning to continually enhance our practice. We use a wide range of stimulating and supportive learning environments and creative teaching approaches to motivate and enthuse learners and promote enjoyment of lifelong learning. We provide active learning experiences for all children at all stages, encouraging independent thinking and pupil engagement with the learning process. We differentiate our learning and teaching resources and approaches, to provide an appropriate pace and challenge in learning for all.

We set high, yet achievable targets for pupil learning, and closely monitor, assess, and track progress. We use school based, authority and other management information systems to support us with the analysis and use of this information. We use a variety of assessment techniques, and focus on providing quality feedback to learners, supporting next steps in learning. We encourage our learners to self and peer assess with an ongoing focus on improvement. Assessment for Learning approaches (AiFL) directs our practice. We gather a range of evidence on what learners make, say, write, and do, and this, combined with learning conversations, standardised assessment results and professional judgement, support us to provide reliable evidence for reporting on progress and achievement to pupils and parents. We regularly engage in moderation activities with a range of colleagues to ensure that we are promoting the highest standards in learning. Where there are barriers to children's learning progress, we use GIRFEC assessment tools and provide additional support for learning in line with Aberdeenshire's "Right Support, Right Place, Right Time" model.

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/5854/rightsupportrightplacertime-aguideforparentsproof3.pdf>

2.4 Assessment and Reporting

Pupils move through the curriculum at their own pace. A wide range of assessment techniques are used in school depending on what is being assessed and the reason for the assessment e.g.

- Observation of what the pupils "say", "write" and "do".
- Homework
- Self and peer assessments
- Marking of class work and other individual/class assessments
- Ongoing tracking and monitoring procedures in school
- Scottish National Standardised Assessments (P1, P4, P7 and S3)

Progress will be evidenced using a variety of approaches that best reflect the learning that has taken place and will track the skills that your child or young person is developing.

Assessment is ongoing throughout the Broad General phase and is a continuous process which influences the goals set for your child. As part of assessment, each year children and young people in P1, P4, P7 and S3 will participate in the Scottish National Standardised Assessments (SNSA). These national assessments are completed online and provide teachers with immediate feedback on each child or young person's progress in literacy and numeracy. Children and young people do not have to prepare or revise for the assessments, which take place as part of normal learning and teaching. The assessments do not have any pass/fail mark and the results are used to help teachers plan the next steps in learning for each child/young person. Further information on SNSA is available at

<https://standardisedassessment.gov.scot/>

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The results of children's achievements are discussed with them regularly so that they are involved in taking responsibility for their own learning. This may take the form of oral discussion and/or written comment. In this way, it is hoped to assist the pupil identify what has been learned and the next steps to their learning. Children regularly set targets in their work.

Parents will be informed of progress:

- through class assemblies
- through school bulletins
- through parent consultation evenings and other meetings
- through curriculum/learning events/parent workshops
- through the pupil progress report
- Individual Education Plans and associated documents

(See school reporting calendar in APPENDIX 4)

Further Information on Assessment, Reporting & Profiling can be found on Parentzone:

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-in-scotland/assessment-and-achievement>

3 Transitions (Moving On)

At Kemnay Primary School, we understand that transitions can be anxious times for pupils and parents. We recognise anxieties at pre-school to P1 and P7 to S1 transition times.

For families joining our nursery we hold open days, parent meetings, phased induction, and welcome packs.

Prior to starting P1, we visit pupils in their pre-school settings, arrange a series of induction meetings for parents and hold Grow up Days for pupils. In addition to this, P7 buddies are linked with P1 pupils, and help to explain the day-to-day life of the school to pupils and parents (playtimes, lunches, lining up etc.).

We begin our transition discussions and activities to Kemnay Academy in Primary 6, where pupils are invited to annual events at Kemnay Academy. The pupils take part in a series of events where they begin to get to know their future peer group from across the neighbouring cluster schools – Alehousewells, Midmill, Kinnellar and Kintore.

Prior to starting S1, pupils, parents, and staff (primary and secondary) meet to ensure that learning, and any additional support needs are communicated. Where involved, other agency partners (e.g., school nurse, educational psychologist) are invited to support this transition process.

Between stages, pupils have opportunities to meet with their new teachers before the summer break. Teachers communicate learning and additional support needs information between stages. P7 pupils also put together a learning profile and learning passport which help S1 staff to provide appropriate support to meet learning and other needs.

Visit Parentzone for more information about transitions:

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/my-child/transitions>

3.1 Admissions

Nursery Admissions.

All parents should submit an application form for their child, to the nursery of their choice during the admissions period. The application form can be found here:

<http://aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/information/early-learning-and-childcare-information/>

Primary Admissions

New entrants to P1 are enrolled early in the calendar year for entry to school in August. This is for children who will be five on or before the school start date in August. Those that have their fifth birthday between the August start date each year and the end of February the following year, may also be admitted. Go to:

<http://aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/information/primary-school-registration/>

3.2 Placing requests & School Zones

For all advice and information on placing requests and guidance on school catchment/zones go to:

<http://aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/information/choosing-a-school>

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Your child would normally attend a school within the school catchment area (zone) close to where you live. However, you can request that your child attends a school in another zone (out of zone). Please follow the links for more info:

[Out Of Zone Placing Request Policy & Procedures](#)

3.3 Support for Children and Young People

Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) is the national policy approach in Scotland which aims to support the wellbeing of all children and young people, by offering the right help, at the right time, from the right people. Certain aspects of this policy have been placed in law by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

Aberdeenshire's schools play a key part in delivery of Aberdeenshire's Children's Services Plan.



Its vision is that:

'Our commitment to Aberdeenshire's children and young people, is to provide them with the right support, in the right place, at the right time.'

In helping them reach their individual potential and goals, we will work together to make Aberdeenshire the best place in Scotland to grow up'

You can find out more about our Children's Services Plan at:

<http://www.girfec-aberdeenshire.org/who-we-are/our-childrens-services-plan/>

3.3.1 Children's Rights

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 included new law to help make sure children's rights are promoted across Scotland. Children and young people's rights and participation are promoted in lots of different ways by schools in Aberdeenshire.

This means we:

- Raise awareness of Children's Rights, and how rights can be accessed
- Provide opportunities for children and young people to get involved in decision-making
- Make sure children and young people's views influence how we develop services
- Support children and young people to express their views (where needed)
- Listen to children and young people's views on what we do well, and what we could do differently

Aberdeenshire Council has endorsed a Children and Young People's Charter. You can find out more about Children's Rights and opportunities for participation at:

<http://www.girfec-aberdeenshire.org/home/children-and-young-people/>

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3.3.2 Wellbeing

Wellbeing of children and young people sits at the heart of the *Getting it Right for Every Child* approach. Eight Wellbeing Indicators shown below, outline the aspirations for all Scotland's children and young people.

