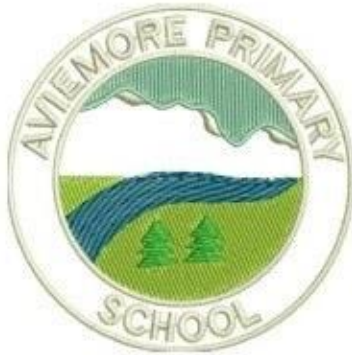




Aviemore Primary School &ELC Newsletter August 2026

Always Learning Always Growing Always Positive

Our Values

Aviemore Primary

Values are:

Inclusion for

Everyone.

Motivation in

Our learning.

Respect all

Equally.

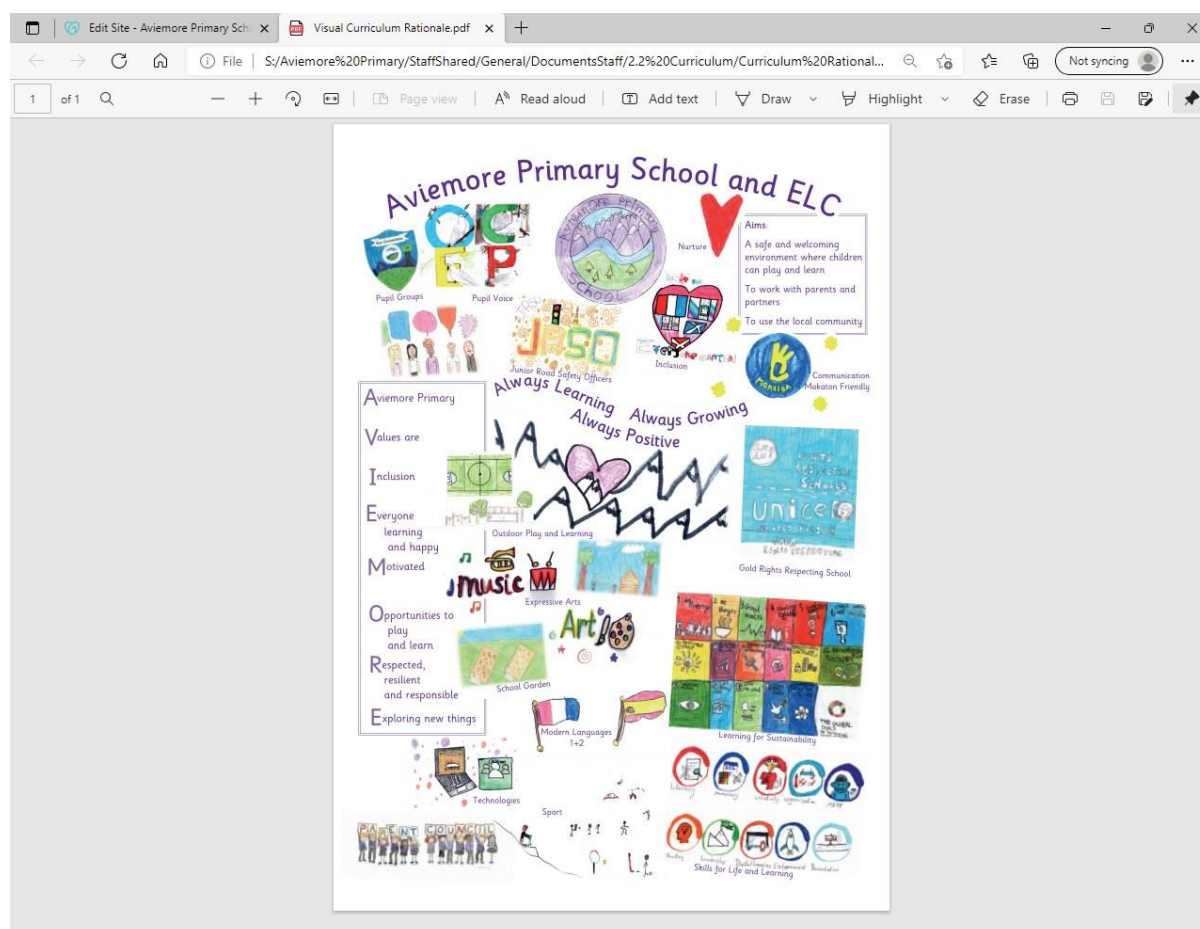
Welcome back!

We are 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
- Homework
- Uniform
- Term time holidays
- Staffing update
- School Improvement Plan
- Reminders
- Dates for your Diary
- Contact Us

Learning this term



Classes this session:

Our classes will be organised as follows for this session:

Nursery

Woodland Room - Trisha Trolland, Naomi Dargie, Verity Matthew, Cath Carroll and Laura MacLennan.

Ocean Room - Pam Lowden, Ewelina Luczak Mirossayova, Alison Mair and Jan Sandbach.

