

# Brechin High School Handbook 2025/26



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## **CONTACT DETAILS**

Brechin High School

Brechin Community Campus,

Duke Street Brechin Angus

DD9 6LB

Tel: 01356 237100

**Website:** <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/an/brechinhighschool/>

**Email Address:** BrechinHigh@angusschools.org.uk

**Head Teacher:** Mrs Fiona Lawrence

**Class Stages:** S1 – S6 and returning adults

**Present Roll:** 549

**This school does not teach by means of Gaelic Language**

**Parent Council:** Members of the Parent Voice can be contacted via the school office or on Facebook Brechin High School Parent Voice Facebook

### **Organisation of the school**

Monday – Thursday 8.55am - 3.50pm

Friday – 8.55am - 1.20pm

## **VISITS OF PROSPECTIVE PARENTS**

Click on the link below for guidance on choosing a school

[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**

We show our pride in the school by wearing school uniform and it allows us to easily identify Brechin High School pupils in an open campus and in the community.

Our uniform is simple, practical, and comfortable. It is considerably cheaper than having to keep up with trends or brands. All pupils are expected to wear school uniform in school and on educational visits. Brechin High School is a place of work so we can help them to achieve their best and prepare them for moving on to employment.

The uniform for Brechin High School is:

- Brechin High School uniform items - Brechin blue with the Brechin crest. (Brechin High School blazer, Brechin High School hoodie, School of football top, or other Brechin High School club top)
- Sensible black bottoms (Black trousers, long shorts, skirts, joggers, leggings). No logos please
- White shirt or blouse with a Brechin High school tie, or Brechin High School polo shirt. • Black shoes.
- Pupils are expected to change for PE for hygiene and practicality reasons. Blazers and hoodies can be ordered at [www.beuniforms.co.uk](http://www.beuniforms.co.uk). School ties can be bought from the office for £5. We can help with fitting to ensure the correct size is ordered, and if anyone has trouble ordering online, we can help with the order itself. Financial help to buy uniform is available and the school runs a uniform recycling scheme - please contact the appropriate PT Pupil Care & Support teacher.

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**

### **PARENTAL CONCERNS**

Parents/carers should contact the school in the first instance if they have a cause for concern. We wish to deal with all matters as early as possible, preventing them from becoming significant concerns.

Please contact the PT Pupil Care and Support teacher in the first instance by emailing the school ([brechinhigh@angusschools.org.uk](mailto:brechinhigh@angusschools.org.uk))

Your email will be treated in confidence and passed to the most appropriate member of staff. If you would prefer, phone the school office and arrange an appointment with the Principal Teacher Pupil Care & Support (01356 237100)

- o Dun | Mrs Colette McLaren
- o Farnell | Mrs Evelyn Cormack
- o Menmuir | Mrs Gemma Chapman (S1-S4) & Mrs Gillian Strudwick (S5/6)

If that does not resolve the issue, please contact the appropriate Head of House. A member of the school's Senior leadership team will deal with your concern as quickly as possible.

- o Dun | Mrs Amy Mackie, DHT

- o Farnell               | Mrs Alison Cormack, DHT
- o Menmuir             | Mrs Wendy Murray-Blair, DHT

It is also possible to contact the Head Teacher, Mrs Fiona Lawrence, if the issue remains unresolved.

## **THE COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

Complaints will be reviewed within a reasonable timescale; we aim for five working days. More complex issues may require longer but we will be in touch to alert you to a delay if this is the case.

[Angus Council complaints procedure](#)

## **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

Staff in Brechin High School provide a front-line service and are trying our best to get it right for your young person. There will be times however that you may want to speak with a member of staff at short notice, please understand that it is not possible to meet parents/carers without an appointment. As is well publicised in the national press there is significant pressure on all public services and the workload for school staff is significant. Teaching staff, PCS and SLT have full days both working with young people and with scheduled meetings.

