



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

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CONTACT DETAILS

School Name Southesk Primary School

Address Hill Place, Montrose, DD10 8BP

Telephone Number 01674 907535

Email Address southesk@angusschools.org.uk

Head Teacher's Mrs Elaine Thornton

Depute Head Teacher Mrs Vicki Denyer

Office: Mrs Aileen Milne

Class Stages P1 – P7 plus Nursery

Present Roll School: 201

Denominational Status (if any) None

Does the school teach by means of the Gaelic Language No

Email address for the Parent Council, Southie Families - @SouthieParents or
www.facebook.com/SouthieParents

Organisation of the school day, including times of arrival and dismissal, break times

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 8am-6pm, 5 days a week, over 46.6 weeks of the year. 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.

AM provision: 8am – 1pm

PM provision: 1pm – 6pm

(Whole day provision is available for maximum 2 days)

Primary 1 – Primary 7:

Morning Session 9.00am – 12.30pm

Morning Interval (all): 10.20am – 10.40am

Afternoon Session 1.30pm – 3.20pm

VISITS OF PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

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

Please contact the school office should you wish to make an appointment to view the school, and we will arrange a suitable time with you, most likely to be at the end of the school day. Once your child has been allocated a place at Southesk, we will invite you to meet the staff and children, find out more about the curriculum and share information about your child where required.

All parents are warmly invited to visit the school prior to the enrolment of their child. Informal meetings are held with parents of the new nursery and P1 classes in the summer term which allow parents to talk with senior staff and their child's class teacher. Should you wish to enrol your child at another time e.g. due to moving home etc. please call to arrange an appointment with a member of the school management team who will be happy to show you around our school and answer any questions you may have. Once your child has started school you are encouraged to visit and talk with the class teacher. There are formal parent/carer and child meetings twice during the school year, but these do not preclude further meetings between parents/carers and staff. If there is any matter you wish to discuss please contact the school. Parents are always welcome, and it is only by mutual co-operation between school and home that we can help our young people reach their full potential.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

[Schoolwear Made Easy - Scotland's leading schoolwear supplier](#)

Search for Southesk to buy our uniform/fleece jackets. We do not sell school uniform in the school. After consultation with parents, our everyday uniform is:

Grey/black trousers, shorts, skirt or joggers. Blue Sweatshirt/Hoodie with school badge and white/ blue T-shirt. P7 pupils may wear their senior pupil hoodies.

We do ask that gym shoes are provided, rather than wearing school shoes, as we do try and get outside for PE. 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 others. A pair of indoor shoes or slippers are also welcome to help keep our school clean.

We do sometimes have pre-loved and donated school uniform which you are always welcome to use. Please just ask at the school office

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 Senior Leadership Team, please contact:

- Mrs Denyer: Nursery to P2
- Mrs Thornton: P3-7 and Whole School

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](#)

If parents have cause for complaint, they should contact the school and make an appointment to meet the Head Teacher, or member of the management team, where we can look together to resolve the issue in a respectful, calm and solution focussed manner.

BECOMING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL

Southesk values the important part that families play in children's education and sees partnership with parents and families as an effective way of enhancing children's achievements and promoting better school ethos and communication.

Opportunities for Parental Involvement:

Some ideas for during the school day:

- Helping in the Nursery class
- Stay and Play
- Nursery Parent Forum meetings
- 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
- Supervising board games/chess clubs during lunch clubs or after school
- Teaching playground games
- Supporting educational visits/trips
- School concerts – making costumes, props, supervision of children
- Road safety – Cycle Training

Out with 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

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

All parents are invited to attend two Parents' Evenings throughout the year. At these meetings parents will have the opportunity to meet their child's class teacher for a 10 minute interview and hear about their child's progress. This is also an opportunity for parents to hear how they can best support their child's learning. We encourage pupils to attend too.

Parents are also encouraged to download and engage with the Seesaw app and share and comment on the progress being made by their child, the quality of the work shared and any other achievements.

