



# How we support the learning of all at Lawfield Primary School

AUGUST 2019



## A guide for parents & carers

## What is Support for Learning?

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It is our aim to keep parents informed of the nature and purpose of support within schools. Support for Learning is a phrase covering a wide range of educational support within schools. In all parts of school life, regardless of age, stage, ability or any other factor, children are supported in their learning.

This is a shared responsibility between teachers, classroom assistants, parents, support for learning teachers and others. It is a normal part of many children's school experience to receive some additional support within an area of their learning at some point during their school career. Some support for learning will be long term while other aspects will be short term.

This may be anything from simply helping a child gain confidence or skills in a specific area of the curriculum, to more complex physical, emotional or learning needs. Embedded within all Teaching and Learning practice within Lawfield Primary School are the 6 Principles of Nurture. These are as follows:

- Children's learning is understood developmentally.
- The classroom offers a safe base.
- Nurture is important for the development of self-esteem.
- Language is understood as a vital means of communication.
- All behaviour is communication.
- Transitions are significant in the lives of all children.

## Purpose of this booklet

The purpose of this booklet is to explain in more detail some of the more common forms of support offered in school. We hope that by informing you about this, parents and carers will understand more fully how the school is seeking to enable each child to achieve their very best here at Lawfield.

The booklet will also outline the procedures we have in place to ensure that all parents or carers are aware of the types of support that are available to your child.

As always, if you have any questions you are very welcome to contact the school for more information.

## Fireflies Nurture Group

We want to build on children's innate motivation and positive attitude to learning, offering them opportunities to take risks, make choices and initiate learning for themselves.

Confidence can increase through success in non-academic tasks, improving self esteem, and readiness to learn.

At Lawfield we work hard to Get It Right For Every Child. Children can find they need extra support with their learning at any time and for a variety of reasons. This can be

short term or long term.

In order to fully support each of our learners at Lawfield Primary School we have developed a phased approach to supporting children who are finding it difficult to access the curriculum within their main class. This format allows particular children identified, the opportunity to access teaching and learning activities within a small group supported by access to a designated teacher and Learning Assistants.

We aim to support these children by helping them to acknowledge and manage their emotions in such a way as to promote readiness for learning and to enable them to acquire the necessary tools to develop their emotional wellbeing and foster rewarding friendships.

In doing so, we are aiming to improve children's skills as learners and build their individual resilience through smaller group settings where the children are supported in all aspects of their learning.

## Support for Learning Teaching Team

At Lawfield ensuring the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child are embedded within all areas of the curriculum ensuring any gaps in learning or experience to help support the children to overcome those gaps and gain confidence in their ability to surpass their potential at learning.

Lawfield's Support for Learning teaching team comprises of a Principal Teacher and 2 part time Support for Learning Teachers. There will, at times, be the requirement for these teachers to work with particular children to work on an individual basis, however the majority of support they

provided will be offered to groups both within the classroom and out with the classroom.

The Support for Learning Principal Teacher liaises closely with class teachers to identify learners who would benefit from enhanced support.

Teachers meet with the Support for Learning Principal Teacher for formal consultations in August, January and April. The progress of all children is shared at this meeting and planning takes place to be clear about how to best develop the learning of each child. Teachers are also able

to make referrals out with these times and make use of discussion and planning with all 3 members of the Support for Learning teaching team throughout the year.

Parents and Carers are also welcome to contact the class teacher or the Principal Teacher if they have concerns or information they wish to share. The duration of support given to individual children will vary, it may be as little as a couple of weeks or could be ongoing for an extended period of time.

## Learning Assistants and Child Care Development Workers

Teaching staff at Lawfield work in partnership with Learning Assistants and Child Care and Development Workers (CCDWs).

Our support staff work under the direction of teaching staff. They work across all stages of the school to support pupils' learning. This can be within the classroom or in places such as the Library, Gym Hall, Expressive Arts Hall or the

ICT suite. They also work with teachers in the 'whole class' context, supporting learning.

They often work with small groups or individuals, to help those children grasp a particular concept, idea or approach or to boost confidence and self esteem.

The support they offer also extends to working with the most able children to challenge them to achieve

their very best.

They are a valuable aspect of the team supporting children at Lawfield .

## Partnership with Parents and Carers

Parents and carers remain the prime educators of their children throughout the early years and beyond.

The school value the role of parents in supporting the learning that takes place in and out of school.

Homework is provided by class teachers on the basis that it provides an opportunity for parents to engage in the learning of their children, reinforcing learning going on in the classroom.

We encourage parents to get involved in homework tasks - talking together, sharing ideas and asking questions about the learning.

Every parent has the right to know what is happening with their child's learning.

Teaching staff are always available to discuss learning needs when and if required.

Usually, where there is an area of learning in which your child is receiving some form of support, this will be part and parcel of the daily learning at school and we would not normally need to inform you.

However, if we anticipate that support may be required over the longer term, we will contact you to explain the nature of the support that will be provided.

If your child has very significant or complex learning needs, we will set up regular meetings with you and ask you to let us know if there are any other agencies you would like to be invited. The purpose of these meetings will be to review progress and plan next steps in supporting your child. We will provide you with copies of any plans or minutes created from these meetings.

Please always feel welcome to contact the school if you have any concerns you wish to raise or information you would like to share with us.

## **Summary & Contacts**

### **Summary:**

- Lawfield Primary School aims to support every child in their learning throughout their time in the school.
- Support is a normal part of the learning process. Many children will receive some extra support in some areas of their learning during their time at the school.
- Support for Learning comes in a wide range of forms and may be short or long term.
- The school aims to keep parents informed of any significant support their child receives.

### **Contact Us:**

The class teacher is usually the first point of contact regarding support for learning. Please feel free to make an appointment to speak to a class teacher, via the school office.

The Principal Teacher for Support for Learning is also available for any further advice regarding Support for Learning within the school.

**Principal Teacher (Support for Learning): Ms Arlene Limerick**

**School office phone no: 0131271 4620**