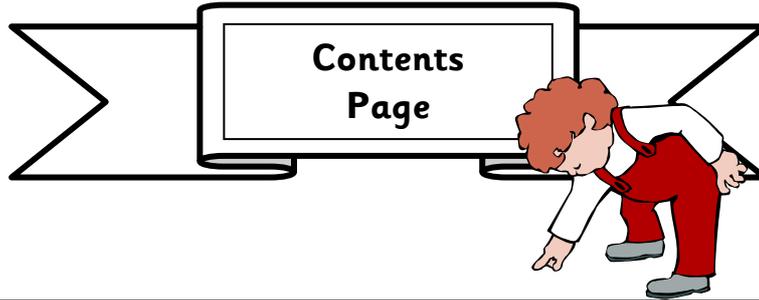




Welcome to Mount Cameron Primary Nursery Classes





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SLC Aims

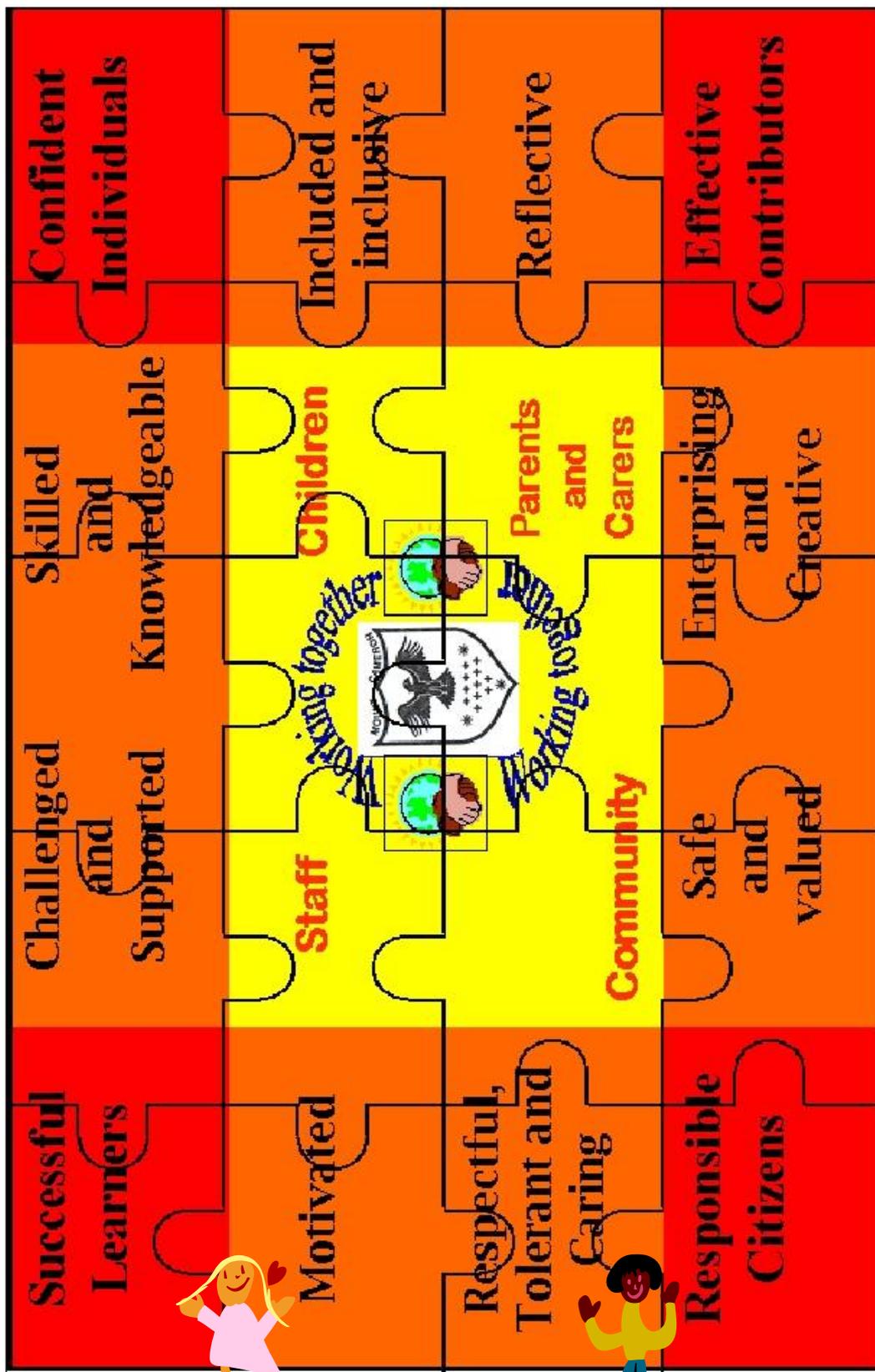


South Lanarkshire Council aims to provide education of the highest quality by ensuring all learners,

- **are effectively supported to raise their attainment and achieve their full potential;**
- **benefit from an appropriate range of learning opportunities which match their individual needs;**
- **access a curriculum which reflects national and council priorities and best practice in education. This includes,**
 - *being engaged with current environmental themes and issues*
 - *experiencing a curriculum which promotes and supports health education*
 - *being engaged in learning opportunities which develop self awareness and their skills as citizens*
 - *benefiting from an entitlement to enterprise in education*
 - *opportunities for a range of cultural, creative and artistic activities which foster creativity and ambition*
- **benefit from partnership working and the integration of services;**
- **are actively engaged, as appropriate, in evaluating the quality and impact of their learning experiences;**
- **experience a motivated and professional workforce who demonstrate best practice in providing opportunities for learning;**
- **have access to modern resources which are used effectively to maximise the impact of learning experiences, and are safe and feel valued when using Education Resources premises.**

Nursery Aims

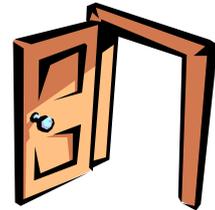
At Mount Cameron we aim to be



Mount Cameron Primary School and Nursery



Introduction



Mount Cameron Primary Nurseries and School,
High Common Road,
St. Leonards,
East Kilbride,
G74 2EX.

Telephone Number: (01355) 232062

Email: office@mountcameron-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Head Teacher - Mrs Caroline Reid (based in HT office in school)

Gaelic and Mainstream Early Years Worker - Mrs Gillian Connacher

Gaelic Nursery Teacher – Mrs Anne Hughes

Mainstream Nursery Teacher - Mrs Linda Porteous

