



Southesk Primary School

Hill Place

Montrose

DD10 8BP

Tel: 01674 907535

Email: southesk@angusschools.org.uk

**This document is available in alternative formats, on request
(Please contact the school office)**

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CONTACT DETAILS

Southesk Primary School

Hill Place

Montrose

DD10 8BP

Telephone Number: 01674 907535

Email Address: southesk@angusschools.org.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Sara Wood

Class Stages: P1 – P7 plus Nursery class (maximum 40 children am/pm)

Present Roll: P1 – P7 = 218 ELCC – P7 = 257

Denominational Status: None

Does the school teach by means of the Gaelic Language: No

Southie Parents - @SouthieParents or www.facebook.com/SouthieParents

Organisation of the ELCC and Primary School day:

EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

In Scotland all three and four year olds, and some two year olds, are eligible for up to 1,140 hours a year of funded early learning and childcare (ELC). Our ELC class offers sessions between 8am-6pm, 5 days a week, over 46.6 weeks of the year. Other attendance patterns are available in other Angus Council settings and in our wide range of partner nurseries, playgroups and childminders. To find out more about the benefits of ELC and the options available, visit our dedicated ELC web pages at www.angus.gov.uk/earlyyears.

am provision: 8am – 1pm

pm provision: 1pm – 6pm

(Whole day provision is available for maximum 2 days)

Primary 1 & Primary 2:

Morning

Afternoon

9.00am – 12.30pm

1.30pm – 3.10pm

Primary 3 – Primary 7:

Morning

Afternoon

9.00am – 12.30pm

1.30pm – 3.20pm

Morning Interval (all):

10.40am – 11.00am

VISITS OF PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

[Choosing a school: a guide for parents \(Scottish Government\)](#)

Please contact the school should you wish to make an appointment to view the school and we will arrange a suitable time with you, most likely to be at the end of the school day. Once your child has been allocated a place at Southesk, we will invite you to meet the staff and children, find out more about the curriculum and share information about your child where required.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

<https://www.schoolwearmadeeasy.com> – Search for Southesk to buy our uniform/fleece jackets. We do not sell school uniform in the school.

Grey/black trousers, shorts, skirt. Blue Sweatshirt with school badge and white polo shirt.

PE KIT - T-shirt, shorts and gym shoes in a bag. No football tops please. During the colder months joggers/hoodies can be brought for PE kit. We do ask that gym shoes are provided, rather than wearing school shoes, as we do try and get outside for PE.

All clothing brought to school should be named or marked in some way, as it is difficult for children to distinguish their own clothing from others.

We do sometimes have pre-loved and donated school uniform which you are always welcome to use. Please just ask at the school office.

PARENTAL CONCERNS

Parents should contact the school immediately if they have a cause for concern. It is our wish to deal with all matters as early as possible preventing them from growing into significant concerns. Please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance or if you would prefer to discuss the issue with a member of the management team please contact the office for an appointment with either Mrs Wood or Mrs Denyer and we will try to see you or contact you as soon as possible.

The staff will listen to your concern and agree a way forward with you.

THE COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

[Angus Council complaints procedure](#)

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

BECOMING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL

The school values the important part that parents play in their children's education and sees partnership with parents as an effective way of enhancing children's achievements and promoting better school ethos and communication.

Opportunities for Parental Involvement:

Some ideas for during the school day:

- Helping in the Nursery class
- Stay and Play days
- Nursery Parent Forum meetings
- Art/Craft activities
- Sharing knowledge and expertise in some aspect of the curriculum, e.g. topic talk, history, science, health
- Practical activities in science, maths, social subjects, health education (e.g. first aid) or technology
- Reading stories to groups of children, playing reading/phonics games
- Supervising board games/chess clubs
- Teaching playground games
- Supporting educational visits/trips
- School concerts – making costumes, props, supervision of children
- Road safety – Cycle Training
- Upkeep of the website
-