SCHOOL ETHOS



Our Vision at Southesk is 'We Shine, We Learn, We Grow'

Our School Values are:

Supported Happy Inspired Nurtured Everyone is Respected



SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LINKS

Southesk School is an integral part of the community of Montrose. Children develop skills and learn to be better citizens as they engage with and support the work of the local community. Pupils also participate in sporting and cultural events within the Montrose Cluster and with other Angus Schools. Our pupils participate in community events and competitions organised throughout the Cluster and the Local Authority. We have a link with Fordmill and visit to share learning with the residents. During the festive period our pupils go carol singing at Tesco and entertain for the British Legion. Our pupils have also helped the Community Policing Team selling poppies in the community for Remembrance Sunday. The Community Policing team also assist our Junior Road Safety Officers to patrol the school grounds to ensure cars are travelling safely around the school area. Our Church link is St Mary's and St Peter's which is just a short walk away from the school. The summer, Easter and Christmas services are held there each year. Rev Jim Benton Evans is a regular visitor and works in classes with our children throughout the year. The school receives fresh fruit from Tesco twice a week and is part of the Fairshare programme. This scheme provides the school with bread and bakery goods throughout the week. This is then given to the pupils. Each classroom has its own toaster and Fairshare means that fruit and toast can be given daily to the pupils when required. The Family Learning Lounge has been created using Pupil Equity Funding and works closely with the Angus Communities Team and the Angus Nurture Team to deliver Family Learning programmes throughout the week. Community charity group Homestart run their sessions with young families in the local area from our Family Learning Lounge. We have close links with our local nurseries also. Little Beehive nursery come along once a week to use the Wildlife Garden situated in the school. Some of the children who attend Little Beehive will become our pupils so this serves as a good transition. Our pupils also use the area at the same time allowing for shared learning opportunities. The

school works closely with Montrose Academy to support transitions to S1 and we also welcome senior pupils to undertake work experience within Southesk and do run sports clubs as Sports Leaders. We also welcome students from Dundee and Angus College and support their childcare placements. We have a well-established a link with Montrose Port Authority. They have provided a water bottle for every child, funded our Christmas visit to the Montrose Playhouse and purchased class sets of waterproofs. We have some very exciting plans lined up for the coming year together too. We work with our Active Schools links Louise and Matthew to offer many different experiences and clubs for our children at Southesk. Two of our pupils are members of the Junior Community Council and attend meetings throughout the year to help improve the Montrose community.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

[Angus Council anti-bullying policy](#)

At Southesk we talk about 'Relationships' rather than behaviour management. We believe that positive behaviour is promoted by the solid relationships we build between pupils and all the staff here at Southesk. Children are given clear guidelines about appropriate behaviour and expectations based on our 'School Rules' which are displayed in each and every room around the school. These Rules are well embedded into the life of the school and are used in the classroom, in and around the school and in the playground

Our rules are as follows: -

- Ready
- Respectful
- Safe



Ready to Learn Policy Regulated behaviour is essential to effective 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 producing and sustaining this positive ethos. As part of our emotional literacy programme, all our learners learn about the impact our emotional state has on our ability to learn and maintain positive relationships. Southesk Primary School strives to be a centre for learning where all pupils have equal access to a stimulating, safe and effective learning environment that is free from disruption and is positive and inclusive, providing them with every opportunity to be successful in preparing them for life after they complete their education with us. We seek to celebrate those pupils who consistently demonstrate they are 'Ready to Learn' and provide support and guidance to pupils who may at times find this challenging. At

the heart of our school, is an ethos of kindness, hard work and respect. For a school culture to work, it must work for all learners. Some learners will require additional support to meet the high standard we should expect of them, and alongside being clear on expectations, we must offer support where it is identified and needed. Emotion Works is an educational programme for emotional learning and literacy. Based around a visually supportive framework for learning and talking about emotions, the goal is to build emotional language and understanding in children and young people to help develop emotional competence and resilience.

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 or House Point.

Southie Stars

The café is an opportunity for us to celebrate the success of our pupil's achievements with their wider family. On a weekly basis, class teachers will award members of their class with a V.I.P pupil invitation via seesaw. The invitation will welcome the pupil's whole family to join their child at the following week's café. At the café the family will have the opportunity to sit with their child and celebrate their achievements. They will also have the opportunity to look at some pieces of work their child would like to share with them.