We have two nurseries at our school. The Gaelic Nursery offers 5 a.m. sessions for children and the Mainstream Nursery offers 5 p.m. sessions for children. Parents or carers wishing to apply for a place in either Nursery should complete an Early Years Application Form, available from the school.

Maximum Roll

Gaelic Nursery 20 children

Mainstream Nursery 20 Children



Session Times



Gaelic Nursery:

9.00 a.m. – 12 o'clock.

Children should be collected between 11.50 a.m. and 12 o'clock.

All children should have left the nursery by 12 o'clock.

Mainstream Nursery:

1.00pm – 3.50 pm

Children should be collected between 3.40 & 3.50 pm.

All children should have left the nursery by 3.50 p.m.

Curriculum for Excellence



Curriculum

In line with the Scottish Government “Curriculum for Excellence” Early Level guidance and outcomes, we provide a balanced and stimulating range of differentiated activities and responsive learning opportunities to enable all children to develop high self-esteem, achieve their maximum potential and develop life skills.

Achievement and Attainment

To provide equality of opportunity for all children, encouraging all children to fulfil their potential by building on strengths, sharing their views, working in close partnership with parents/carers and supporting children with additional needs in order to raise achievement in all areas.

Gaelic Nursery:- To introduce and develop the use and understanding of oral Gaelic.

Ethos

To work in close partnership with all staff, parents, our Parent Council, Calderglen Learning Community of establishments staff, SLC Early Years Service, the local community, the Care Commission, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate, the Scottish Social Services Council, other services and agencies to provide equal opportunities in learning and life chances for all of our youngsters.



Nursery Policies and Programmes

The nurseries and school have a wide variety of targeted policies in place (matched to SLC Education Resource 7 Core Policies) to ensure the safe and secure running of the establishment in addition to the care and welfare of our children and raising the achievement of our children.