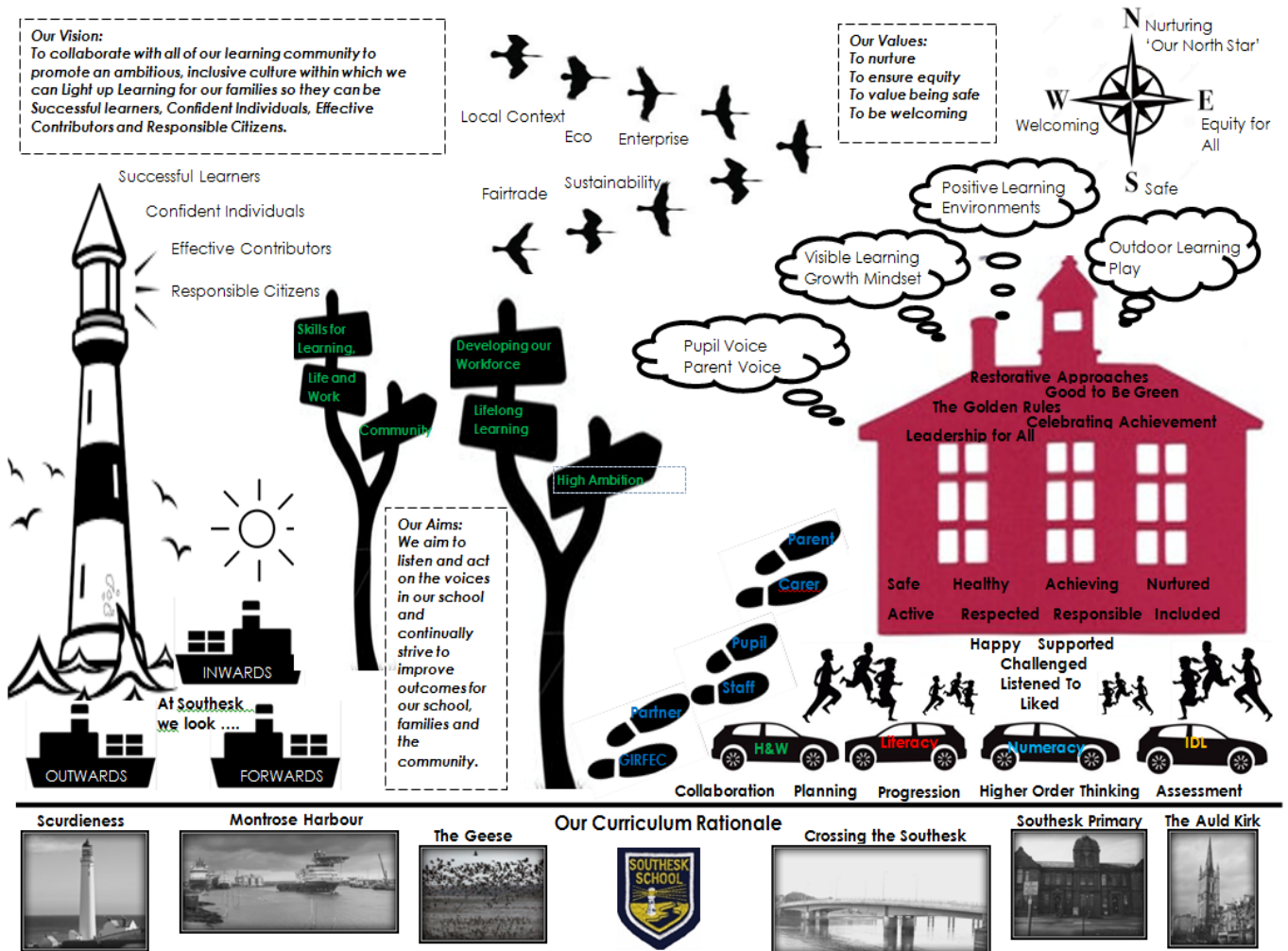
Out with the school day:

- Fundraising events
- Trips e.g. sporting events, concerts
- Extra-curricular activities e.g. coaching, sports/art clubs/country dancing/school grounds – maintenance of garden/allotment areas
- Southie Parents Group

If you wish to be a regular parent helper, PVG (Protecting Vulnerable Groups) checks have to be completed. Please come in and ask at the office about filing in a volunteer pack.

All parents are invited to attend two Parents' Evenings throughout the year. At these meetings parents will have the opportunity to meet their child's class teacher for a 10 minute interview and hear about their child's progress. This is also an opportunity for parents to hear how they can best support their child's learning.

Parents are also encouraged to download and engage with the Seesaw app and share and comment on the progress being made by their child, the quality of the work shared and any other achievements.



We value being
Nurturing.

'Our North Star'



We value being
welcoming.



We value being
safe.



We value
ensuring
equity.



SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LINKS

Southesk School is an integral part of the community of Montrose. Children develop skills and learn to be better citizens as they engage with and support the work of the local community. Pupils also participate in sporting and cultural events within the Montrose Cluster and also with other Angus Schools.

Our pupils participate in community events and competitions organised throughout the Cluster and the Local Authority. They visit the elderly at Fordmill on a weekly basis and share their learning with the residents. During the festive period our pupils go carol singing at Tesco and entertain for the British Legion. Our pupils have also helped the Community Policing Team selling poppies in the community for Remembrance Sunday. Our Church link is St Mary's and St Peter's which is just a short walk away from the school. The summer and Christmas services are held there each year. Once a year the pupils collect for the Montrose Foodbank and members of the Angus Foodbank team attend assemblies and speak in classrooms to promote the work they do in the community. The school receives fresh fruit from Tesco twice a week and is part of the Fairshare programme. This scheme provides the school with bread and bakery goods throughout the week. This is then given to the pupils. Each classroom has its own toaster and Fairshare means that fruit and toast can be given daily to the pupils when required.

The Family Learning Lounge has been created using Pupil Equity Funding and works closely with the Angus Communities Team and the Angus Nurture Team to deliver Family Learning programmes throughout the week. Learn, Laugh, Play takes place on a Tuesday for parents and their pre-school children. Adult Learning classes take place on a Thursday to support our parents with gaining qualifications, CV writing, IT help and any other support they may require. We also have an Incredible Years and Five to Thrive group running each week through the Angus Council Family Nurture Team. Community charity group Homestart also run their sessions with young families in the local area from our Family Learning Lounge.

We have close links with our local nurseries also. Little Beehive nursery come along once a week to use the Wildlife Garden situated in the school. Some of the children who attend Little Beehive will become our pupils so this serves as a good transition. Our pupils also use the area at the same time allowing for shared learning opportunities.

The school works closely with Montrose Academy to support transitions to S1 and we also welcomes senior pupils to undertake work experience within Southesk. We also welcome students from Dundee and Angus College and support their childcare placements.

We have a well-established a link with Montrose Port Authority. In the last year they have provided a water bottle for every child, funded our Christmas visit to the Montrose Playhouse and purchased class sets of waterproofs. We have some very exciting plans lined up for the coming year together too.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

[Angus Council anti-bullying policy](#)

How do we promote good behaviour at Southesk?

Southesk talk about a 'Relationships' rather than behaviour management. We believe that positive behaviour is promoted by the solid relationships we build between pupils and all the staff here at Southesk.

Children are given clear guidelines about appropriate behaviour and expectations based on our 'Golden Rules' which are displayed in each and every room around the school. These Golden Rules are well embedded into the life of the school and are used in the classroom, in and around the school and in the playground.

Golden Rules

1. We are gentle
2. We are kind and helpful
3. We listen
4. We are honest
5. We work hard
6. We look after property



Each class is also encouraged to consolidate positive behaviour through a variety of different strategies which include:

- weekly circle time sessions
- assemblies
- well organised school routines
- high expectations and consistency from all staff
- specific support for those experiencing barriers to learning
- communication with parents (home school diaries)
- everyone being involved



The I Messages

**When you ..
I feel ...
I need ...
Would you be willing to ..**

We use the I Messages with our friends and peers as part of a reflective conversation.



The You Messages

**You need to ...
I need to see you ...
I expect you to ...
I know you will ...
I have heard what you have said ...
By doing this you will have a better day.**



The You Messages are scripted language conversations, limiting the amount of words being used around the school. This makes expectations and choices very easy to understand.

The 5 Magic Questions



- . What happened?
- . What were you thinking?
- . How did you feel?
- . Who else has been affected?
- . What do you need/to do?

The 5 Magic Questions form a restorative discussion with an adult or with classmates when something has gone wrong and helps our pupils repair any harm.