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



The Getting It Right approach means services will work in partnership with children, young people and their parent/carer(s) and we want every child at our school to feel happy, safe and supported to fulfil their potential.

3.3.3 The Named Person

Prevention and early-intervention are seen as key to the Getting It Right approach in achieving positive outcomes for children and young people. By providing support at an early stage, most difficulties can be prevented from escalating.

One way the Scottish Government has decided this should be taken forward, is by making a Named Person available to every child and young person in Scotland. The Education Service provides the Named Person Service for all children on entry to Primary One, until aged 18 (or beyond where a young person remains at secondary school).

The purpose of the Named Person role is to make sure children, young people and parents have confidence that they can access help or support no matter where they live or what age the child is. Acting as a central point of contact, the Named Person can help children, young people or parents/carers get the support they need, if and when they need it.

The Named Person can help by:

- Providing advice, information or support
- Helping a child, young person, or to access a service or support
- Discussing or raising a wellbeing concern about a child or young person.

There is no obligation for children and young people or parents to accept any offer of advice or support from the Named Person. Non-engagement with a Named Person is not in itself a cause for concern. The Named Person Services is currently delivered on a national policy basis.

For more information you can contact your child or young person's Named person directly, or go to:

<http://www.girfec-aberdeenshire.org/for-parents-carers/what-is-the-named-person/>

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3.3.4 *Educational Psychology*

The Educational Psychology Service (EPS) provides a service across Aberdeenshire from pre-birth to 24 years old. We work with children, young people, families, educational staff, local authority colleagues and a wide range of other professionals including health professions, social work, early years partner providers and post school training and education providers.

When there are concerns about a child or young person's learning or wellbeing, an Educational Psychologist can support others to problem solve their way through potentially difficult and complex situations. Consultation with people who know the child best forms the basis of Educational Psychology assessment. Its purpose is to explore and understand the concern and support people to come up with solutions that will work in that context.

A range of helpful resources are available for all parents on the Educational Psychology website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/as/aberdeenshireeps/parent-information/>

3.3.5 *Enhanced Provision & Community Resource Hubs*

Aberdeenshire Council is committed to supporting children and young children to be educated in local schools through providing the right support in the right place at the right time. By enhanced provision we mean that a local primary and secondary school has an enhanced level of resources, such as access to a sensory room and life skills area; and support for learning staff who have an enhanced level of expertise to meet a range of needs.

Further enhancement is available through the community resource hub, for a small minority of children with severe and complex needs, who regardless of chronological age are making very small steps in learning and are at the early levels of learning. The enhanced provision centres and community resource hubs can offer outreach support to mainstream schools, short term assessment placements, flexibility (e.g., blended places) and access to a variety of therapies.

The community resource hub for Kemnay Cluster primary schools is located at Kintore Primary School.

For more information on all our resources and policies go to:

<http://asn-aberdeenshire.org/>

3.4 Support for Learning

At times in their lives all children may require support for learning for a range of reasons. Some children may need a lot of support all the way through school. Other's may need only a small amount for a short time.

A child is said to have additional support needs if they need more, or different, support to what is normally provided in schools or pre-schools to children of the same age. Reasons for requiring support might include:

- Missing school because of an illness or long-term condition
- Having a physical disability
- Being a young carer
- Communication difficulties
- Being particularly able
- Changing school, a lot
- Being looked after or in care
- Difficulty in controlling behaviour
- Having a difficult family situation
- Suffering a bereavement
- Being bullied

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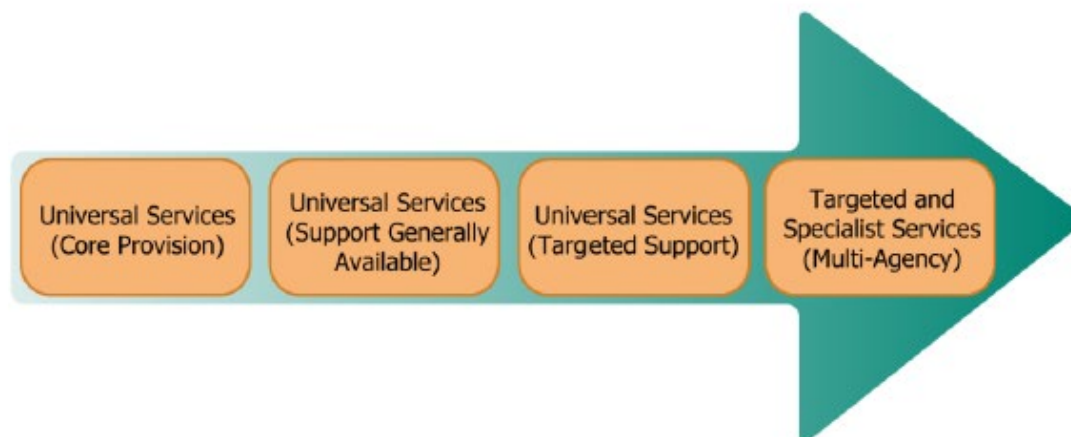
Each school cluster has an allocation of Teachers of Additional Support for Learning (ASL/SFL) who are employed to support pupils with additional support needs. They work across each cluster in primary and secondary. In partnership with school staff, parents, and other professionals (if appropriate), they identify barriers to learning, assess children's needs and support learning and teaching through a relevant curriculum.

Pupil Support Assistants (PSAs) assist teachers in promoting achievement and raising the standards of pupil attainment. They provide general support in relation to the needs of the class and individuals' care, health and wellbeing and safety and to ensure a secure and safe environment.

3.4.1 The Child's Plan

The *Getting It Right* approach makes sure children and young people are provided with a range of support, which is proportionate and put in place to meet assessed need. This is reflected in Aberdeenshire's staged approach to assessment and planning for individual children and young people, shown below.

- Universal Services (Core Provision)
- Universal Services (Support Generally Available)
- Universal Services (Targeted Support)
- Targeted and Specialist Services (Multi-Agency)



For a small minority of children or young people, there might be higher levels of wellbeing need or risk identified. These children may require a level of targeted support, which needs to be coordinated on a single or multi-agency basis through a Child's Plan.

Where a child or young person needs one or more targeted supports, the benefit of a Child's Plan will be discussed with them and their parents/carers. An assessment using the National Practice Model (My World Triangle/Resilience Matrix) would help to identify any wellbeing needs (*Safe, Healthy, Active, Nurtured, Achieving, Resected, Responsible, Included*), and highlights strengths and pressures in the child's situation. Families are fully involved as key partners in these discussions.