Classes

P1 - Eilidh Ross

P2 - Sulekha Miller

P3 - Gael Tannock Josey and Jess Creber

P4- Miriam Swinton and Tracy Wighton (used to be Lewis) (Mr Wilkins CCR)

P5- Anona Johnstone and Kirsty Dudgeon (Mr Wilkins CCR)

P6 - 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 - Suzanne Matthews and Lyn Williams

Rainbow Blue - Kate Johnson

Class topics



P1 - All about me and our local area

P2 - All about me and the land where we live

P3 - Cycles/Inheritance & Forces

P4 - Local Landscapes.

P5 - Forces

P6 - Local Landscapes

P7 - Democracy and then Mountains and landscapes

Blue Room - Our local area and people who help us

Yellow Room- Our local area and all about me

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 available from Friday 28th 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



Last session, school uniform was a hot topic at our Parent Council meetings.

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>.

Please note that children **MUST** have indoor shoes to change into when they come into school.

Uniform can be purchased directly from <https://schoolwearmadeeasy.com> at any point in the school year. HOWEVER, our Parent Council operate a **uniform swap shop** 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

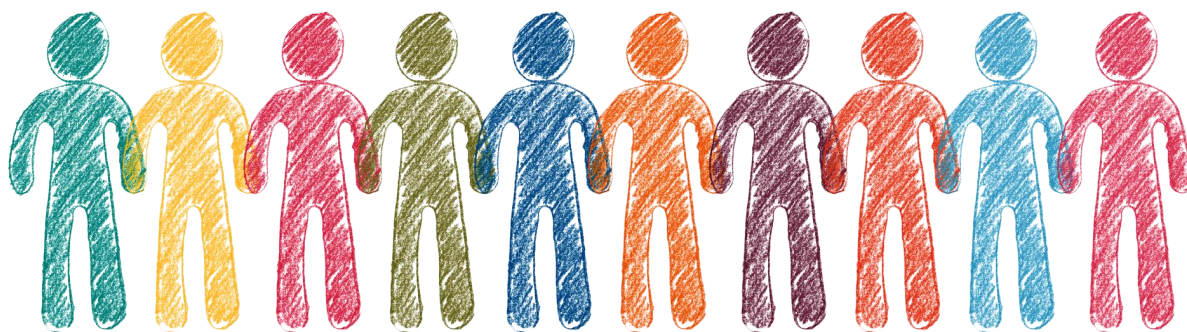


Over the last few years we have seen an increase in children being taken out of school during term time for family holidays. Term time holidays are recorded as unauthorised absences from school unless in exceptional circumstances e.g military families. We strongly discourage you taking children out of 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