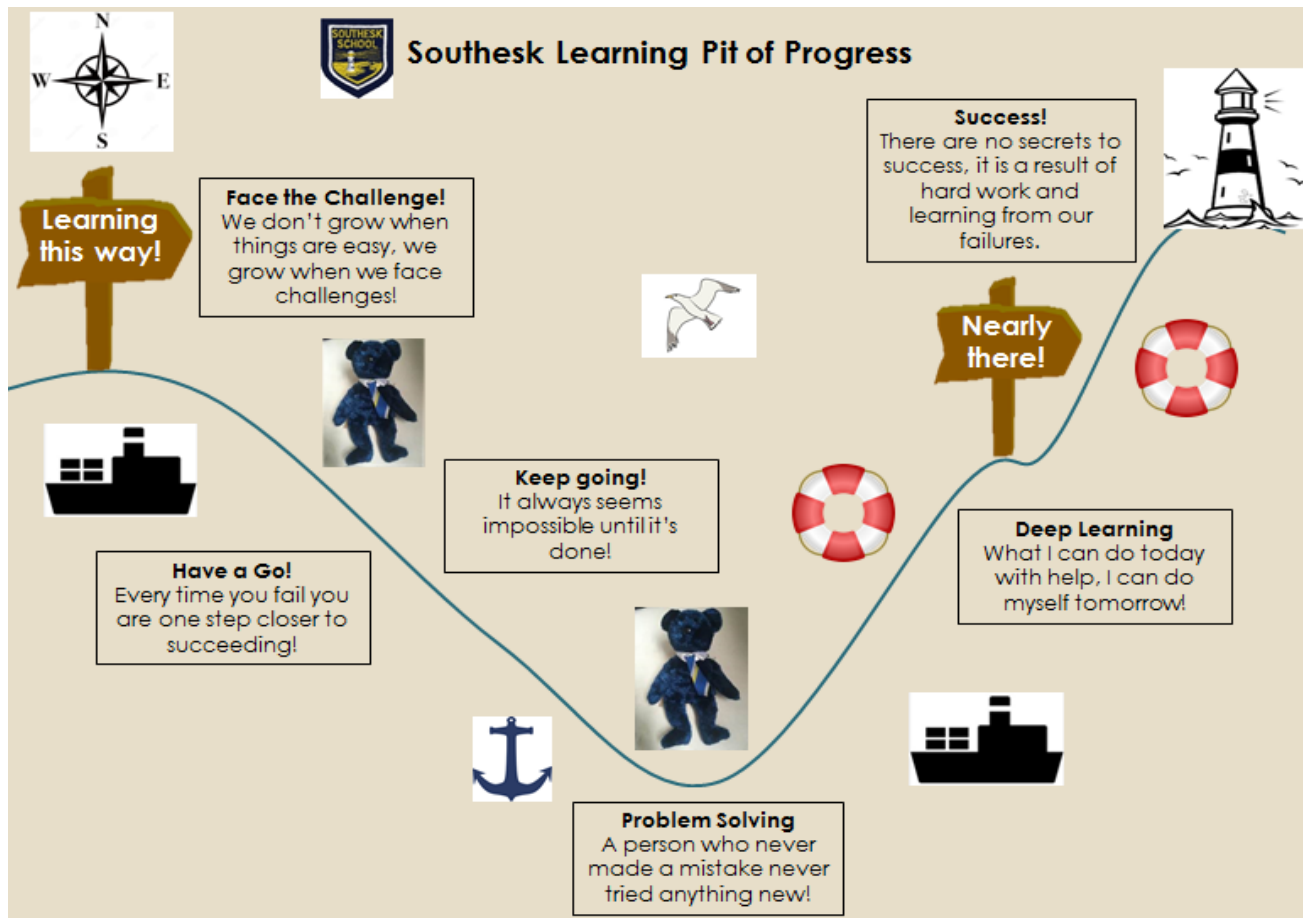
The Anger Rules

It is ok to feel angry but it is not ok to:

**Hurt yourself
Hurt others
Damage Property**

Everyone feels angry some times. The anger rules let pupils know that this is normal but that there is a way of keeping pupils and everyone else, safe when someone is angry.

The Southesk Learning Pit



This is the Southesk Learning Pit. There is one like this in every classroom and all of the classes at Southesk can talk about the Learning Pit as a place that they must go in to in order to learn more deeply.

Each class presented at Assembly to create a Southesk Learning Pit to be in every class. This design was made by Miss Henderson's P2 class who wanted to include images from the Harbour and Lighthouse since they are so close to us. We even wanted to have a seagull in our Learning Pit.

We all use the Learning Pit regularly and have conversations about taking on the challenge of learning. We know that going into the learning pit is a positive experience and that we can only learn if we are willing to take on the challenge of climbing into the pit.

The messages around the pit remind us to Face the Challenge, Have a Go and to Keep Going – no matter how hard we are finding it.