The Child's Plan will outline what action will be taken by the child, their family and professionals, and detail how these supports aim to help improve the child or young person's Wellbeing and overcome any difficulties.

A Lead Professional will be identified to co-ordinate and manage any Child's Plan.

Information is available on the Aberdeenshire *Getting It Right for Every Child* Website:

<http://www.girfec-aberdeenshire.org/>

3.5 Child Protection

Child protection is the responsibility of all who work with children and families regardless of whether they come into direct contact with children. All workers must be fully informed of their responsibilities in respect of keeping children safe. All services working with children, young people and families are expected to identify and consider the wellbeing of children and to share concerns appropriately.

Within our School we have a designated member of staff appointed to be responsible for Child Protection matters. If there is the possibility that a child could be at risk, the school is required to follow the Child Protection Procedures laid out for Education.

This may mean that the child is referred to Social Work, the Police or the Children's Reporter.

Remember – if you suspect a child is at risk, do not rely on someone else to notice.

If you would like to speak to someone, seek help or pass on information or concerns:

- You can speak to designated staff in our school
- Social Work Monday to Friday during office hours contact your Children & Families local Social Work Office
- Evenings & Weekends call the Out of Hours Service on 03456 08 12 06
- Police Emergency 999, Non-Emergency 101

Signs of abuse can range from poor personal hygiene and hunger to unexplained injuries or self-harm.

If a young person tells you, they are being abused:

- stay calm and listen to them
- never promise to keep it a secret – tell them you must let someone else know
- remind them that they are not to blame and are doing the right thing
- report it, but leave any investigation to child protection agencies

Protecting Aberdeenshire's children and young people is everyone's business, go to:

<http://www.girfec-aberdeenshire.org/child-protection/>

3.5.1 Further Information on Support for Children and Young People

The following websites may be useful:

Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)

<http://www.girfec-aberdeenshire.org/>

Aberdeenshire Council

<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/additional-support-needs/>

Support for All

<https://www.education.gov.scot/scottish-education-system/Support%20for%20all>

Enquire

<http://enquire.org.uk/>

4 Parent & Carer Involvement and Engagement

The term “parents” refers to anyone with parental responsibilities and others who care for or look after children or young people.

Both globally and nationally it is recognised that parents are the single most important influence on their children’s development, learning and achievement. The involvement and engagement of parents in their children’s learning is recognised as a key element in raising attainment, through support, help and encouragement given at home and whilst at school.

4.1 Parental Involvement and Engagement Strategy

The Parental Involvement and Engagement Strategy demonstrates the commitment by Aberdeenshire Council to improve the quality and the extent of all parents’ involvement in their child’s learning and the important role they play in their child’s education.

The plan sets out a vision for parental involvement and engagement for the next three years and covers a journey that a child takes from pre-birth to age 18. It highlights the leadership of those who make the difference day in and day out.

<http://publications.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/dataset/parental-involvement-and-engagement-strategy-and-action-plan/resource/02c6596e-8cba-42c7-b28a-eed64086ea42>

4.1.1 Parental Engagement

Parental engagement is about parents’ and families’ interaction with their child’s learning. It can take place in the home, at school or in the community: where it takes place is not important. The important thing is the quality of the parent’s engagement with their child’s learning, the positive impact that it can have and the interaction and mutual development that can occur because of that interaction.

4.2 Communication

The school uses a range of approaches to share information about your child’s learning and progress. These include:

- Use of Group-call to text and email
- School Website: <http://kemnay-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/>
- Social media: [Facebook](#)
- Newsletters: Monthly Bulletins
- Special Events
- Class Assemblies
- Open days/mornings/afternoons
- School reports

The school calendar highlights planned opportunities where we welcome you into school for events, and opportunities to talk about your child’s progress, wellbeing, and behaviour (see Further Information).

4.2.1 ParentsPortal.scot

parentsportal.scot

In support of Aberdeenshire Council’s ambition to offer more digital services to its residents, Aberdeenshire primary and secondary schools are rolling out a new national online service called **parentsportal.scot**. This is designed to replace the paper ‘schoolbag run’, giving a child’s registered contacts access to a range of school-related online services, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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At the heart of the system, is a secure account through **mygov.scot**, which is referred to as '**My Account**' or '**MyAberdeenshire**' account. 'MyAberdeenshire' is already used to allow parents/carers to make online payments or receive notifications if a school closes unexpectedly. **Parentsportal.scot** and '**MyAberdeenshire**/'**mygov.scot** will work together, making this a convenient one-stop-shop, to access all Aberdeenshire digital services.

Initially, **parentsportal.scot** will allow parents/carers to see basic information about your child(ren)'s school and twitter account as well as:-

- make a link to your child(ren)
- complete the annual data check process electronically (child's main contact only)
- update their own as well as your child(ren)'s details at any time
- to register and access for online school meal payments using one sign in (iPayImpact)

How do I sign up? - If you **already have a myAberdeenshire account** to pay for school meals through iPayImpact, you can sign up using the same sign in details at <https://parentsportal.scot/home/> You **do not need** to register or set up a new **mygov.scot** account.

If you do not have a myAberdeenshire/mygov.scot account or are looking for more information and videos on how to access to **parentsportal.scot**, please go to <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/parents-portal/>

4.2.2 Learning at Home

Learning at home is the learning which happens in the home, outdoors or in the community. Your home is a great place to support learning. Your child can try out new activities or practice familiar learning, at home and in their wider community.

At our school we provide materials for you to work with your child to develop key skills at home. For explanation of this please go to our homework policy; <http://kemnay-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Homework-Policy-Nov-2019.pdf>

4.3 Kemnay School Parent Group (KSPG)

The Parent Forum is a collective name for all parents, carers or guardians in the school. The Kemnay School Parent Group (KSPG) is a group of parents selected by the Parent Forum to represent the views of all parents, carers and guardians in the school. The KSPG works with the school to support learning and teaching, school improvement and parental and community engagement.

KSPG is a very active fundraising group for the school organising two fairs annually as well as other events such as quiz nights, and school fairs.

Contact the KSPG Chairperson or Head teacher for more information about getting involved in the KSPG or email: kspgchairperson@gmail.com.

4.3.1 Parents and School Improvement

Kemnay Primary School has a range of priorities that we work on each year which are explained in our School Improvement Plan (SIP). Parents often have helpful and creative ideas about how to improve their child's school and what can be done to improve the quality of children's learning. At Kemnay Primary School we consult with parents in a number of ways. These include:

- working groups/focus groups which any interested parent is invited to be part of
- questionnaires and surveys
- consultation with the Kemnay School Parent Group

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4.3.2 *Volunteering in school*

There are many opportunities for you to support learning in school. These may include:

- volunteering to share the skills and knowledge you have
- accompanying classes on trips
- helping children develop ideas about the world of work through learning about specific jobs
- supporting children and young people in the classroom
- supporting or lead extra-curricular activities

More detail about this can be found using the link below:

<http://jobs.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/volunteer-with-us/> or contact your Head teacher.

