



Barnhill Primary School

Curriculum Rationale

Our values:

Believe

Respect

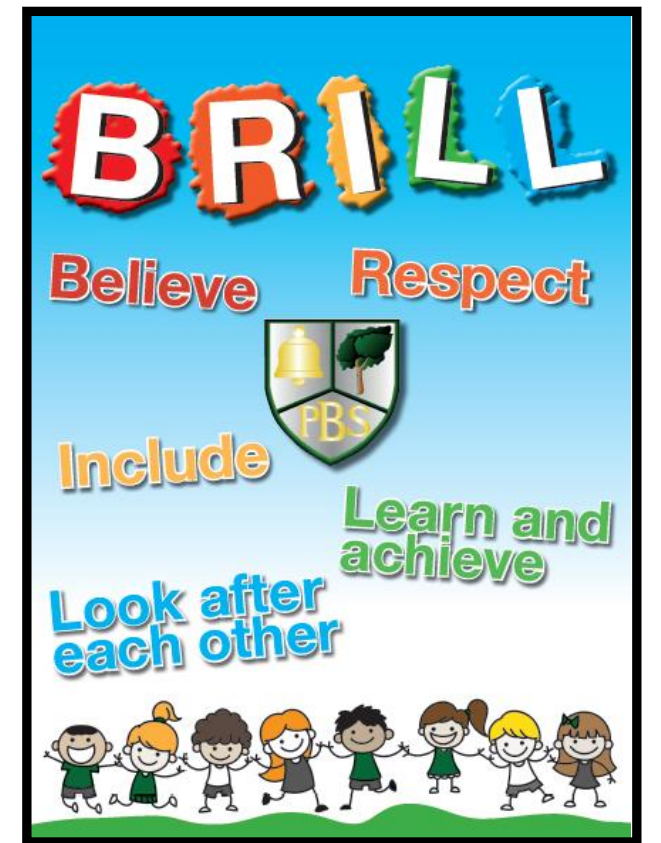
Include

Learn and achieve

Look after each other

Our aims are to:

- Create a welcoming, safe and happy school where everyone is valued.
- Promote a sense of responsibility, respect and caring attitude in all pupils and staff.
- Provide a broad, stimulating education by learning through discovery, challenge and enjoyment to meet the needs of each individual pupil.
- Ensure that the whole school community feel included and are proud of their work and achievements both in and out of school.
- Instil confidence in pupils and staff to develop skills for learning, life and work.
- Encourage all to reflect and self-evaluate as they strive to achieve their goals.



Information for Parents/Carers

What do we mean by a Curriculum Rationale?

Our Curriculum Rationale defines what we want our pupils in Barnhill to achieve during their time with us. It captures what is unique to our school context and the community within and around our school e.g. links within the community such as Alisa McDonald (Minister at St Margaret's Church), Rev Brian Talbot, local businesses such as Barnhill Co-Op, use of resources to enhance learning such as Barnhill Rock Garden, Broughty Ferry Castle, Gardyne Theatre etc.

Curriculum is defined as the totality of all that is planned for children and young people from early learning and childcare, through school and beyond. That totality can be planned for and experienced by learners across four contexts:

- Curriculum areas and subjects
- Interdisciplinary learning
- Ethos and life of the school
- Opportunities for personal achievement

In Barnhill we are always looking at what we need to do to improve the learning for our children and young people, deciding upon what we want to change and how we are going to achieve this. Taking curricular aims and translating them into practice is a continuous process. The voices of our pupils, staff and parents/carers are very important in this process of improvement and this is why we seek feedback from all stakeholders at various points within the year, in a number of ways.

A refreshed narrative on Scotland's curriculum, which sets CfE within the current context, was published in September 2019.

<https://scotlandscurriculum.scot/>

We have made use of the feedback that parents/carers have given to us at various times during the past year, for example completed questionnaires, post it notes completed at parent meetings, meet the teacher evenings, curricular awareness sessions (Growth Mindset Workshop), liaising with our Parent Council at events and meetings. We have also gathered feedback from the JLT, Respect Me Team and our Digital Leaders. We have also asked pupils, parents and staff the following question:

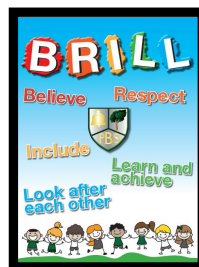
- Which three qualities/skills do you think our pupils should have by the end of Primary 7?



Curriculum Areas and Subjects

- Deliver all curricular areas to our children with a continuous focus on literacy, numeracy and health and well-being.
- Ensure that health and wellbeing remains a high priority as we want to support our pupils to be resilient learners who have developed healthy attitudes.
- Use progression pathways to support the breadth and progression of learning for pupils across each of the Curriculum for Excellence levels.
- Use a wide range of teaching strategies to ensure we are meeting the needs of all learners.
- Ensure skills for learning, life and work are a vital part of the experiences of our learners.
- Ensure that our learners at Barnhill will be innovative, confident and responsible in the use of digital technologies.

Our Curriculum Rationale In Barnhill we aim to...



