

# Aviemore Primary School &ELC Newsletter August 2025

Always Learning   Always Growing   Always Positive

Our Values

Aviemore Primary

Values are:

**Inclusion** for

Everyone.

**Motivation** in

Our learning.

**Respect** all

Equally.

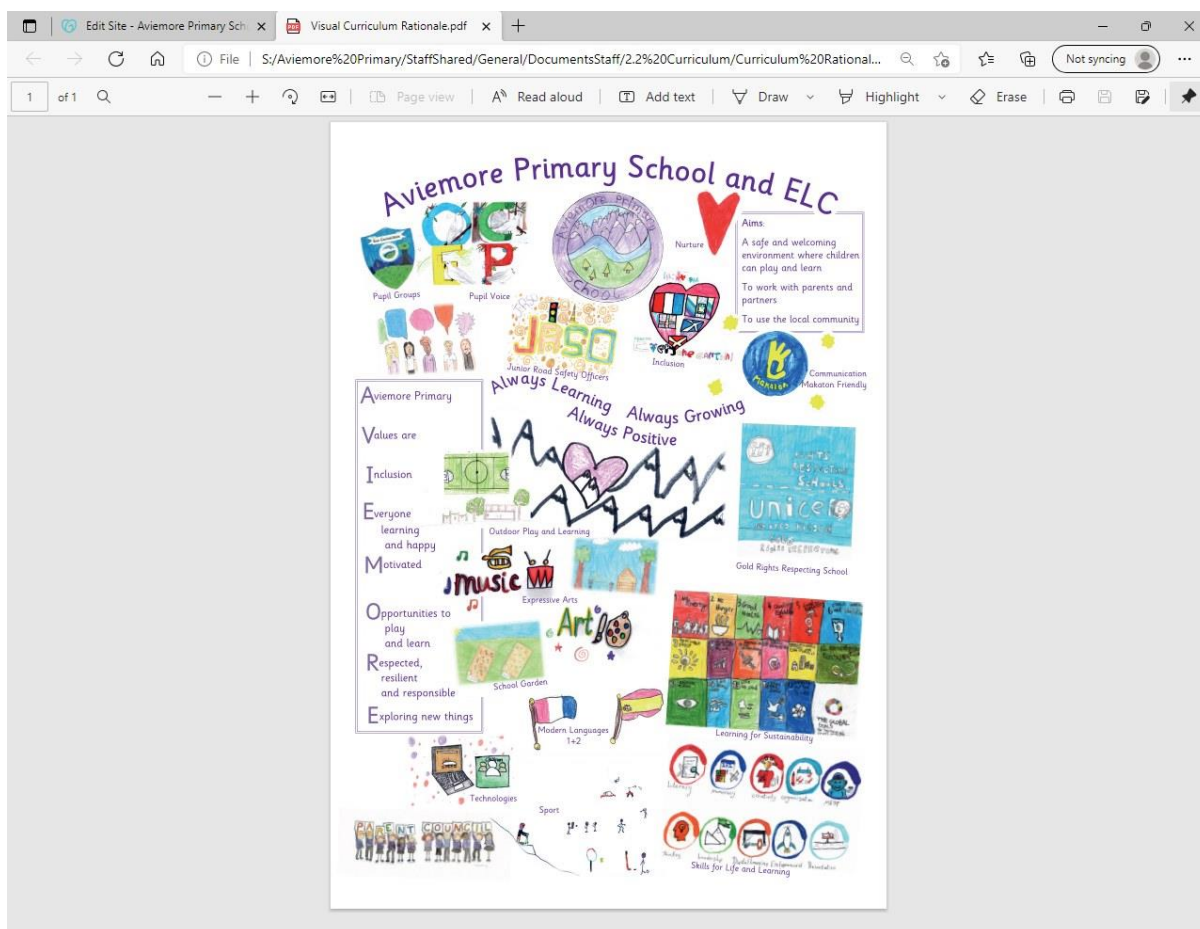
Welcome back!