4.4 Collaborating with the Community

Kemnay Primary School works with many local organisations, community groups and businesses to ensure our children and young people benefit from further resources, experiences and opportunities. If you are interested in working with the school, please contact the Head teacher.

4.5 Addressing Concerns & Complaints

Aberdeenshire Council recognises the vital role that parents play in supporting their child's learning and is committed to fostering positive relationships with parents. No matter how strong partnerships are, or how good our policies are, sometimes things can still go wrong and there may be occasions where parents wish to express unhappiness or dissatisfaction with council services, policies or staff behaviour.

<http://aberdeenshire.gov.uk/contact-us/have-your-say/have-your-say-guide/>

When a complaint is made it must be handled in accordance with the Complaints Handling Procedure which provides two opportunities to resolve issues internally. In order to maintain positive relationships, it is usually better for all if parental concerns or complaints can be resolved at school/ early years setting level as quickly as possible.

If a concern or complaint cannot be resolved at frontline resolution (Stage 1) then it will progress to Investigation (Stage 2) and a detailed investigation into the matter will be carried out. Complaints that are complex, serious or high risk and require detailed, lengthy investigation may be dealt with at the Investigation Stage from the outset.

Once the two internal stages of the Complaints Handling procedure have been exhausted, the complainant must be directed to the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO) to carry out an independent external review of the process. The SPSO is the final stage of the complaint procedure.

Once the SPSO reaches a decision they may contact the council with recommendations for improvement and will provide dates by which the recommendations must be implemented. The council is required to report back to the SPSO and evidence that the required action has been taken.

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All Aberdeenshire Council Education policies can be found here:

<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/about-us/service-structure/education-and-childrens-services-policy-framework/>

5.1 Attendance

It is important that staff and parents continue to work together to develop and improve arrangements for monitoring the care and welfare of all children and young people.

With that specific aim in mind, Aberdeenshire Education & Children's Services has asked all schools to implement a series of standard procedures to monitor pupil attendance and absence from school and to invite the co-operation of parents in making these changes work. All parents are asked to assist the staff in the schools which their children attend in the manner described below:

Attendance and Absence Procedures

- If your child is unable to attend school through illness/other reason, please email or telephone the school **between 8:30am and 9:30 am** on the first day of his/her absence or send a signed note via a brother or sister where applicable.
- If your child is home for lunch and becomes unwell at lunchtime making them unable to return to school in the afternoon, please telephone the school before the beginning of the afternoon session to inform a member of staff.
- When you contact the school, it would be helpful if an indication could be given as to the child's expected length of absence from school.
- On your child's return to school a note should be provided explaining the reason for absence and confirming the periods of absence from the school. The note should be signed and dated.

The school follows the Aberdeenshire Attendance Policy:

http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/19805/attendance-policy_april-2015.pdf

Procedures for following up on pupil absence are based on the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 which requires by law that parents/carers ensure that children attend school regularly. The Home/School Liaison Officer has a key role to play, providing a vital link.

Unplanned Absence

It is important to note that if a child does not arrive at school and there is no reasonable explanation provided for his/her absence then members of staff will be required to ascertain the whereabouts for the safety of the individual child. This will involve a phone call to the parent soon after 9.30am. Repeated calls will be made until the child's whereabouts have been confirmed. If contact cannot be made the situation will be assessed and it may be thought necessary to inform the local social work department. In order to avoid causing unnecessary concern for staff and parents the importance of good communication between home and school cannot be over-emphasised.

If your child becomes ill during the course of the school day, we will contact you, or your designated emergency contacts. It is vital that you keep the school informed of any changes in contact details.

Planned Absences

As part of Government Regulations we are required to record all absences as "authorised" or "unauthorised". Authorised absences are due to illness or family bereavement and can also include time off to attend, e.g. sporting events or music exams.

- Under normal circumstances we do not send work home in the case of absence.
- For medical or dental appointments the teacher should be informed beforehand in writing. Children should always be collected and returned by an adult on these

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occasions. As far as possible such appointments should take place out-with the school day.

5.1.1 *Holidays during term time.*

The Scottish Government has deemed that holidays taken during term time should be recorded as unauthorised absence unless there are special, exceptional circumstances. Should you wish to remove your child from school to attend a family holiday you must inform the Head Teacher. This will be recorded as unauthorised absence though there may at times be exceptional family circumstances previously discussed with the Head Teacher. Parents are advised to limit the number of holidays taken during term time, to minimise disruption to a child's education. For annual holiday dates for Aberdeenshire schools please see the section at the back of this book, contact the school office or go to:

<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/parents-carers/school-term-dates-and-in-service-days/>

5.1.2 *Arrival at School & Playground Supervision*

Parents are advised not to send children to school before **8.40am** as teachers are preparing work in their classrooms and there is no supervision of the children. Children will have access to the cloakrooms/toilet areas, but not to the school unless the weather is very wet/dangerous. In very wet or dangerous weather, the children will then be taken into school where they will be supervised in the main hall.

During morning and lunch breaks the children are supervised by at least two members of staff in the playground. During morning and lunch breaks there is access to play equipment and general play areas. Rotas for football and basketball allow equal access for all.

If your child has an accident in the playground and suffers a minor injury, he/she will be treated by a first aider. Your child will be given a minor injury slip to take home at the end of the school day, which will inform you of the nature of the injury and the treatment given. We will attempt to notify you by telephone of any serious injuries and for this reason it is important we have up to date contact details such as mobile phone numbers. However, where contact is not possible, we may seek treatment from professionals where it is deemed necessary. Attempts will continue to be made to contact you.

In accordance with Aberdeenshire Council's Health & Safety Policy, children will not be allowed to make ice slides in the playground nor throw snowballs.

For health & safety reasons, dogs are not permitted in the school grounds.

(Please ensure that you keep the school updated of any change in your emergency contact details/new mobile phone number.)

Children's play areas are indicated on the school map/plan at the back of this handbook.

During lunch/break times children will be expected to play outside unless the weather is excessively wet, icy or windy. Children should be sent to school with appropriate outerwear to suit the time of year.

If pupils are more than 10 minutes late, parents/carers are required to sign in their children at the school office. Children who go home for school lunch should remain at home until **1.20pm** especially on cold, wet days. Children going home for lunch should sign out, then in again at the main school entrance. Your co-operation in this matter will help with the supervision of the children who remain at school.

