



STRATHMARTINE PRIMARY SCHOOL HANDBOOK

2025

**This document is available in alternative formats, on request
(Please contact the school office)**

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CONTACT DETAILS

Strathmartine Primary School

Craigmill Road, Bridgefoot, DD3 0PH

Telephone: 01382 768130

Email Address: strathmartine@angusschools.org.uk

Head Teacher Mrs Sandra Hood

Class Stages: P1/3, P4/7

Present Roll: 47

Denominational Status: Non Denominational

Start of School Day	9.00am
Morning Interval	10.30am – 10.50am
Lunch Break	12.30pm – 1.30pm
Afternoon Session	1.30pm – 3.20pm
Nursery Class	9.00am – 3.00pm

VISITS OF PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

[Choosing a school: a guide for parents \(Scottish Government\)](#)

Once your child has been allocated a place we will invite you to meet the staff and children, find out more about the curriculum and share information about your child.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School specific:

- **BOYS** Blue School Sweatshirt/hoodie and white shirt, Blue jumper with shirt and Tartan tie, black or grey trousers
- **GIRLS** Blue School Sweatshirt/hoodie and white shirt or blue cardigan/jumper with shirt and Tartan school tie. Black or grey skirt or Tartan skirt, kilt or pinafore or black or grey trousers.
- **PE KIT** Plain shorts, plain t-shirt, plain tee shirt and gym shoes in a gym bag
- T-shirt and gym shoes in a bag with pupil's name

All clothing brought to school should be named or marked in some way. It is difficult for children to distinguish their clothing from others.

PARENTAL CONCERNS

Contact the school immediately if you have a concern. We want to deal with all matters as early as possible. Contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. If you would prefer to discuss the issue with a member of the management team contact:

- Mrs Hood – Headteacher
- Mr Bennett – Principal Teacher

The staff will listen to your concern and agree a way forward with you. They will follow-up with a telephone call approximately one week later. This is to ensure all matters have been resolved.

THE COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

[Angus Council complaints procedure](#)

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

BECOMING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL

We value the important part parents play in their children's education. We see partnership with parents as way to enhance children's achievements and promote better school ethos and communication.

Opportunities for Parental Involvement:

During the school day:

- Art/Craft activities
- Sharing knowledge and expertise in some aspect of the curriculum, e.g. topic talk, history, science, health
- Practical activities in science, maths, social subjects, health education (e.g. first aid) or technology
- Reading stories to groups of children, playing reading/phonics games
- Supporting events such as the Community Cafe
- Golden Time activities e.g. board games, art and craft in small groups
- Running or assisting to run a Lunch Club or After School Club
- Supporting educational visits/trips
- School concerts – making costumes, props, supervision of children
- Road safety – Cycle Training
- Supporting Pupil Leadership Groups (every Monday)

Outwith the school day:

- Fundraising events
- Trips e.g. sporting events, concerts
- Extra-curricular activities e.g. coaching, sports/art clubs/country dancing/school grounds – maintenance of garden/allotment areas
- Parent Council

If you wish to be a regular parent helper, PVG (Protecting Vulnerable Groups) checks have to be completed. Please discuss this with staff.

Parents are invited to attend two Parents Evenings during the school year. There you will meet your child's class teacher for a ten minute interview and hear about your child's progress. It's also an opportunity to hear how you can best support your child's learning.

We would encourage you to look at your child's learning profile on Seesaw (or Learning Journal in nursery) with them on a regular basis.

Support as appropriate the completion of homework as advised by the school.

Teachers and nursery staff will share planned learning with you each term. The Head Teacher will share regular newsletters with you which will contain school information.

SCHOOL ETHOS

The current school values are Kindness, Honesty and Respect.

We are committed to developing pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural values. We do this through the ethos and the curriculum. We do this in partnership with parents and take account of the needs of pupils and the views of parents.

We welcome and encourage diversity and individuality, while emphasizing our common commitment to moral values such as honesty, respect for others and compassion and justice. All who are involved in the life of our school have the right to be respected as individuals and carry the responsibility to act in a considerate and respectful manner towards others. We implement council policy on equal opportunities and racial equality. All pupils have access to the full range of educational experiences available within the resources of the school. We are committed to eliminating discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, gender or disability.