- Scottish Government National Care Standards;
- SLC Health and Safety Policy (including a yearly Risk Assessment);
- SLC Finance, Management and Personnel Procedures;
- SLC School Operating Procedures;
- SLC Early Years Admissions Policy and Procedures;
- SLC Quality Management Policy;
- SLC Child Protection Policy and Procedures;
- SLC 7 Core Policies on Learning and Teaching, Curriculum, Inclusive Education, Care and Welfare, Resources and Finance, Communication and Consultation;
- Position statements on Education for Work, Enterprise and Citizenship/Equal Opportunities/Information Communications Technology/Better Behaviour, Better Learning;
- Specific Nursery Policies on Programmes, Gaelic, Care Routines and Induction.

All policies are held in the school, either within the nursery room or in the Head Teacher's Room. All policies and programmes are available for all parents/guardians to view. Please let us know if you would like more information on school policies or wish to look at our policies. Partnership with parents/guardians is our priority and we would like to work closely for the benefit of the children in our care.



Nursery Improvement Plans

All nurseries and schools work on yearly improvement plans. These improvement strategies are written up as 'Improvement Plans', in line with National Priorities, Council priorities and the evaluated needs of the nursery. Each year, a 'Child at the Centre' audit is carried out by nursery staff and the Head Teacher, in consultation with children and parents/guardians. The draft 'Improvement Plan' is then made available for parents/guardians to comment on, and informal discussions take place with the children in our nurseries. In addition, nursery questionnaires are issued to parents/guardians every 3 years and Qwizdom voting hardware opportunities are arranged for parents and carers to share their views on the quality of the service. The Head Teacher monitors programmes and practice through Responsive Planning sheets, meetings with staff, interaction with children and parents and a formal Planned Playroom Visit (based on the 'Child at the Centre' performance indicators) each year. Partnership with parents is integral to our work in the nurseries.

Mount Cameron Nursery Improvement Plans are also taken forward as part of the Calderglen Learning Community Improvement Plan outcomes.

Applications/Admission Policy

Parents wishing to apply for a place in the Nursery classes should complete a South Lanarkshire Council Early Years Application form available from the school.

Parents from any area may apply to attend either nursery class but this does not mean children will automatically transfer to Primary Education in the school.

All nursery places are allocated in line with the Council's Admissions Policy. An admission panel will meet at regular intervals throughout the year to decide how nursery places will be allocated, as nursery intakes and admission procedures allow.

Settling In

Together we can help your child to settle happily into the nursery class, where they will soon make friends and become familiar with the nursery environment and routines. Some children find new environments, new faces and larger groups rather overwhelming at first. Every child is an individual and some take longer than others to settle. To begin with you may like to stay with your child for part or all of the nursery session/s until your child feels secure and confident enough for you to leave.

Curriculum for Excellence

The Nursery Classes follow the 'Curriculum for Excellence' Early Level guidance and outcomes for children in both their nursery and Primary 1 years. The Curriculum guidelines help staff to plan activities and learning opportunities that promote children's development in:

- Literacy and Language
- Numeracy and Mathematics
- Health and Well Being
- Expressive Arts
- Technologies
- Sciences
- Religious and Moral Education
- Social Studies



Many activities are related to focuses of interest which are developed in response to children's interest and ideas.

Children are involved in both directed activities and opportunities for choice, choosing play areas to visit and giving their views on focus work that they would like to follow. Children regularly use the outdoor play areas in the nursery and school to take learning outdoors. Children use both the school gym hall and multimedia room to take forward learning outcomes. Our curriculum is enriched through using our local and wider community as a resource.

The Gaelic Nursery

Mount Cameron Gaelic Nursery is the only Local Authority facility of its kind in South Lanarkshire, but is one of thirty-four in Scotland. Children who attend come along in order to learn and use the Gaelic language. Normally they attend Mount Cameron's Gaelic Unit after the nursery stage. Calderglen High also has Gaelic education.