If you wish to see a member of the PCS staff or SLT please contact the school office to request an appointment and give a brief outline of the reason. Office staff will then be able to direct the request appropriately. PCS and SLT will work hard to ensure there are no unnecessary delays.

## **BECOMING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL**

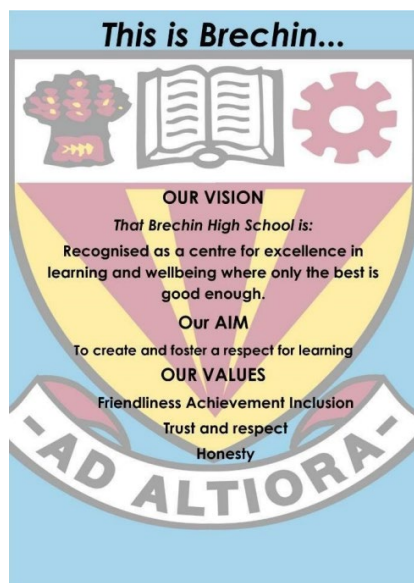
Parent's Evenings take place throughout the year and the timetable will be shared at the beginning of the academic session. Parents are invited to make appointments with class teachers prior to the event using [parentbooking.com](http://parentbooking.com).

One way that parents can be involved is by keeping an eye on Google Classroom. This will allow you to see what work is issued by class teachers each week and give you first-hand knowledge of any homework and when it is due. This kind of support from parents can be invaluable.

The Parent Voice group meet termly. This is normally one evening from 7-8pm. Please contact [brechinhigh@angusschools.org.uk](mailto:brechinhigh@angusschools.org.uk) if you would like to get involved.

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.

## SCHOOL ETHOS



Everything we do in Brechin High School is underpinned by our vision, values and our aim. We have agreed to revisit these later this session to ensure they reflect the views of our current school community.

Learning and wellbeing lies at the heart of everything we hope to achieve with our young people enabling each individual to do their best.

It is a fundamental principle of our school that all who are involved in the life of our school both have the right to be respected as individuals and also carry the responsibility to act in a considerate and respectful manner towards others.

We implement the Council policy for Equal Opportunities and Racial equality and ensure that all pupils have access to the full range of educational experiences available

within the resources of the school. We are firmly committed to the elimination of any form of discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, gender or disability.

Our school welcomes and encourages diversity and individuality, while emphasising our common commitment to moral values such as honesty, respect for others, compassion and justice. SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LINKS

Brechin High School is an integral part of the community of the town in which it resides. Children develop skills and learn to be better citizens as they engage with and support the work of the local community. The pupils of Brechin High School participate in community events such as Remembrance Day and competitions organised by local groups like the Rotary Club. The Brechin Community Campus provides us with an exciting opportunity to take this relationship further and develop something different and unique in Brechin through an integrated campus involving Education, Leisure, Community Learning and members of the local community. We all come together in a genuine partnership to form a new, integrated school community, placing a high value on life-long learning and contributing to the rejuvenation of the wider Brechin community. We have strong links with employers and pupils are given the opportunity to engage in work experience during their time at Brechin High School.

## 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.

**Our rules are as follows: -**

- Follow all staff instructions,
- No put downs,
- Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.

Brechin High School has a comprehensive relationships policy which can be found on our school website.

## **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.

Achievement is one of our core values and is celebrated at assemblies led by our PT PCS team.

Brechin High School is currently working on our whole school strategy to celebrating achievement, more details of this will follow in due course.

## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

A list of extra-curricular clubs can be found on the school website and below: -

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/an/brechinhighschool/pupils/extra-curricular/>

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/an/public/brechinhighschool/uploads/sites/2628/2025/01/20153420/sports-clubs.png>

## **PUPIL COUNCIL**

Pupils are offered a number of different formal and informal ways to share their views about the school. We make good use of the Google applications to gather pupil views and feedback in a 'You said...so we did..' format. We are always looking for additional ways to involve our young people in leadership and decision making in the school and wider community. The School Captains hold regular focus groups of pupils from the different year groups as a way to gather pupil views on different topics.