We have been delighted to welcome everyone back to school and nursery following the summer break. A special welcome to our new Nursery and Primary 1 children and other new families joining us in other stages of the school too.



- Learning this term
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- Uniform
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## Learning this term



### Classes this session:

Our classes will be organised as follows for this session:

### Nursery

Woodland Room - Trisha Trolland, Jan Sandbach, Naomi Dargie Verity Matthew and Cath Carroll

Ocean Room - Pam Lowden, Ewelina Luczak Mirossayova, Alison Mair and Laura Maclellan

### Classes

P1 - Eilidh Ross

P1/2 - Tracy Lewis and Sandra McIntyre

P2/3 - Isobel Gray and Sulekha Millar

P3/4- Gael Tannock Josey and Anona Johnstone (Sulekha Millar CCR)

P4/5- Miriam Swinton and Anona Johnstone (Mr Wilkins CCR)

P5 - Kirsty Dudgeon and Charlotte Anderson (Sulekha Millar and Joseph Wilkins CCR)

P6/7 - Siobhan Pentland (Mr Wilkins CCR)

P7 - Aileen Hull (Mr Wilkins CCR)

\*CCR (class contact reduction) is the planning and preparation time for teaching staff. This equates to 30 minutes a day. Teachers in P1-3 classes have this time from 2:45-3:15 after children have left. For P4-7 classes this time is accommodated during the school week. Where possible we try to include this in job share partnerships.

## **ASN**

Rainbow Yellow - Emily Sharp

Rainbow Blue - Kate Johnson

## Class topics



P1 - Everyone Welcome and Food and Farming

P1/2 - Farming

P2/3 - Farming

P3/4 - Weather and Climate Change

P4/5 - Extreme weather and the water cycle

P5 - Weather, Climate change and water

P6/7 - Weather and climate, Scotland and Antarctica

P7 - Water cycle, weather and climate

For more details please see your child's Termly Planner which also has other dates for your diary on the school website - [www.aviemoreprimary.co.uk](http://www.aviemoreprimary.co.uk) available from Friday 29th August.

## Homework



Homework will be sent out in 4 weekly blocks and will include a numeracy/literacy task each week. The focus will be on practise and recall of learning e.g spelling/times tables. We will not ask pupils/parents to post work on Google Classroom. The homework calendar will let you know how the homework will be assessed each week e.g a spelling test.

Thank you for your support and encouragement of children in this element of their learning.

## Uniform



A reminder that it is our expectation that all children wear school uniform every day. For our uniform policy in full please visit our website <https://aviemoreprimary.co.uk/policies>.

Uniform can now be purchased directly from <https://schoolwearmadeeasy.com> at any point in the school year.

Our Parent Council operate a uniform exchange outside the school office window. There are a wide variety of items in different sizes available to swap or take if needed. School staff will make use of this facility to support children who continue to come to school without uniform.

If there is a reason your child cannot wear uniform i.e sensory issues please get in touch to discuss with us. If there is a temporary reason e.g broken washing machine please email/call to let us know.

Thank you for your support with this.

## Term time holidays



Over the last few years we have seen an increase in children being taken out of school during term time for family holidays. Term time holidays are recorded as unauthorised absences from school unless in exceptional circumstances e.g military families. We strongly discourage you taking children out of school as it can significantly impact on their learning. There is not always the time in class to revisit learning with children who have missed topics and gaps in learning can reduce children's confidence and hinder their progress in the long term.

Please note we do not provide learning activities for children to do on term time holidays as providing these creates additional workload for our teaching staff and activities that are planned for in class are dependent on children being present for the teaching input.

Please also refer to the information below from the Scottish Government on the impact of missed learning and low attendance.