Currently our school does not have any direct partnerships with any religious bodies.

The school works closely with Tealing Primary School and is part of the Forfar Academy cluster. This school year the nursery have visited Tealing Primary and they have visited our nursery. We have engaged in joint trips with them such as to the Science Centre and Pantomime. The school has forged links with Strathmartine Community Larder and are always looking for further links within the local community. Strathmartine Primary have a range of volunteers including parents, who have supported after school clubs, ground maintenance, looking after our school Guinea Pigs and supporting pupil groups.

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LINKS

Strathmartine is an integral part of the community of Bridgefoot. Children develop skills and learn to be better citizens as they engage with and support the work of the local community. Our pupils participate in community events and competitions organized by the churches, Inner Wheel and Rotary Club. They visit the elderly at Harvest Time and take part in sporting and cultural events.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

[Angus Council anti-bullying policy](#)

Good behaviour is essential to good learning. The general aim of the school is to provide an atmosphere of mutual respect and collective responsibility. Pupils, parents and staff all have an important part to play in this. The rules of the school are of a common sense nature, bearing in mind the interest and safety of all concerned.

The current School Improvement Plan has identified the need for a review of the school relationship/behaviour policy. Staff are actively working on creating this, based upon the key messages from Paul Dix (www.pauldix.org) For instance, Praise in Public, Reprimand in Private. As part of this, a whole school House system has been introduced with termly rewards. The four houses are Falcon, Eagle, Osprey, and Hawk.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

Children work hardest when they know their work will be appreciated and praised. Staff encourage pupils at all times and in all activities to give their best. Their effort may be rewarded verbally by praise, or non-verbally by a smiley face or sticker.

The whole school celebrates achievement on a weekly basis by the giving of certificates to reward pupils for good work, effort or kindness. Awards are given on Thursdays at assembly.

We welcome contributions from home via children bringing in certificates, medals etc to assembly and sharing experiences from home on Seesaw (Learning Journals in nursery).

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extra-curricular activities include:

- Skilz Academy (Monday 3.30 – 4.30pm) *Please note that there is a charge for Skillz Academy. Support with this is available
- The school currently has a breakfast club for Primary pupils. This runs in the school hall each day from 8.15 before school.

The above opportunities will be shared with your child during an assembly. If they are

interested they should ask for an application form from the school office. The form should be completed and signed by a responsible adult in the family home and returned to school.

PUPIL COUNCIL

There is an active Pupil Council at Any school. It includes representatives from all classes. The Pupil Council members are elected by their class peers at the beginning of session. They hold office for one year. Throughout the year they will meet regularly with a member of the management team. They will be involved in taking forward school improvement priorities and addressing issues as they occur.

PUPIL LEADERSHIP GROUPS

We have 4 Pupil Leadership Groups that meet every Monday. All P1-7 pupils are part of a group. These are:-

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths)
- Eco
- Charity/Childrens' Rights
- Digital Learning

These groups are an opportunity for children to participate in the life of the school, have their views heard and create real change across the school.

Older pupils have the opportunity to be a chairperson or secretary. We greatly appreciate parental support in facilitating these groups.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Your child will learn in a variety of different contexts and groups including ability, co-operative and social.

THE PUPILS AND PARENTS VOICE

Personalisation and choice is one of the seven principles of curriculum design. Children and young people throughout their education will have the opportunity to discuss with their teacher the context in which they learn and how they will approach the learning. Staff will discuss new learning with the children at the beginning of a new topic. Together they plan the areas of specific focus e.g. World War 2 – The Battle of Britain. This will be shared with parents through the homework diary. Parents will be invited to support the learning by sharing resources from home e.g. ration book or visiting the school to share a talk. Parents will be invited to comment on the planned work for their child at various points throughout the year. Feedback is encouraged at any time through your child's homework diary.

