



**Curriculum for Excellence**

All schools in Scotland use Curriculum for Excellence to provide a coherent, flexible and enriched curriculum from 3 to 18.

The purpose of Curriculum for Excellence is encapsulated in the four capacities – to enable each child or young person to achieve their full potential and to be a successful learner, a confident individual, a responsible citizen and an effective contributor. At St Andrew’s we work hard to **Get It Right For Every Child – GIRFEC** and work with parents and carers to ensure children are **Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included** – using the **Wellbeing Indicators**.

We want pupils to:

- achieve the highest possible levels of literacy and numeracy and cognitive skills
- develop skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work
- develop knowledge and understanding of society, the world and Scotland's place in it
- experience challenge and success

**Principles of Curriculum for Excellence**

These are Challenge and Enjoyment, Progression, Depth, Breadth, Personalisation and Choice, Relevance and Coherence.

**Learning and Teaching Approaches**

A key priority for improving learning and teaching has been to embed the attributes of a Midlothian Learner with every class in the school.



This has run hand in hand with our developing resilience work in health and wellbeing and developing a growth mindset. Pupils develop cooperative learning skills as they progress through the school and are encouraged to reflect on and self assess their work, attitudes and behaviour. They work daily, in a range of teams and groups, with opportunities for these to change and adapt throughout the year. Where possible, pupils approach topic work in an interdisciplinary way and make connections in their learning.

**Active Learning**

Active learning is when children are actively involved in making discoveries for themselves or in progressing their own skills and knowledge.

Methods such as group collaboration, personal projects, enterprise projects, interactive lessons and practical activities are used in school to make learning more meaningful.

**Assessment**

A variety of assessment methods are used to check pupil progress. Pupils are often involved in their own assessment, called ‘self-assessment’ where they indicate their own level of understanding. Teachers gather information by observation, checking written work and by listening to what pupils say. Teachers carry out both formal and informal assessments throughout the year, to check pupil’s knowledge, skills and understanding and to inform next steps in learning. It is important that children receive regular feedback on their learning.

**Religious Education**

We use two resources to teach the RERC Curriculum for Excellence called This is Our Faith and God’s Loving Plan. Key themes and prayers are taught, at each stage in the school, using monthly planners linked to the Liturgical Cycle

Catholic Christianity	This is Our Faith
Other world religions	Judaism and Islam

**Celebrating Achievement**

Learning does not just happen in the classroom and we work creatively and in partnership to offer breadth and depth to pupils’ learning experiences at St Andrew’s. Opportunities to work in art, drama, music, sport and outdoor learning occur throughout the year. Additionally, partner agencies such as Police, Road Safety and Bikeability deliver planned programmes for Health and Wellbeing, in school, during the year.

We are aware that many of our pupils also attend activities out-with school. If your child achieves success in an activity then please do let us know so that we can celebrate this with them.



**Learning at Home**

Coming soon . . . ! Watch this space for our revised Home Learning programme, which will be piloted from mid-September. More information to follow shortly.

TERM 1 4 <sup>TH</sup> SEP-13 <sup>TH</sup> OCT 2023	PRIMARY 1 MAIN THEME/FOCUS	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Phonics (initial sounds)</li> <li>-Phonological awareness</li> <li>-Letter Formation</li> <li>-Listening Skills</li> <li>-Fine motor development</li> <li>-Reading for enjoyment</li> <li>-Story retelling</li> <li>-Foundations of writing</li> </ul>	<p><b>Routines</b></p> <p>Please support your child in ensuring that they have everything that they need for school each day. Encourage them to take responsibility for packing their own bag beforehand, and then emptying it at the end of the day.</p> <p>Water bottles, containing water for throughout the day, should be taken home daily to wash and refill. Lunch bags and boxes should also be taken home at the end of the day.</p> <p>Please remember to check school bags daily for letters and information coming home from school. Letters are also emailed directly to families posted on the school website.</p> <p><b>Questions</b></p> <p>All staff at St Andrew's RC Primary are committed to supporting you and your child, throughout their learning journey. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office, where these can be passed on to me or to a member of the management team.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Miss Prior</p>
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Numeral recognition and formation.</li> <li>-Counting orally</li> <li>-Counting items</li> <li>-Subitising</li> <li>-Finger Patterns</li> <li>-Explore the term equal</li> <li>-organise and group items in equal groupings</li> </ul>	
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2D and 3D Shape</li> <li>- Patterns</li> </ul>	
Health & Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Teeth Brushing/hygiene</li> <li>- People who help us</li> <li>- Friendships</li> <li>- Emotions</li> </ul>	
PE PE days are: Tuesday + Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Basic moves</li> </ul>	
Main theme or Topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People who help us</li> <li>- Seasons (Autumn)</li> </ul>	
RME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-All About Me &amp; My Faith</li> <li>-Talents and Gifts</li> <li>-Symbols of the church</li> <li>-Our school saint</li> </ul>	
Expressive Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Drawing skills (people focus)</li> <li>-Access to art materials during the day</li> <li>-Music (percussion instruments and singing)</li> <li>-Access to role play, puppets, small world and dress up</li> </ul>	