The Student Leadership Team meet weekly with Mrs. Brodie and meet regularly with Ms. Murray-Blair, as a member of the Senior Leadership Team. They will be involved in taking forward school improvement priorities and addressing issues as they occur.

## **LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

Your child will experience a range of learning opportunities in Brechin High School. Our learning and teaching is underpinned by the Brechin Framework for Learning and a comprehensive learning and teaching policy which can be found on the school website. Learners should experience a range of learning opportunities such as group work, individual and at year group level. We are also developing our interdisciplinary opportunities with our new curriculum offers such as the 'Schools Of'.

Our school has a wide offer for excursions to support learning both domestically and internationally, these change from year to year.

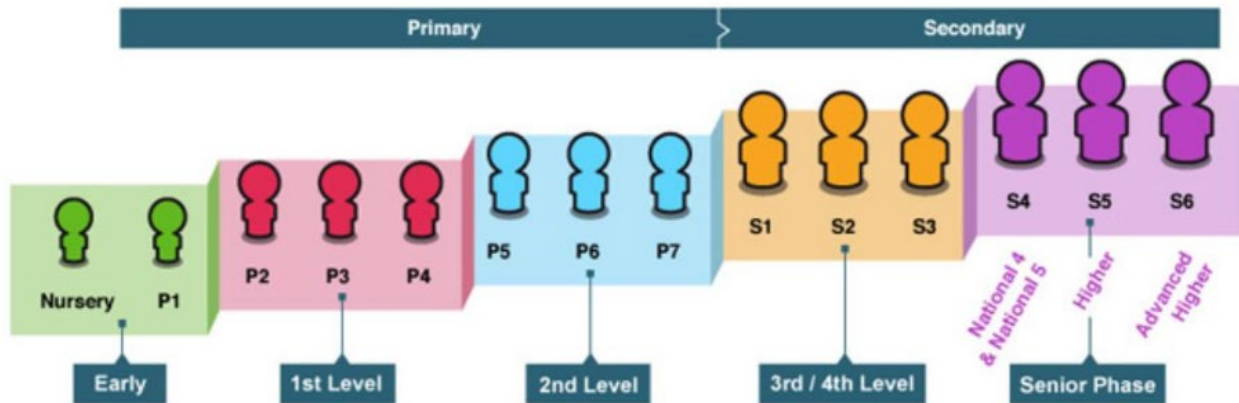
As well as learning opportunities within the traditional classroom setting, the school also provides opportunities out with the classroom such as outdoor learning, rural skills, Foundation Apprenticeships and Work Experience.

## **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. In S1 and S2, pupils are given a choice to be involved in our 'School of...' programme. There are opportunities to get involved in learning in the context of sport, computing, literacy and rural skills. Pupils in S2-5 are supported by their PCS teacher to choose subjects each year. Throughout PSE, they are given information regarding pathway planning. We also work closely with Mary Welsh, our Careers Advisor. Parents are given weekly updates in relation to learning happening across the school via the Weekly Bulletin which is emailed every Friday. Parents are also invited to meet with Mary Welsh to help in supporting their children.



## THE CURRICULUM AT SCHOOL, LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL



Structure: In Brechin High School the curriculum is divided into the Broad General Education (S1-S3) and the Senior Phase (S4-S6). Formal exams should only be attempted in the Senior Phase.

Qualifications offered at Brechin:

- National Qualifications
- Offered at levels 4,5,6 & 7.
- National 4 - internally assessed; pass/fail.
- National 5; Higher; Advanced Higher - final exam + folio / assignment / performance.
- National Progression Awards
- Offered at levels 4,5 & 6.
- Internally assessed through ongoing coursework (no exam!); pass/fail.
- Equivalent to a grade C;
- Pass at level 5 NPA is equivalent to National 5 grade C. Pass at level 6 NPA is equivalent to Higher grade C.