Barnhill's Four Contexts of Learning



Interdisciplinary Learning

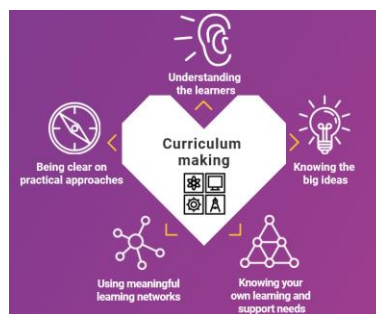
- Provide opportunities for learners to make connections across the curriculum, exploring clear and relevant links.
- Ensure that learning is stimulating, relevant & challenging and planned around clear purposes, providing progression in skills, knowledge & understanding.
- Provides opportunities for learners to deepen their learning through exploring issues and solving problems.
- Support and develop enriched learning experiences by working with various partners in the wider community.

Ethos and Life of the School

- Build strong and positive relationships with everyone within our community.
- To work in partnership with families, our school & cluster colleagues and local community as well as wider partners; using a collaborative and collegiate approach to drive improvement.
- Work with other professionals who are able to further support us in providing our pupils with the best outcomes in their learning, health and wellbeing and personal growth.
- Encourage our children to contribute to the life and work of the school; decision-making, leaders, role models and promoting the school and its values within the wider community.
- Supports and encourage a variety of extra-curricular links led by school staff, our Active School Co-ordinator and activities within the community.

Curriculum Making

Scotland's Approach



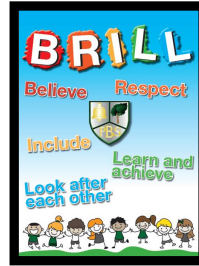
Opportunities for Personal Achievement

- Provide opportunities for children to share and talk about their achievements in school and out-with.
- Develop children's resilience, independence and confidence.
- Ensure all children experience a range of achievements in the classroom and beyond.
- Provide opportunities for children to take on challenges.
- Work closely with different organisations and partners to help our young people access information and receive opportunities to learn in wider contexts.
- Ensure children have their voices heard.

What do we do to achieve our aims?

Curriculum Areas and Subjects

- All teaching staff plan and deliver learning within all eight curricular subjects.
- Curricular pathways are used to ensure high and consistent expectations on pupil learning. Each pathway determines what a child should achieve in their learning at the end of each stage in the primary school.
- All children experience links with a range of partners to develop interests, strengths, skills and aspirations e.g. Careers Week, P6 and P7 Careers Fair, Butterfly Cafe.
- We gather health and wellbeing data from our learners which is based on the SHANARRI indicators. This will allow us to target individuals and groups of pupils with support that they require.
- All children will learn about Scots Language and will be given the opportunity to lead a Scottish open afternoon to share their learning.
- Staff and pupil digital leaders will quality assure digital learning and teaching to ensure all pupils receive a high quality experience.



Barnhill's Four Contexts of Learning



Barnhill's Approach to Curriculum Making What Matters?

- We use a range of evidence to understand learners.
- We involve the whole school community in self-evaluation activities to help us understand our strengths and areas for development. This helps us to be clear on our approach.
- We work with parents and a range of partners to support children and their families.

Interdisciplinary Learning

- In Barnhill we seek to promote natural links between subjects and provide interesting and innovative contexts for learning e.g. Dinosaurs, Adventure Island, Toys.
- Our IDL bundles and planning formats have local, national & DYW links ensuring knowledge, skills & understanding are progressive and enable our children to adapt and be motivated by their learning.
- Children will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of trips to extend their learning e.g. Barnhill Rock Garden, McManus Galleries, Sky Studios, Safe Taysiders.

Ethos and Life of the School

- We hold parent/carer focus group meetings and regularly invite parents into the school to celebrate and share learning. We work in close partnership with our parent council.
- Nursery and P1 invite parents to Stay and Play sessions.
- Parents helpers support learning.
- All staff use restorative approaches to build strong and positive relationship with pupils. Nurturing principles are evident throughout the school e.g. every child has access to a cosy corner in their classroom.
- All children are given the opportunity to take on leadership roles e.g. Junior Leadership Team, Respect Me Team, Digital Leaders, Eco Team, P6 lunchtime helpers, P7 buddies.
- Extra-curricular clubs are led by teaching staff, parent volunteers, partners and pupils in a diverse variety of areas including basketball, code club, book club and pom-pom club.
- We have strong links with Broughty Ferry Tennis Club.
- Our pupils are encouraged to participate in cluster events (sporting, Rotary quiz).
- We have strong links with the Barnhill Chaplaincy Team.

Opportunities for Personal Achievement

- Our main entrance is dedicated to celebrating achievements from within and out-with school.
- Successes are shared at assemblies, through Twitter and on our achievement walls throughout the school.
- We present weekly 'BRILL Awards' for children who have strived to achieve the focus of the fortnight, which is linked to our BRILL values.
- The Nursery have a graduation celebration in the Summer term and the school has a Prize Giving which celebrates and gives recognition to a variety of pupil achievements.
- Every P7 pupil is given the opportunity to participate in a residential trip.
- All pupils are given the opportunity to participate in Bikeability training.
- All pupils will be given the opportunity to share their learning at assembly.
- All nursery and P1 pupils will be given the opportunity to perform in a Nativity/Christmas Show.
- All pupils will be given the opportunity to perform at the Gardyne Theatre.