Parents who do not have Gaelic are often concerned that they will not be able to help their child, but staff are quite used to this and try to support parents in various ways. We have introduced our Gaelic story sacks and four booklets with accompanying tape, which have been designed especially to help parents acquire some of the language used in the nursery.

Children at the Gaelic nursery cover the same curriculum as children at the mainstream nursery but are learning to understand and start to speak Gaelic at the same time.

Children from both nurseries also have weekly visits to the following:-

Multi Media Room and Library Gym Hall.



We have two computers in the nursery (one networked), a scanner, digital camera, digital camcorder, listening centre and television/video/DVD player .We also have an interactive backlit plasma screen connected to a laptop with nursery software including Qwizdom voting software.

Timetable

The nurseries has one session per week in the hall for physical development and movement activities which include

- Using large apparatus
- Using small apparatus (beanbags, ball, hoops etc)
- Music and movement
- Action rhymes
- Games
- Parachute activities
- Fitness activities

Assessment and Reporting

Staff constantly monitor the progress of each child. Assessment is a continuous process carried out by observing, evaluating, listening and questioning during planned activities and free play. Running records and planned observations are an important part of the nursery programme for achievement. You will receive written reports twice yearly (October and May) on your child's development and progress in the 'Early Level' outcomes form 'A Curriculum for Excellence'.

Supporting Children With Additional Needs

Every child will be supported appropriately to encourage them to reach their full potential and enable them to have equality of opportunity, reducing any barriers to learning. They may be given extra support by nursery staff and may also be given appropriate specialist help.



Parents will always be consulted if there are concerns about the progress of their child and asked for their consent before involving any specialist help.

Partnership with Parents

Nursery staff acknowledge that parents and families are integral to a child's life and early learning experiences. We recognise parents as key educators and aim to work in partnership with parents.



We can do this by:-

- ❖ sharing information on entry about your child's previous experiences, achievements, likes and dislikes.
- ❖ building on and developing what your child has learned at home or in previous Early Years establishments.
- ❖ working together to support and extend current learning experiences in the Nursery, through initiatives like English and Gaelic 'Storysacks' and 'Pick up a Pencil'.
- ❖ providing opportunities for parents to share skills or knowledge with the Nursery children and staff.
- ❖ enlisting the help of parents through our 'Parent Helper Scheme' for nursery sessions, parties, outings and any fundraising activities.
- ❖ communicating with parents through regular newsletters, website information, Parent's Notice Board, comments book and Parentmail.
- ❖ reporting to parents on a regular basis.
- ❖ informal day-to-day contact.
- ❖ formal meetings at Parent's Evenings.
- ❖ working together to promote positive behaviour by encouraging all children to consider the needs of others and to develop self control.
- ❖ Parent Council Meetings.
- ❖ Parent/carer evaluations of the quality of service.



Photographs, Video and Internet Access

Photographs and video of the children may be taken as part of the nursery activities, for education use only. Photographs of children may also be published in the local press, as part of the celebration of nursery achievements and activities. Children will be using the nursery computers, World Wide Web and the Information, Communications and Technology programme, as a tool for learning. Children will always be supervised when involved in these activities. If, for any reason, you do not want your child to be involved in any of these activities, please put your request in writing to the Head Teacher, Mrs. Reid and we will be happy to meet your wishes.

Health and Safety

There is a secure door entry system. Parents at the outer door activate a buzzer in the nursery class to gain entry when the outer door is closed.

Children can only be collected from nursery by adults known to the nursery staff. If for any reason the person/s that usually collect your child is unable to do so please phone the school and explain the circumstances, giving details of the person who will be collecting your child.

If a child shows signs of being unwell during a nursery session you or a stated emergency contact relative may be phoned and asked to collect your child. It is important to keep home contact and emergency contact details up-to-date.

Should an accident of any kind occur during a nursery session, details will be noted in the 'Accident Book' which the collecting adult will be asked to read and sign. Health and Safety Policies and Procedures are used throughout the nursery. No child would ever be physically chastised or punished by a member of staff.

Medicines can only be administered to a child with a parent's written consent on the appropriate 'request for the supervision of the administration of medicine' form, available from the school office.