## Staffing

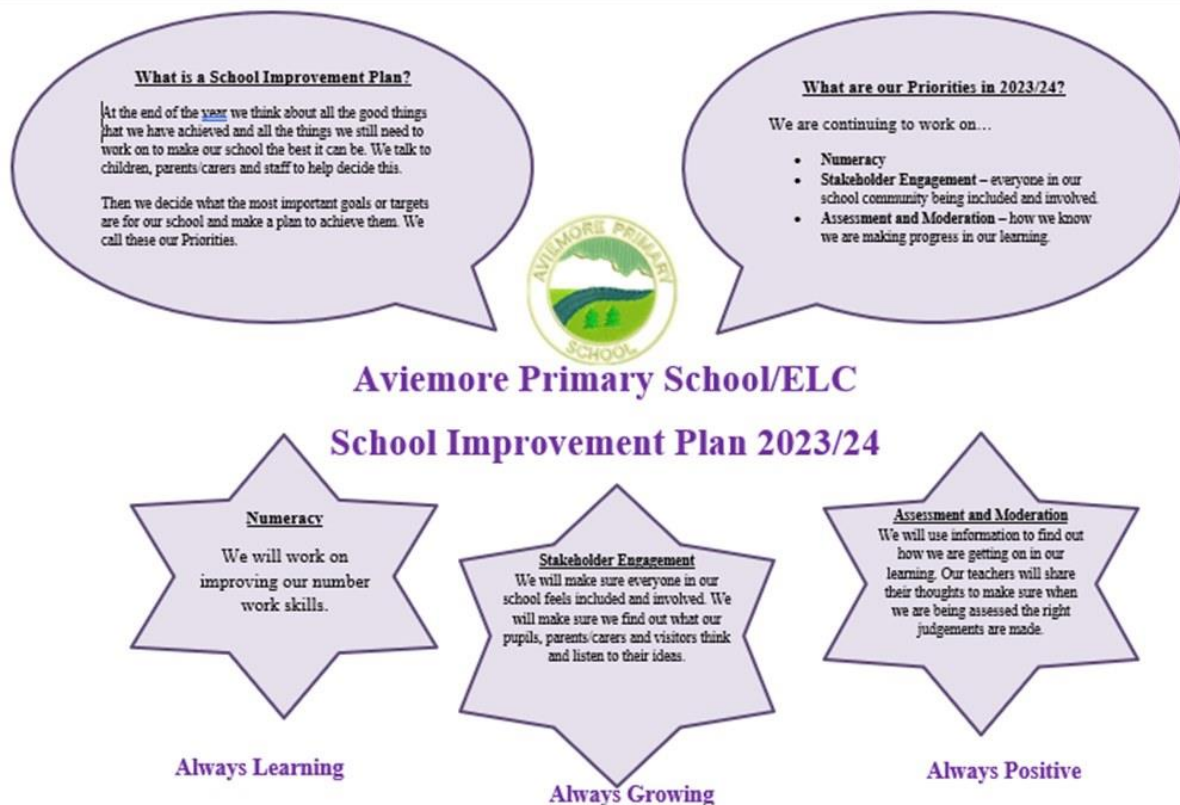


We were sad to say goodbye to Yvonne Littler and Gillian Cain at the end of last session and we wish them all the best on their next adventures.

We are delighted to welcome Isobel Gray to the team, who is joining us for the year and will be teaching P2/3 alongside Ms Millar.

This session we will also be welcoming Lesley Rogan and Amber Gordon who are joining our PSA team.

## School Improvement Plan



Following our inspection report and consultation with parents we have agreed on the three priorities below:

They are:

- Raising attainment in literacy through the National Writing Improvement Framework
- Consistency in learning and teaching to raise attainment
- Developing the ASN curriculum.
- **Raising attainment in literacy** - following on from the success in P4 at introducing the NIWP, we will be rolling this out across the school. This will involve staff training, using CPD training sessions, as well as using the expertise from staff who delivered this program last session supporting peers. The programme focuses on the tools for writing one at a time, starting with the element that the children find most difficult. This will then be worked on until the children are secure in this area and an additional area is introduced. Through the programme, there is a large emphasis on celebrating successes and collective improvement. This programme has been shown to raise attainment in not only our P4 cohort, but also across Scotland.
- **Consistency in learning and teaching** - we will be using collegiate sessions across the year to work on areas of learning and teaching, such as differentiation, pace and challenge and effective questioning. Our work on this will then feed into our new learning and teaching policy and our updated curriculum rationale. We have already begun work, moderating our approaches to planning and assessment to ensure consistency across the school for all.
- **Developing the ASN curriculum**- we will be developing PE and providing high quality, planned experiences for children. Developing use of teaching resources and programmes across the curriculum for sensory based learners. Whilst also looking at skills and barriers to learning for individual children. **Assessment**- Developing and widening the range of assessment and tools used to monitor progress against specific targets. **Developing opportunities for wider achievements** -we will be working on providing experiences in our local area by connecting with other organisations, as well as developing an awards system for children to experience success and boost self-confidence.