THE CURRICULUM AT SCHOOL, LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL

Strathmartine has now begun a review of Curriculum. Parents have been invited to share what they feel is important for their children to learn and experience during their years at school.

More local information can be found through the link above. There are links to national information at www.angus.gov.uk/linksforparents.

EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

In Scotland all three and four year olds, and some two year olds, are eligible for up to 1,140 hours a year of funded early learning and childcare (ELC). Our ELC class offers sessions between 9am – 3pm, 5 days a week, over school term time. Other attendance patterns are available in other Angus Council settings and in our wide range of partner nurseries, playgroups and childminders. To find out more about the benefits of ELC and the options available, visit our dedicated ELC web pages at www.angus.gov.uk/earlyyears.

LIAISON WITH SECONDARY SCHOOL

The school maintains close links with Forfar Academy (01307 492200) and other Primary Schools within the local area such as Baldrigon Secondary School. Our teachers and in some cases our pupils visit other schools and establishments and other teachers and pupils visit us. This process is necessary for the professional development of staff, reciprocal understanding and the establishment of curricular consistency.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT (School Specific)

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the last year, the school has worked with Tealing Primary School on 'Culture and Ethos' including increasing play and outdoor learning opportunities, increase children's voice and wider achievement. We have started a Breakfast Club Supervisor which is running successfully each morning from 8.15am. Parents have shared that this supports working lives and gives children a positive start to the school day. There have been a range of wider achievements including Skilz Academy, Games Club, Rugby Club, Library Club and Walking Club. Pupils in P2-7 are all allocated a Pupil Leadership Group. These groups have achieved their Eco Green Flag as well as the Gold School Sports Award. They are now working towards the Digital Schools and Rights Respecting School Bronze Award.

The staff have updated the 'Learning, Teaching and Assessment Policy' as well as the Relationship Policy. The whole school community voted for the school values which now are kindness, respectfulness and honesty.

IMPROVING STANDARDS

Achievement across the school continues to be high with targeted support being available for pupils who will benefit from this in their literacy and numeracy.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The school is currently working on developing a 3 year Curriculum cycle which is based upon skills and sustainability. The school is committed to play and outdoor learning and is therefore updating policies around this also, as well as enhancing current resources in these areas.

HEALTH CARE

You can contact your school health staff at: -

**Anne McLachlan, School Nurse Team, Whitehills Community Care Centre DD8 3DY
Tel: 01307 660111 EXT 61274**

DOGS IN SCHOOL GROUNDS

We understand walking your child(ren) to and from school/nursery is an ideal opportunity to walk dogs. However, the safety and wellbeing of our pupils, families, staff and community is paramount. Also, some children feel intimidated or unsure of dogs.

So, please ensure dogs (except for assistance dogs) are not brought into school grounds.

And if you are walking your dog to and from school, please remain at a reasonable distance from the school gate.

This will enable children and adults to enter and exit safely.

We'd ask you to pass this information on to other adults who bring and/or collect your child(ren) from school.

Child Protection Coordinator

If we think a child has come to harm as a consequence of possible abuse, we need to report it.

At least one member of staff in each school is responsible for child protection matters. They will have had special training in this area.

In our school the Child Protection Coordinator(s) are: Sandra Hood (HT), Chris Bennett (PT)

If you want to know more about child protection and the safety of children, contact the school. There is also information about child protection on the Angus Council website.

As a school we have good contacts with health professionals, social workers and the police. Any or all of them may offer support, or become involved, if concerns of abuse arise.

USEFUL LINKS AND CONTACT DETAILS

Angus Council
Angus House
Orchardbank Business Park
FORFAR
DD8 1AN
Tel: 03452 777 778
Email: ACCESSSchoolsLearnBSU@angus.gov.uk

ANGUS COUNCIL WEBSITE

Visit angus.gov.uk/schools for information that applies to schools across Angus on topics including:

- holidays
- meals
- school payments
- attendance and absence
- assessment and reporting
- transport
- drugs education
- religious and moral education
- transitions
- ...and more

OTHER WEBSITES

Find useful links to other websites at angus.gov.uk/linksforparents