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At the end of the school day, P1 – P3 pupils who do not go home on school transport should be collected outside the main pupil entrance indicated in the school plan. Please ensure your child knows who he/she is going home with if you have had to make alternative arrangements or if you are unable to collect your child. For the safety of your child(ren) please advise the school of any changes to arrangements.

For security reasons, the outer school doors will be automatically locked once children are inside school at the start of the school day and at the end of the school day.

Going Home Arrangements

- P1 & P2 pupils are to be collected by a responsible 'known*' adult or young adult. Older school siblings can collect once approved by the Head Teacher in discussion with parents.
 - *known adult – a parent, relative, childminder that has previously attended induction meetings/tours, etc and has been introduced to the teacher and school management.
 - An unknown adult must be formally introduced to the class teacher/school management team on the first occasion when picking up. It is normal procedure for unexpected unknown adults to be verified by the school management before releasing the child to the adult.
- It is common for P3-P7 pupils to be dismissed from school only to return if they are unsure about going home arrangements. We advise all pupils to walk/cycle/scoot in groups for safety to their after-school address.
- The school has no obligation to supervise children after 3.15pm. We will work with parents in special 'one-off' circumstances but routinely picking up after 3.15pm is unacceptable.

5.2 Kemnay Primary School Dress Code

We encourage all pupils to wear uniform. This helps to instil a sense of pride and team spirit within our school.

School uniform consists of – a school sweatshirt with the school logo in royal blue, a yellow/gold polo shirt worn with black, navy blue or dark grey trousers/skirt and black/dark indoor and outdoor school shoes (children should not wear high heeled shoes as these cause safety concerns). We appreciate your cooperation in support of this.

We have added some tartan items to our school uniform to add variety, create a unique identity and celebrate Scottish Traditional attire. Should you wish to, you can purchase these along with our other school uniform items at [Schoolwear Made Easy - Scotland's leading schoolwear supplier](#).

We can also provide 'nearly new/recycled' sweatshirts for parents who would wish to make use of these.

We try to ensure that the children get access to outdoor playtimes for fresh air and exercise. Please consider the nature of weather conditions and provide your child with appropriate outerwear and footwear to suit.

PE Kit consists of – T shirt, shorts, socks and gym shoes preferably with Velcro or elastic fastening for younger pupils. These should be kept in a gym bag. P.E. kit should be kept in school during the week and taken home for a week-end wash.

With regard to safety, the wearing of jewellery is actively discouraged in our school and is not permitted during PE lessons. If your child has pierced ears, please ensure he/she can remove and replace their own earrings. Any child wearing earrings who cannot do this will be asked to

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put surgical tape over them for PE lessons and parents should provide a named roll of surgical tape for this purpose.

We actively discourage the use of make-up/tanning lotion in our school unless prior permission is sought for a medical/cosmetic specific purpose.

We request that nails are kept to a length that doesn't interfere with handwriting, typing, throwing/catching or present as a risk of accidental injury to others for health and safety purposes.

Watches that have a camera embedded within them are strictly forbidden from the school.

Shoestring strap tops are also discouraged for safety reasons as they can catch on gym apparatus and suitable footwear should be provided.

All clothing brought to school should be named or marked in some way, as it is difficult for children to distinguish their own clothing from that of others.

Some families may be entitled to a school clothing grant. More information about this can be found at the back of this book.

Sweatshirts, cardigans and polo shirts with the school logo may be purchased from:

5.2.1 Clothing Grants

Some families may be entitled to a school clothing grant per eligible child per financial year. More information about this can be found at:

<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/parents-carers/assistance/school-clothing-grants/>

5.2.2 Pupil Belongings & Valuables

For each classroom the children have a space for hanging up their coats and gym bags and for storing packed lunch boxes. Parents should note their responsibility to ensure packed lunches have a cold pack included. Each child will also have their own named tray for storing their belongings in class.

Valuables

The wearing of jewellery is discouraged in the school as it can get lost or add to injuries. The wearing of a watch is acceptable although must not have a camera embedded. Children who have pierced ears and need to wear earrings should wear studs as opposed to hoops or dangly earrings.

Children should not bring electronic games, mobile phones or other expensive items into school. Should parents' request that their child be allowed to take a mobile phone into school for use after school, the pupil will hand it in to their class teacher first thing in the morning and collect it at the end of the day.

School Equipment

The school provides all of the books and equipment that your child will need to use in school, however many children like to bring their own pencil case and equipment. Children will also require a school bag to carry their belongings and equipment to and from school.

Our Early Stages classes have a 'book bag' for keeping homework jotters and reading books. This helps to keep these resources in good order. We ask that pupils and parents care for these. Please note, should reading books be lost or damaged, parents are requested to pay £3.00 towards the cost of a replacement.

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The school actively discourages fidget toys with the exception of use with children that have a diagnosed condition such as attention deficit disorder. Please speak to the teacher/school management for permission to bring such toys to school.

We encourage pupils to bring a small canteen of water to school. For any children that dislike water we recommend that they put a slice of their favourite fruit inside to enhance the taste. No diluted drinks or fizzy drinks are permitted. We only allow children to have canteens with a plastic edge to the drinking tip for health and safety reasons.

5.3 Transport

In order to qualify for free Home-to-School Transport, Primary school pupils must reside more than 2 miles from and attend their zoned school whilst Secondary school pupils must reside more than 3 miles from and attend their zoned school.

These distances are the shortest available route from the pupil's house to the school gate and can take into account main roads (including dual carriageways), tracks and paths. Pupils will be assigned a collection point, in villages and towns and where safe to do so, pupils may have to walk up to 1 mile to the nearest collection point. Pupils who reside in rural locations are usually collected at the nearest adopted road to them (track end or roadside). School transport vehicles will not use private unadopted roads or tracks. It is the parent's responsibility to escort the pupil to and from their collection point. Application forms for free transport, Form PTU100 can be obtained from the school office.

5.3.1 *Privilege Transport*

Transport provision is also made available for pupils who are not ordinarily entitled to transport. Privilege transport is provided on school transport services subject to spare seating capacity. There are 3 types of privileged transport available.

In-zone Privileged transport

Pupils who attend their zoned school but are under the qualifying mileage can apply for In-zone privilege transport. If there is suitable seating capacity available and an existing route then the application should be approved, if there is not and there is a safe walking route available to the pupil, then it may be rejected. Please also note that if seating capacity is needed for a pupil who is entitled to school transport, In-zone Privilege pupils may be given written notice and removed from transport.

In-Zone Privilege Transport – Safety

Pupils who attend their zoned school but do not qualify due to their residence being under the qualifying mileage can apply for In-zone privilege transport. If there is no safe walking route available to the pupil, they are guaranteed a seat on transport by applying for an In-zone Privilege pass. A pupil who is guaranteed in-zone privilege transport would not be removed to make room for a pupil who is entitled to school transport.