## Reminders



- **Parking** – no parent should park in the school or nursery turning circles, these are for drop off only.
- **Punctuality** – please ensure your child arrives on time. School starts at 8:50am each day.
- **Attendance** - if your child is not going to be able to attend school, please let us know the reason for absence as soon as possible. Please do not use our text messaging service - calls and emails only from now on. **Please read the information regarding attendance from the Scottish Government.** Evidence demonstrates that pupil progress, attainment and achievement is affected if attendance falls below 90% or 171/190 days (SG, 2019a). An attendance rate of 90% (missing 19 days of school) is the equivalent of missing one school day every two weeks. When averaging 90% attendance over the course of their school career, by the time a young person has reached third year of secondary education, they will have missed the equivalent of an entire year of school.
- **Allergies** – please ensure we are aware if your child has any allergies. Some classes plan to do food tasting during the term and it is essential we are aware of any issues.
- **Snack** – please remember to provide your child with a healthy snack for break time at school. Tuckshop is only operating on a Friday at the moment. Snack is provided at nursery. **We do have children with severe nut allergies in school, so please ensure all snacks are nut free.**
- **Indoor shoes** – please ensure your child brings a pair of indoor shoes to school that can be left here and used for activities such as P.E (e.g no slippers)
- **Nursery clothing** – Please come prepared for all weathers. Remember waterproof clothing even on days it is not raining. On sunny days please apply suncream at home and we will top up at nursery as needed.

- **Mobile phones and smart watches-** It is preferable that no phones or smart watches come into school, however, we understand that this is not always possible. Any mobile phones/smart watches brought into school must be switched off and kept in children's bags for the duration of the day. If they are used, they will be confiscated and a parent/carer will be asked to collect.
- **Free school meals and clothing grant-** Please remember that you can apply for free school meals and clothing grant via the Highland Council website. P1-5 Children will receive free school meals anyway, but if you are eligible you can also receive a clothing grant. P6 and 7 children, if eligible will receive free school meals and clothing grant.

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools\\_-\\_grants\\_and\\_benefits/10/free\\_school\\_meals\\_and\\_assistance\\_with\\_clothing](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools_-_grants_and_benefits/10/free_school_meals_and_assistance_with_clothing)

## Dates for your Diary



Highland School calendar 2025/26 Please note - Dates may be subject to change

## School dates

### August

18th In-service Day

19th School and nursery return

22nd Assembly – Mrs McMaster – Vision, Values and Aims

29th Assembly – Mrs McMaster and the digital leaders– SHANARRI-Safe



## September

1st and 2nd Class photos

5th Assembly – Pupil Groups JRSO's, Eco, and Pupil council

5th Termly Planners out

8th- 11th P7 Residential

12th Assembly – Pupil Groups- Reading schools, RRS

15th and 16th In-service Days

19th Assembly – House enterprises Osprey and Capercaillie

23rd and 25th – Initial meet the teacher parent meeting.

25th Flu vaccinations

26th Assembly – Stage assemblies

(lower and upper school) SHANARRI- Achieving

## October

3rd Star and wider achievements assembly

7th House Treat

10th Harvest Assembly

10th School and nursery close for October holidays and reopen on Monday 27th October.



Contact us



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Visit us on the web at <http://aviemoreprimary.co.uk/>