All staff follow the SLC Child Protection Procedures and Guidance, working in close partnership with services and agencies to ensure that every child is safe and well. Copies of the procedures are on the noticeboards.

Snacks



All children receive a daily carton of milk. Bottled water is also available. Healthy snacks are provided. Snacks are prepared by fully trained Catering Staff in the school kitchen. Parents and carers can choose to pay for these snacks or bring in a snack for their own child. Parents should please make staff aware of any particular requirements or allergies for their child. Snacks include toast, breadsticks, crackers and cheese, fruit and vegetables We are a health promoting nursery. This is reflected in all of our programmes and daily practice. Occasionally the children will make/prepare food for snack time e.g. pizzas, gingerbread, iced biscuits, cakes, sweets, sandwiches and soup.

Dental Hygiene Programme



The Gaelic and Mainstream nurseries participate in South Lanarkshire Oral Hygiene Programme. If you wish your child to be included in the programme you will be given a permission form to complete and sign.

The programme involves regular visits from the Dental Hygienist who shows the children the correct way to clean their teeth. Each child has their own toothbrush with their own individual symbol on it and will be given the opportunity to brush their teeth in nursery.

For more information contact:
Area Dental Health Co-ordinator Centre,
Blantyre Health Centre,
Victoria Street,
Blantyre,
G72 0BS. Tel No:- 01698 823583



Clothing

The nursery has aprons for “messy” activities such as painting, clay modelling, water play and baking. However clothing cannot always be totally protected, so best clothes should not be worn. Gym shoes or other soft shoes are worn in the nursery. These are kept at nursery usually. Each child has their own peg to hang outdoor clothing and bags on. Jewellery (including earrings for pierced ears) cannot be worn for physical activities in the gym. On gym days gym shoes and t-shirts should be worn. Should a child need to be changed, we have spare underwear and clothing in the nursery.



Attendance

Regular attendance at nursery means that we can provide your child with as many learning experiences as possible. Please bring your child to nursery close to the timing of the start of the session as possible.

Holiday Arrangements

A list of holiday dates, for the year will be issued to each child at the beginning of the school year.



Care Commission and Scottish Social Services Council

The Care Commission and Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) are responsible for the registration and inspection of our nurseries and staff. All work in the nurseries is based on the National Care Standards and the SSSC principles.

The principles are:

➤ **Dignity**

- The right to be treated with dignity and respect at all times.
- The right to enjoy a full range of social relationships.

➤ **Privacy**

- The right to have your privacy and property respected.
- The right to be free from unnecessary intrusion.

➤ **Choice**

- The right to make informed choices, recognising the rights of others to do the same.
- The right to know about the range of choices.

➤ **Safety**

- The right to feel safe and secure in all aspects of life, including health and well-being.
- The right to enjoy safety but not be over-protected.
- The right to be free from exploitation and abuse.

○ **Realising Potential**

- The right to achieve all you can.
- The right to make full use of the resources that are available to you.
- The right to make the most of your life.

➤ **Equality and Diversity**

- The right to live an independent life, rich in purpose, meaning and personal fulfilment.
- The right to be valued for your ethnic background, language, culture and faith.
- The right to be treated equally and to live in an environment which is free from bullying, harassment and discrimination.
- The right to be able to complain effectively without fear of victimisation.

If you have a complaint about either of our nurseries, please discuss this with staff and we will do our best to sort things out. If you wish to complain to the Care Commission, details can be found on the Care Commission Website (www.carecommission.com) or telephone 01698 208150 for the 'South West' Regional Office of the Care Commission. Any action taken as a result of the complaint will be reported to the person who made the complaint within 28 days after the complaint has been made or sooner if possible.

If you have any concerns about your child in our nurseries, or if you have any ideas for improvements, we will be happy to meet with you. Appointments can be made with Mrs. Reid, the Headteacher, or meetings with nursery staff can be arranged. We can discuss things together either in the Parent's room or in the Headteacher's Room in the school. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you would like to arrange a chat. In addition, we can access family support from the 'Surestart' Team and provide a 'gateway' to the services, which SLC can offer you and your child.

Disclaimer

Although this information is correct at time of printing, there could be changes affecting any of the matters before the commencement or during the course of the nursery year.