BGE Curriculum 2025/2026



In S1/S2 the 33 periods in each week are distributed as follows:

<b>Curriculum Area</b>	<b>S1 Periods</b>	<b>S2 Periods</b>
English	4	4
Modern Languages	3	3
Maths	4	4
Social Subjects	3	3
RE	1	1
Science	3	3
Health & Wellbeing	4	4
Expressive Arts	3	3
Technologies	3	3
PSE	1	1
School Of	3	3
Enterprise	1	1
<b>Total periods per week</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>S1 Periods</b>	<b>S2 Periods</b>
<b>Non Practical</b>		
English	4	4
Maths	4	4

Modern Languages	3	3
Social Subjects	3	3
RE	1	1
PE	2	2
PSE	1	1
<b>Practical</b>		
Art & Design	2	2
Music	1	1
Music Tech	0	0
Technical	2	2
Digital Literacy	1	1
Home Economics	2	2
Science	3	3
School Of	3	3
Enterprise	1	1
<b>Total periods per week</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>

Every pupil in the school has been allocated a registration class allowing for personal contact with a member of staff each week. Our S3 curriculum has been designed to provide a broad experience across the curricular areas while also helping prepare pupils for the national qualifications in the senior phase. Learning is focused on providing opportunities for pupils to attain and achieve fourth level experiences and outcomes.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>S3</b>
English	4
Maths	5
Subject 1	3
Subject 2	3
Subject 3	3
Subject 4	3
Subject 5	3
Subject 6	3
RE	1
PSE	1
PE	2
Wider Achievement	2
<b>Total periods per week</b>	<b>33</b>

<b>S4 - Curricular Design</b>	
Subject	Periods
English	5

Mathematics	5
Choice 1	4
Choice 2	4
Choice 3	4
Choice 4	4
Choice 5	4
PE	2
PSE	1

<b>S5/6 - Curricular Design</b>	
Subject	Periods
Choice 1	5
Choice 2	5
Choice 3	5
Choice 4	5

Choice 5	5
Wider Achievement	2
PE	2
PSE	1

Further information about the curriculum can be found on the Brechin High School Website and at <https://scqf.org.uk/> Brechin High School is a SCQF Bronze Ambassador School due to the range of qualifications and levels that we offer. A curriculum information evening is held every January, before pupils complete Pathway Planning options choices.

## **LIAISON WITH SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

The school maintains close links with Andover Primary School, Maisondieu Primary School, Edzell and Stracathro Primary Schools as well as other Primary Schools within the Angus 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.

We are very proud of our transition programme and work closely with cluster primary schools. Pupils begin transition visits during P7 most Friday mornings and follow this programme throughout the year. Pupils also have a week transition in June where they will follow their S1 timetable during that time.

## **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT**

The School Improvement Plan can be found on the School Website

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/an/brechinhighschool/about/the-school-improvement-plan/>

## **MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **IMPROVING STANDARDS**

The School Standard & Quality Report can be found on the School Website: -

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/an/brechinhighschool/about/the-school-quality-standards-report/>

### **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

The School Improvement Plan can be found on the School Website: -

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/an/brechinhighschool/about/the-school-improvement-plan/>

### **SCHOOL PERFORMANCE (Secondary schools only)**

**Information regarding the school's performance at local and at national level can be obtained.**

[Secondary School Information Dashboard](#)

## **HEALTH CARE**

**You can contact your school health staff at: -**

Miss Amy Edwards – [amy.edwards9@nhs.scot](mailto:amy.edwards9@nhs.scot)

Tel: 01382 660111 Extension: 58750

## **DOGS IN SCHOOL GROUNDS**

We understand walking your child(ren) to and from school 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 near the school which could feel intimidated. We accept that the campus is on a right of way and members of the community do walk their dogs close by.

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

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. Mackie and Mrs. McLaren

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.



## 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](https://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](https://angus.gov.uk/linksforparents)