Out of Zone Privilege Transport

There is no transport entitlement to pupils who attend a school which they are not zoned for. Pupils may apply for Out of Zone Privilege transport; pupils are required to meet the nearest available school transport vehicle to them, and it is the parent's responsibility to bring the pupil to the nearest collection point. Out of Zone Privilege transport pupils may be removed, with written notice, at any time for In-Zone Privilege and Entitled transport pupils.

Application forms can be obtained from your child's school. For further information, see the Council website:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/school-transport/school-transport/> or contact: school.transport@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Local Bus/Registered School Bus Services

Some services operate as registered bus services. These operate on a fare paying basis and pupils will be required to pay fare to the driver or purchase a season ticket for travel.

5.3.2 Early Learning & Childcare Transport

Transport to early year's settings will not be provided by Aberdeenshire Council, unless there are relevant exceptional circumstances. Where there are significant additional support needs, transport may be provided. In such instances this requirement should be discussed with the Head Teacher in conjunction with the Early Years Quality Improvement Manager.

5.4 Special Schools and Enhanced Provision

Aberdeenshire Council may provide free transport where necessary for pupils who attend a school with enhanced provision proposed by the Authority. In certain cases, pupils may be encouraged to make their own way to school by public transport, and where this is authorised, bus passes are issued. Where a pupil's address falls in the delineated area of a resourced school, and is within reasonable walking distance, the Authority will take advice from the Community Child Health Service before deciding if free transport should be provided

5.5 School Closure & Other Emergencies

Head Teachers decide if and when schools should close due to bad weather or another emergency. In bad weather they will decide this after receiving information about local weather conditions. This decision can be made during any time, day or night. These guidelines outline the procedures for dealing with school closures during bad weather or other emergencies.

School closure is considered as a last resort, and we aim to ensure we give as much notice to our families as practically possible.

If children are at school...

School transport contractors have been told not to allow children to walk home alone from drop-off points under any circumstances during extreme weather conditions. If you can't arrange for your child to be met, the school transport will return them to a designated location.

Public service vehicles – drivers of these vehicles follow a specified route and keep to timetables – they cannot make special arrangements.

If your child attends a Nursery, Primary or Special School, which is to close early, the school will contact you by telephone. If this is not possible the school will contact your named 'emergency contact'. No child will be released from school without contact being made. It is important contact details are current and the people named are available – particularly during bad weather.

If you are concerned about local weather conditions contact the school. You may wish to collect your child yourself and are free to do so provided you make arrangements by contacting the school office.

Before the start of the school day...

During bad weather some staff may not be able to get to school or bus routes may not be safe to travel on – so the school may have to close. Head teachers will advise parents and carers using the following communication tools:

- [Facebook](#)
- **Group-call/Text**

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- **Aberdeenshire Council Website**

<https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/Apps/schools-closures/>

You also have the option to sign up to receive email alerts when your school updates their closure status: <https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/myAberdeenshire/>

Out with school hours, your local radio station is a good place to find out information on school closures. The following radio stations receive updated information every 30 mins from our website:

Northsound 1

FM 96.9

Waves Radio

FM 101.2

Northsound 2

MW 1035 kHz

Original 106 FM

BBC Radio Scotland

FM 92.4 - 94.7MW 810 kHz

5.5.1 Storm Addresses

When there has been severe snowstorm during the day it may be prudent for pupils who live some distance from the normal bus routes not to attempt to reach their homes but to spend the night in alternative accommodation nearer school. It is the parent's responsibility to inform school about any pupils who may be at risk in such situations and to provide the name and address of a relative or friend who is willing to provide overnight accommodation.

5.6 Change of address and Parental Contact Details

To enable us to make easy contact with parents, the school would appreciate if any changes of address, telephone number or circumstances is notified in writing to the School Office. It is also important that the school has details of an Emergency Contact should it prove impossible to get in touch with parents in the event of an emergency.

5.7 Anti-bullying Guidance

Aberdeenshire Council Education and Children's Services define bullying as the following:

Bullying takes place when the actions of an individual or group of people cause harm to someone by taking advantage of an imbalance of power within a relationship (whether perceived or real). Bullying behaviour can be persistent and/or intentional, but often it is neither.

Bullying can be verbal, physical, mental/emotional, or cyber and is behaviour and impact. It can be intentional or unintentional, direct or indirect, persistent, or a one-off incident. The impact is on a person's ability to feel in control of themselves.

Bullying can be verbal, physical, emotional, or cyber. It can be intentional or unintentional, direct or indirect, persistent, or a one-off incident. People who experience bullying behaviour feel vulnerable and/or socially isolated.

What will the school do about it?

Schools should promote consistency of response to instances of bullying behaviour using a 6-step approach. They will:

1. Record the Incident
2. Speak to the individuals involved having frank and honest dialogue
3. Speak to parents

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4. Utilise Restorative approaches
5. Monitor the situation
6. Review and increase response accordingly

5.8 School Meals

Primary School Lunches

Lunch time is an important aspect of the school day. Not only does it provide children with a nutritionally balanced meal, but it also enhances their social and personal development.

How does my child choose their lunch?

In class first thing in the morning children select their meal using the Smart Board. Meal options are displayed, and a choice is made by touching the chosen option shown on the Smart board. The teacher will explain to children the menu options available on the day, but it is helpful for parents of the younger children to discuss this with them before they arrive in school.

The School Catering Service provides good value meals at our schools using carefully sourced quality ingredients. There is always a wide selection of options available from the menu. The menu and helpful information can be found via this link

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/meals/primary-school-meals/>

Children with medically prescribed dietary requirements

Parents should be aware that they can access special dietary support information by viewing <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/meals/primary-school-meals/> to access OurShireMenus content portal.

Children who require medically prescribed dietary support, with parental/guardian assistance, should be identified during the admission process. Procedures are set in motion to offer support for these children by completing Admission Form D available from the school administration office. The School Management Team and the Catering staff will be happy to discuss your requirements.

Request Special or Modified Diet

If the parent/carer can't complete the online form a paper copy can be requested from the school office and this can be provided by contacting the email below.

Parents and carers of pupils with medically prescribed dietary needs can view allergens contained in any food item on the current primary school menus.

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/assistance/free-school-meals/>

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/meals/medically-prescribed-and-special-diets/>

Special Events and Celebrations

The children enjoy eating together and we encourage learning and wellbeing during lunchtime. Occasionally we celebrate special dates and encourage all children to participate.

If your child is going along on a school trip the school catering service can provide a nutritious packed lunch for the occasion and this includes children who qualify for free school meals.

How Much does a Primary School Meal Cost?