Children are allocated to one of our four houses, Airlie, Cortachy, Glamis or Kinnaird. Pupils can gain points for their house in a variety of ways, through good behaviour, academic and sporting achievements. The house with the greatest number of points at the end of the year is awarded the House Cup.

We celebrate wider achievement at Assembly and our Stars boards. Pupils may also win the Golden Welly for their class for going above and beyond in the playground.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There is a vast array of extra-curricular activities available for your child to participate in, these include/have included:

- Football • Athletics • Basketball • Rugby • Reading • Arts and Crafts Clubs • Chess Club
- Baking • S Factor • Running • Netball • Games

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 PARLIAMENT

As a Rights Respecting School, we have active pupil forums at Southesk. The House and Vice Captains meet regularly with staff to discuss school improvements. They are involved in creating their own version of the School Improvement Plan and will take part in the

evaluations of our school improvement priorities. They will be involved in deciding upon school fundraising ideas, raising awareness of Eco matters and addressing emerging issues as they occur. They will also help to determine our school priorities for next session. Each House and Vice-Captain is responsible for a Ministry in our Parliament.

Two P6 pupils are our representatives at Montrose Junior Community Council.

SHINE TIME

Every pupil in P4-7, is linked to one of the Leadership groups. These change annually, allowing the pupils the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of a variety of different subjects. The pupils launch their group at the beginning of the school year through a whole school assembly. Following this, further assemblies are held to report back to the school, the progress the pupils are making with their agreed targets. Through participating in the groups, the pupils learn and develop the following skills:

- A school is a community and pupil leadership groups help to make our community harmonious and good to live in.
- Our Pupil Leadership Groups enable pupils to make positive contributions to their school environment and its ethos.
- Every child learns to listen to others and to recognise themselves as a worthwhile individual with a right to be heard.
- Children learn self-confidence and social skills.
- Contributing to their class and school community allows children to grow in self-esteem.
- Every child learns from their own experience how to contribute to society as a whole and what it means to be an active citizen.

Our leadership groups are as follows: • Sustainable Southie • Sports Leaders • UNCRC • Reading • STEM • Play and Digital

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

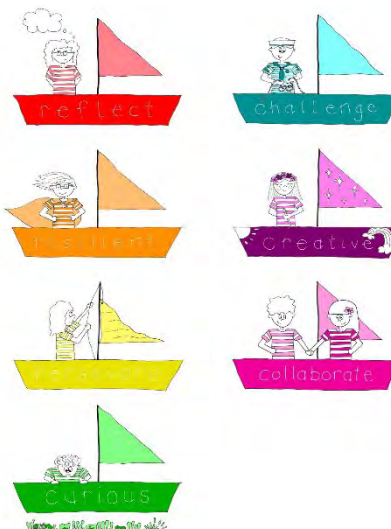
Personalisation and choice is one of the seven principles of curriculum design. Children and young people throughout their education will have the opportunity to discuss with their teacher the context in which they learn and how they will approach the learning. Staff will discuss new learning with the 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 Seesaw.

THE CURRICULUM AT SCHOOL, LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL

If you want to find out more about the curriculum at school, local and at national level there is a selection of leaflets in the school foyer - please help yourself. There is also a wealth of information available through the links at the back of the handbook. Parents can also find out about the curriculum and teaching methodologies during:

- Meet the teacher evening
- P1 Parents' Induction evening
- Open Afternoons
- Parent workshops



LIAISON WITH SECONDARY SCHOOL

Montrose Academy, Academy Square Montrose DD10 8HU

Head Teacher: Mr Malcolm Smart

Southesk maintains close links with Montrose Academy and other Primary Schools within the Montrose area. 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