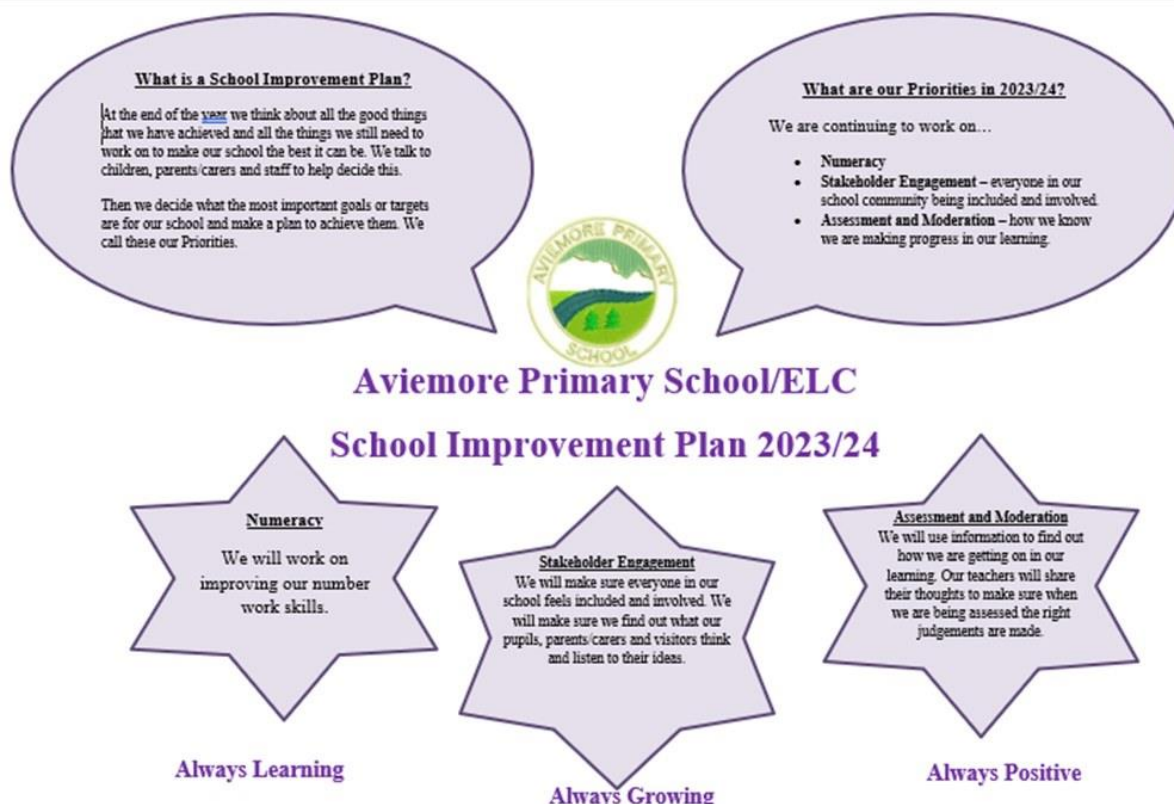


We congratulate Mrs Creber on her appointment as Acting Depute Headteacher and wish her all the best in her new role. Mrs Creber will be teaching P3 on a Monday.

We were sad to say goodbye to Charlotte Anderson, Isobel Gray, Sandra McInyre and Amber Gordon at the end of last session and we wish them all the best on their next adventures.

We are delighted to welcome Lyn Williams to the team, who is joining us, teaching in Rainbow Yellow alongside Mrs Matthews.

School Improvement Plan



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

They are:

- Raising attainment in literacy
- Embed consistent approaches in Learning and Teaching
- Embedding a shared understanding of positive relationships for Safe, Respectful learning.
- **Raising attainment in literacy** - We will be further embedding our approach to the NIWP in P2-7, using peer observations to share best practice amongst staff. In addition to this we will focus on talk and listening across the school, exploring programmes to support the curriculum, ensuring that there is coherent progression as children move up through the school. In the ELC, we will be developing literacy in the outdoors. In addition to this we will extend the 'Attention Autism' (Bucket Time) approach, to develop communication in Enhanced Provision, providing training for PSA staff.
- **Embed consistent approaches in learning and teaching** - Following the progress made in improving consistency in learning and teaching last session, we will continue to embed shared approaches across the school. We will build staff confidence in co-constructing success criteria with children, helping learners to understand what successful learning looks like and take greater ownership of their progress. We will also develop greater consistency in our approach to play, particularly within Early and First Level. Staff will work collaboratively to establish a shared understanding of high-quality play experiences, including the learning environment, provocations, observations and assessment. We will investigate the CERTS resource for Enhanced Provision to support the development of skills for our pre-Early learners and ensure that approaches are appropriate to their individual stages of development. Developing children's understanding of skills will remain a key focus. We will extend the use of our 'Animal Explorers' skills approach into ELC and strengthen how skills are understood and applied within our ASN provision. We will introduce a Digital Skills Passport to support children in recognising, recording and articulating the digital skills they are developing across their learning experiences. In the upper stages, we will review the KHS Skills Framework, analysing the current skills progression and agreeing whether this should be maintained, adapted or refreshed. We will support children to confidently identify and articulate the skills they are developing through their learning and Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) experiences. We will also further develop our PE curriculum, building on the changes introduced last session. Our focus will be on ensuring that PE experiences are

planned effectively and provide clear progression in children's skills, knowledge and confidence over time.

- **Embedding and shared understanding of positive relationships, for safe, respectful learning-** We will strengthen positive relationships across the school to ensure all children experience a safe, respectful and supportive learning environment. This will include refreshing staff training in trauma-informed practice and de-escalation, reviewing our positive relationships policy, and agreeing consistent approaches to routines, boundaries and classroom expectations. We will also introduce a peer mentoring programme for staff, alongside coaching and mentoring training, to support staff well-being. This is in addition to Fortitude training from The Insightful Coach. To help us identify and respond to concerns early, we will embed the consistent use of incident trackers and chronologies, with regular reviews to identify patterns and trends and clear protocols for timely intervention.

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. . Snack is provided at nursery. **We do have children with severe nut allergies in school, so please ensure all snacks are nut free. Please see the attached NHS guidance for healthier snacks.** [NHS Healthy Snack ideas](#)
- **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 or handed in to class teacher. If they are used, they will be confiscated and a parent/carer will be asked to collect from the office.
- **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. PLEASE APPLY ASAP!

[Application form for free school meals and clothing grant.](#)

Dates for your Diary



Highland School calendar 2026/27 Please note - Dates may be subject to change

School dates

August

19th School and ELC re-open

21st -Assembly- Mrs McMaster (Vision, Values and Aims)

28th Assembly- Mrs Creber (SHANARRI- SAFE)



September

4th NO Assembly (New pupil group meetings)

4th Termly Planners out

11th Assembly –Alzheimer Scotland

14th In-service Day (School and ELC closed to pupils)

18th Assembly – House enterprise - Capercaillie

22nd and 24th – Initial meet the teacher parent meeting.

25th Assembly – Stage assemblies

(lower and upper school) SHANARRI- Included

28th Class photos

October

2nd Star and wider achievements assembly

6th House Treat

9th Harvest Assembly

9th School and nursery close for October holidays and reopen on Monday 26th October.



Contact us



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Aviemore Primary School and ELC

Muirton

Aviemore

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