The current price of a Primary school meal can be found via the following link -

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/meals/primary-school-meals/>

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How do I pay for School lunches?

Lunches are provided free of charge for pupils from P1 to P5. Paying for school lunches is very easy to do online.

It is important to keep this account in credit as failure to do so triggers a time-consuming debt recovery process for the School and Catering service. We aim to support the wider Local Authority to be debt free and require your support in this by ensuring you top-up your account before sending a child for school meals.

Online payments system

We are encouraging parents/carers to register for online school payments due to COVID-19 to eliminate handling of cash. Parentsportal.scot is the recommended way to register to access all school payments including school meals.

Parentsportal.scot is securely linked to a myAberdeenshire account and to register follow this link <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/parents-portal/>

Please ensure there are always sufficient funds on your child's account prior to sending them for school meals. There is a formal debt recovery process for accounts that fall into debt.

If you are having difficulty making payments please contact the school office as we are here to support families and will do whatever we can to assist you.

Free School Meals Information

Am I entitled to free school meals?

Click on the link to find information that explains the free school entitlement and how to go about it. [Free School Meals](#)

If you have difficulties obtaining access to free school meals please speak with your school and we will work together to provide assistance.

If you require any further information regarding School Catering send a message to this email address - schoolmeals@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

5.9 Healthcare & Medical

Every child's health and welfare is very important to the school. Parents who have any concerns should let school know by telephoning or writing in. Alternatively, parents can inform the Health Visitor or their own GP. Parents are requested to let the school know of any hospital appointments.

Parents/carers are requested to keep children at home for 48 hours if the child has sickness or diarrhoea, flu-like symptoms or is clearly unwell.

Always seeks a GP's advice before sending a child back to school. Please remember that other children can be vulnerable to infection.

All pupils must be registered with a doctor in general practice who should be consulted about health matters as they arise. Parents should provide us with the name and telephone number of their child's doctor and an up-to-date emergency contact for themselves in case it becomes necessary for a child to be sent home during school hours because of illness.

Aberdeenshire Community Dental Service inspect P1 and P7 children in schools as part of the National Dental Inspection Programme. Written parental consent is not required for dental inspections, but parents will be informed in writing approximately one week before the inspection date.

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Most pupils will at some time have a medical condition that may affect their participation in school activities. For many this will be short term, perhaps finishing a course of medication to combat an infection.

Other pupils have medical conditions that, if not properly managed, could limit their access to education. Such pupils are regarded as having health care needs. Most children with health care needs can attend school regularly and, with some support from the school can access most school activities. However, school staff may need to take extra care in supervising some activities to ensure that pupils are not put at risk.

Planning formats may include either:

- Individual Pupil Protocol (IPP) (Med form 7).
- Health Care Plan written by Health professionals for very specific medical needs.

A risk assessment should also be completed.

The above can help schools to identify the necessary safety measures to support pupils with medical needs and ensure that they and others are not put at risk.

5.9.1 Administering Medication

If your child needs medication to be administered during school hours, this can be arranged. Please ask in the office for the appropriate forms as these will need to be completed before administration can begin.

Please find our Medication Policy here:

<http://asn-aberdeenshire.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Supporting-Children-Managing-Medicines-Educational-Establishments.pdf>

Sunscreen - As children are outdoors for learning and for play, parents should apply this prior to sending children to school or nursery. School staff do not supply, nor do they apply, sunscreen creams.

If your child has long term medical conditions such as asthma or diabetes, which may require on-going support, this should be fully discussed with the school. In certain cases specific training of staff about a child's treatment may need to be given. In addition, some children have conditions which may require occasional staff intervention e.g. severe allergic conditions such as anaphylaxis.

5.9.2 Schools and Childcare

Information for parents, carers and young people on return to school arrangements in Aberdeenshire schools and early learning facilities.

- [New term arrangements](#)
- [Contingency planning](#)
- [School meals](#)
- [School transport](#)
- [Family Information Service](#)

If you are a British Sign Language (BSL) user, please watch our video explaining our schools and childcare arrangements. You can also contact us via [contactSCOTLAND-BSL](#), an online British Sign Language interpreting service.

5.10 Exclusion

The foundation for schools, learning establishments and education authorities is a whole school ethos of prevention, early intervention and support against a background which promotes positive relationships, learning and behaviour. Where pupils who display behaviour, whereby attendance at the school would be likely to be seriously detrimental to order and discipline in the school or the educational well-being of the pupils there, and where other forms of support have proved unsuccessful, the Authority exclusion policy may apply. For further information on exclusions contact the school or go to:

http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/3901/policy_disc_exclusion.pdf

5.11 Educational Visits and Residential Trips

We offer various educational visits during the school year. We believe that 'hands on' experiences greatly enhance a child's education, while also helping to make the necessary links between learning in school and life out with school. Staff members and parent volunteers provide supervision to standards laid down by Aberdeenshire Education & Children's Services. We give parents as much notification as possible with regard to visits their children will participate in.

5.12 Instrumental Tuition

From Primary 4 onwards, tuition is available for a range of musical instruments. Most disciplines are taught in the secondary schools however not all disciplines are available in primary schools due to limited resources. Orchestral string instruments are not normally available to beginners at secondary level. Tuition is subject to availability.

100 days commitment: ending charges for instrumental music tuition in schools

A commitment made in the SNP's 'First Steps' document and reaffirmed by the First Minister in Parliament on 26 May, was to abolish fees for instrumental music tuition in schools within the new Government's first 100 days. Ministers and COSLA Leaders have agreed to the initial one-year removal of fees

For further information go to: <http://aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/ims/>

5.13 Public Liability Insurance

Aberdeenshire Council holds third party liability insurance, which indemnifies the Council against claims from third parties, e.g. parents on behalf of pupils who have suffered injury, illness, loss or damage arising from the negligence of the Council or its employees. In these circumstances all claims are handled on behalf of the Council by external Insurers and Claims Handling Agents and compensation is dealt with on a strict legal liability basis. This means that there is no automatic compensation, the Council has to be found negligent in order for any compensation to be offered by our Insurers and / or Claims Handling Agents.

Whilst the school will exercise reasonable care for pupils' property, it is inevitable that property will be lost or damaged from time to time. Pupils' property which is worn or brought to school or left in bags/cloakrooms is at their own risk. This includes but is not restricted to personal items such as jewellery, phones/tablets watches and bicycles. Aberdeenshire Council cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage unless caused by negligence of the school or staff.

5.13.1 School Off Site Excursion Insurance

Aberdeenshire Council has in place a School Excursion Insurance policy, whereby both pupils and teachers are covered for offsite activities / trips both within the UK and abroad (offsite

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meaning off the school premises). The policy covers medical expenses, loss of baggage, cancellation (as specified in the policy), curtailment and change of itinerary (along with other sundry benefits) etc. for worldwide trips and adventurous activities (including winter sports), subject to policy terms and conditions being met.