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

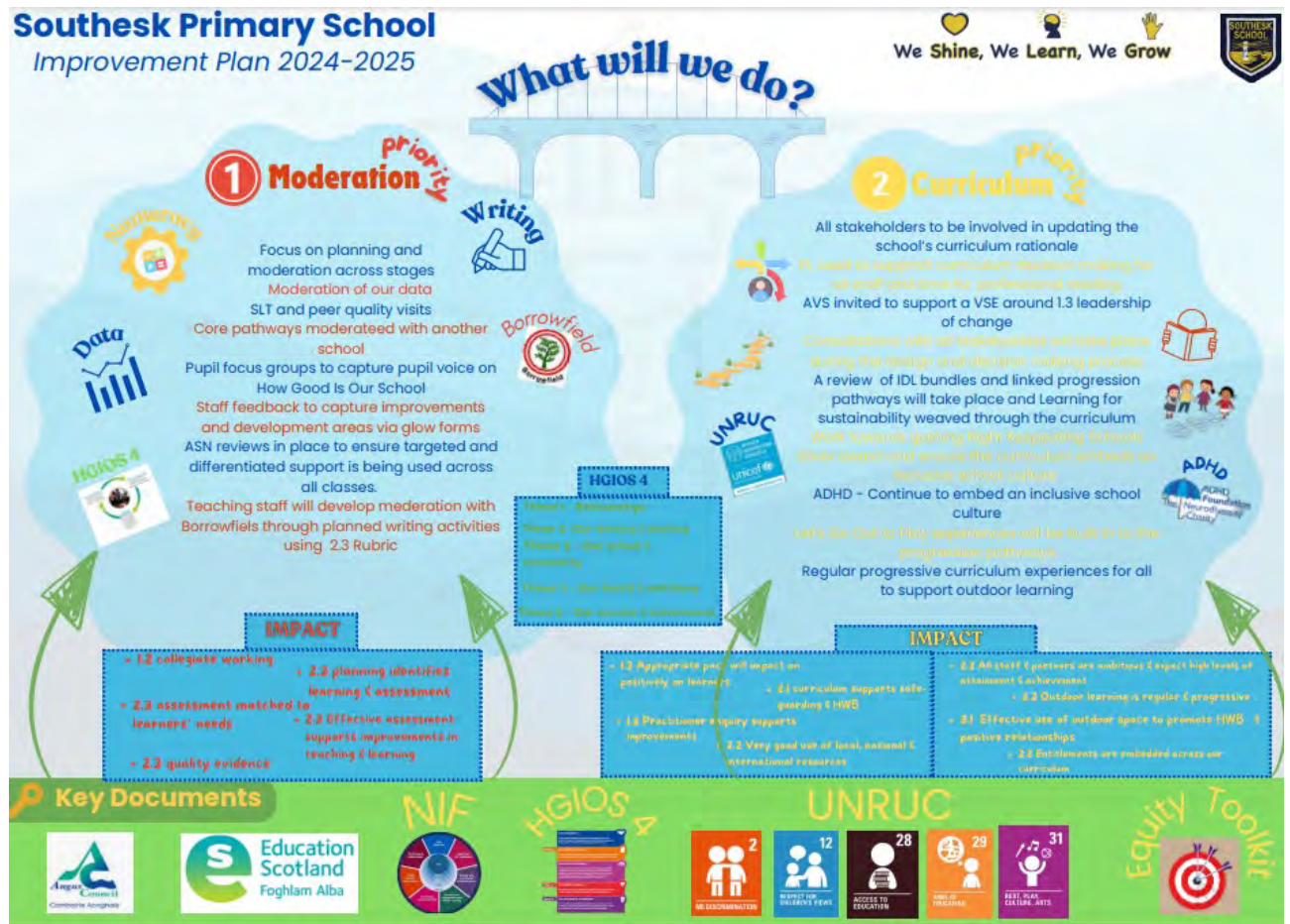
We are very proud of our pupils and of their recent achievements. We are also proud of the culture within school which encourages participation and success. There are a variety of extra-curricular activities in which pupils take part. Further details of school achievements can be seen in the main foyer and also the School Standards and Quality Report.

IMPROVING STANDARDS

You can view a copy of our Standards and Quality Report in our school foyer or website.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Our School Improvement Plan is focused around 2 key areas, Moderation and Curriculum Rationale.



HEALTH CARE

You can contact your school health staff at: - School Health Links Health Centre, Frank Wood Way, Montrose DD10 8TY

Tel: 01674 675115

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 service 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: Mrs Thornton and Mrs Denyer.

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.

Nut Free Zone

We respectfully request and acknowledge the continued support from parents in keeping Southesk a nut-free zone as we have some children who have a potentially fatal anaphylactic allergy.

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