We talk a lot at Southesk about 'Celebrating Mistakes'. The final message on the Learning Pit tells us that there are no secrets to success but that it is the result of hard work and learning from our 'wonderful' failures.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

We do not operate reward charts and systems at Southesk – we value being intrinsically motivated. This means that we work hard and try our very best because we want to succeed, not because we want to get a reward.



The Jar of Good Choices lets our teachers and any other adults working in the school point out when they see the Golden Rules being followed. We work as a whole class team to fill the jar and we support each other.

When the jar is full, we stop what we are doing and we play a game as a whole class. We learned lots of games with our teachers and we have learned lots of clapping and singing games.

Prizes are awarded for sporting events, both team and individual. Each January poetry prizes for Scots poetry across the school is awarded. The 'S' Factor competition is also held in the Spring term to allow children to demonstrate their skills in performance.

Over and Above awards recognise behaviours and actions that were 'Over and Above' the Golden Rules and school expectations. At Assembly the pupils chosen are read out and we find out the reasons why they have been chosen. Our teachers link the Awards to the 4 Capacities for Learning.

The 4 Capacities are:

Successful Learners

Confident Individuals

Responsible Citizens

Effective Contributors



The pupils chosen then bake on a Friday morning and we can invite a guest to 'Coffee Club' on a Friday afternoon where we can celebrate the success and then give our invited a guest a tour of our classroom and showcase our learning.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There are extra-curricular activities available for your child to participate in, currently these include:

- School Netball Team (Monday 3.30 – 4.30pm)
- School Football Team (Thursday 3.30 – 4.30pm)
- Montrose Community Trust Football Sessions (Wednesday 3.30 – 4.30pm)
- School Music Group (Thursday 3.30 – 4.30pm)

These groups can change throughout the year and additional activities are run supported by teachers and our Active Schools coordinator Louise McLeod. We will inform parents/carers about new clubs or any changes through Seesaw.

PUPIL FORUM

There is a Pupil Forum at Southesk School This involves all pupils from P4 – P7 meeting at least monthly to share ideas and plans for moving the school forward. Pupils are involved in Curricular and extra-curricular decisions about the life of the school.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Your child will learn in a variety of different contexts and groups including ability, co-operative and social. Some tasks will be completed as part of a group whilst, others will be completed individually.

Children are actively encouraged to play an important part in their learning process. This will be done through setting individual targets, helping class teachers to devise success criteria in lessons and through planning within their topic. They are also supported to assess their own and others' work and to take pride in it at all times.

THE PUPILS AND PARENTS VOICE

Personalisation and choice is one of the seven principles of curriculum design and 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 and plan together the areas of specific focus e.g. World War 2 – The Battle of Britain. This will be shared with parents through Seesaw and parents will be invited to support the learning by sharing resources from home e.g. ration book or visit the school to share a talk.

Parents will be invited to share comment regarding the planned work for their child at various points throughout the year through Seesaw and Glow Forms and are encouraged to feedback comment at any time. We also share our learning on Twitter frequently.

THE CURRICULUM AT SCHOOL, LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL

- Twitter, @SoutheskPs can be a source of class information, illustrating the work of all classes across the school.
- We use the Seesaw app to demonstrate the learning through a Level i.e. Early Level, N4 – P1, First Level, P2 – P4 and Second Level, P5 – P7. This should demonstrate the learning journey of your child.
- National information from the numerous sources listed at the back of the handbook.

EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

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LIAISON WITH SECONDARY SCHOOL

Montrose Academy

Academy Square

Montrose

DD10 8HU

Head Teacher: Malcolm Smart

The school maintains close links with Montrose Academy and 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.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS and IMPROVING STANDARDS

You can view a copy of the Standards and Quality Report on our website.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Our School Improvement Plan 2022-2023 is focused around 3 key areas.

1. Moderation
2. Curriculum
3. Vision and Values

You can view a copy of the School Improvement Plan on our website.

HEALTH CARE

You can contact your school health staff at: -

School Health

Links Health Centre

Frank Wood Way

Montrose

DD10 8TY

Tel: 01674 675115

DOGS IN SCHOOL GROUNDS

We understand walking your child(ren) to and from school/nursery 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 service dogs) are not brought into school grounds.

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

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.

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 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

FINANCIAL ENTITLEMENT DIRECT LINKS

- [Free School Meals and Clothing Grant](#)
- [EMA \(Secondary Schools\)](#)
- [Welfare Rights/Benefit Calculator](#)