If personal items such as jewellery, phones/tablets, watches etc. are taken on a school trip then these are taken at an individual's own risk and are not covered under the policy, unless damage or loss is caused by an Aberdeenshire Council employee.

Personal / individual cover is seen as a parental responsibility, and it is your decision as to whether you feel it is appropriate to obtain this.

Where trips are booked and have subsequently to be cancelled because of any Covid related event then insurance will not be valid. This will of course be reviewed periodically.

Please be advised, however, that the Duty of Care aspect below is not insurance related:

Duty of Care

The Authority has a duty of care in respect of pupils in its charge during school hours and as such must take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of all primary and secondary pupils. This general duty of care continues if the children go home by way of school transport and ends when the child gets off the bus, at which point the parents then become responsible.

5.14 Data we hold and what we do with it.

The UK's Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018 enacted the EU GDPR's requirements into UK law and, with effect from 1 January 2021, [the DPPEC \(Data Protection, Privacy and Electronic Communications \(Amendments etc\) \(EU Exit\)\) Regulations 2019](#) amended the DPA 2018 and merged it with the requirements of the EU GDPR to form a new, UK-specific data protection regime that works in a UK context after Brexit as part of the DPA 2018 and is known as the 'UK GDPR'.

Aberdeenshire Council is committed to full compliance with these regulations. When you are asked for information by Education & Children's Services, we will tell you why we are collecting the information, how long we will hold it and the legal basis for gathering this information. A Privacy Notice has been issued to all schools relating to the information we hold on yourself and your child/ward.

5.14.1 The information we collect from you

Aberdeenshire Council collects personal data and information about your child in order to provide your child with a school education.

We will normally only share information (other than in child protection situations) in order to provide services for your child as part of his/her school education. We collect special category data about your child and process this because it is in the substantial public interest.

The information held by Aberdeenshire Council is used to assess, plan, coordinate, deliver and quality assure the education services to your child. The Council does not use an automated process for making decisions about your child or the services required; decisions are made with you. We will keep this information for a period of 5 years from the maximum school leaving age of your child, as required to by The Pupils' Educational Records (Scotland) Regulations 2003, unless we have a legal responsibility to keep the information for a longer period of time.

5.14.2 Your Data, Your Rights

You have legal rights about the way the Council handles and uses your data. More information about all of the rights you have is available on our website at:

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<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/online/legal-notices/data-protection/>. Alternatively you can contact the Council's Data Protection Officer by emailing DataProtection@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or in writing at: The Data Protection Officer, Town House, 34 Low Street, Banff, AB45 1AY.

You also have the right to make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office, (www.ico.org.uk). They are the body responsible for making sure organisations like the Council handle your data lawfully.

The Council is required where it is data controller under the GDPR to act in a transparent manner by providing information to individuals about how it will collect and use their personal data. Privacy Notices are an essential part of complying with this requirement. The Privacy Notice must provide information to individuals in a concise, transparent, intelligible and easily accessible way and must be written in clear and plain language. There are a number of examples available on;

<http://publications.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/dataset/education-privacy-notices>

5.14.3 Parental Access to Records

Access Requests are the formal process by which individuals can seek information held about them (or their children) by the council. The requests can be broad, in terms of everything that is held, or quite specific - everything held by a specific department, establishment, team or individual. We have a legal requirement to provide the information under the Data Protection Act 2018. An Access Request is wider than an Educational Record in that it will include all personal data held about a child not just their educational record. Further information can be found at:

<https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/>

The Pupils' Educational Records (Scotland) Regulations 2003 means that you can get access to your child's records. Details of the regulations and process for obtaining information specific to pupils are available by contacting the school directly or can be found at:

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/my-school/general-school-information/My%20child's%20record>

5.14.4 Information Sharing

In terms of effective communication, including sharing relevant and proportionate information, where appropriate, Aberdeenshire Council in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and Human Rights Act 1998 adheres to this as part of our current routine practice.

5.14.5 ScotXed

ScotXed is a term used to represent the Scottish Government's Education Analytical Services, which is part of the Scottish Government's Learning Directorate.

ScotXed have legal powers to request data with regards all children and young people being educated in Scotland's schools, with the information collected about pupils and staff in schools used to help to improve education across Scotland. They do not collect the names of your child/children and they do not receive any contact details the school may have for you (e.g., telephone number, email address), and no information is published or made publicly available that would allow your child/children to be identified. More information on what and why they need data about your child/children, along with how they collect and store it is available in their Education Statistics Privacy Notices for parents and carers:

<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/ScotXed/SchoolEducation/ESPrivacyNotices>

If you have any concerns around the national ScotXed data collections, you can:

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- Contact the Data Protection & Information Assets team at the Scottish Government on dpa@gov.scot, or
- The Head of Education Analytical Services, Mick Wilson, on at mick.wilson@gov.scot,
- You can write to them at Education Analytical Services, Area 2A-North, Victoria Quay, Leith, EH6 6QQ.

Alternatively, complaints may be raised with the Information Commissioners Office at casework@ico.org.uk.

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6 Further Information

6.1 [School Improvement Plan 24/25](#)

6.2 [Map of Catchment Area](#)

6.3 Attainment Data

[Primary School Information Dashboard \(shinyapps.io\)](#)

6.4 Aberdeenshire Council School Holiday Calendar

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/school-term-dates/>

6.5 Reporting on Progress and Achievement

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6.5 Reporting on Progress and Achievement

Kemnay Primary School

	Interviews	Pupil Presentations (indiv/group)	Open Sessions	Feedback Individual meetings	Reports	Other	Plus
Term 1	Parent/Pupil/Teacher Interviews		Meet The Teacher & Learning Walk	CPM EP Meetings		Nursery & P1 Inductions Facebook Bulletins	Opportunities to share information with teachers either informally at drop off or pick up times (Nursery & Early Stages), or more formally by requesting a meeting.
Term 2		P1, P2 & P3 Christmas Shows		CPM EP Meetings		Facebook Bulletins	
Term 3	Parent/Pupil/Teacher Interviews	P4 & P5 Class Assemblies, shows, exhibitions etc P6 Burns Supper	Nursery Reading Breakfast	P7/S1 Reviews CPM EP Meetings	Pupil Profiles and self-evaluation	Facebook Bulletins	
Term 4		P4 & P5 Class Assemblies, show, exhibitions etc P7 End of Year	Nursery BBQ & Picnic	CPM EP Meetings	Written report (End of year summary)	Sports Day Nursery & P1 Inductions Facebook Bulletins	



From mountain to sea

