

2024 - 2025

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(Please contact the school office)

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CONTACT DETAILS

Auchterhouse Primary School
Kirkton of Auchterhouse
Angus
DD3 0QS

01382 768091

auchterhouse@angusschools.org.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Laura Cowper

Classes:

P1 – 3

P4 – 7

Present Roll: 25

Non-denominational

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

Website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/an/auchterhouse/>

School Hours:

Morning Session 9.00am – 12.30pm

Morning Interval 10.30am – 11am

Afternoon Session 1.30pm – 3.30pm



VISITS OF PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

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

Parents are always welcome at Auchterhouse Primary. If you wish to visit the school, please do not hesitate to arrange an appointment with the Head Teacher.

Once your child has been allocated a place we will invite you to meet the staff and children, find out more about the curriculum and share information about your child.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Parents are responsible for ensuring that their children attend school regularly and arrive on time. If your child is ill, please phone the school between 9am and 9.45am on the first day of his/her absence. If a child does not arrive at school, and there is no reasonable explanation provided for his/her absence, staff will investigate their whereabouts and safety. To assist schools, parents are asked to ensure that home, work and emergency contact numbers are kept up-to-date.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Sweatshirt or Cardigan - Navy

Shirt or Polo shirt – White

Trousers/ Shorts/ Skirt/ Pinafore – Navy or Grey

Tights – Navy or Grey

A school tie is optional (available from BeSchoolwear, Dundee)



Black shoes, black trainers or black boots

PE days only (There will be 2 PE days per week where children will come dressed in PE clothes for the day)

Navy tracksuit bottoms/ leggings/ shorts

White T-shirt

Navy sweatshirt/ hoodie

Trainers



The wearing of jewellery etc. must be removed during P.E. lessons and long hair should be tied back. All earrings should be removed unless they have just been pierced which means they should be covered with tape.

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

Uniform with the school logo can be purchased from School Trends or My Clothing however, it is not compulsory to have the logo on uniform, should you wish to purchase plain t-shirts, jumpers etc.

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/AuchterhousePrimarySchoolDD30QS>

<https://myclothing.com/collections/auchterhouse-primary-school-8564>

COMMUNICATION

Class Dojo is used as the main platform for communication of children's learning, school events and general information.

If the school is to unexpectedly close, this will be listed on the [Angus Council webpage](#). You may also be sent an email from Angus Council and information will be posted to Class Dojo.

PARENT PAY

An online system called [Parent Pay](#) is used to order and pay for school lunches and trips. Once your child has started nursery/ school, information will be sent home to be able to activate your Parent Pay account. Your child's choice of lunch whether a school meal, packed lunch or home lunch should be updated on Parent Pay every week as teacher's do not have access to do this in class.

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 Mrs Cowper. 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

We value the important part parents play in their children's education. We see partnership with parents as way to enhance children's achievements and promote better school ethos and communication.

Opportunities for Parental Involvement:

Parents play an active part in the life of Auchterhouse Primary School. The Parent Council work closely with the Head Teacher and school staff to develop both social and curricular matters. They contribute effectively to the life of the school by organising fundraising events and community celebrations. They have funded numerous nursery and school outings along with buying items such as bikes and cooking resources. We encourage all parents to be involved with the Parent Council. Meetings taking place once a term and are a great way to meet other parents and support the school.

Parents are regular visitors to school and support the school during open days and learning events, festive events, educational outings and the annual sports day. A number of parent volunteers support the work of the school on a regular basis. Opportunities for parental involvement can include:

During the school day:

- 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
- Team Auchterhouse Learning Together Time activities e.g. board games, art and craft in small groups
- Running or assisting to run a lunch/ after school club
- Supporting educational visits/trips
- Road safety – Cycle Training

Outwith the school day:

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

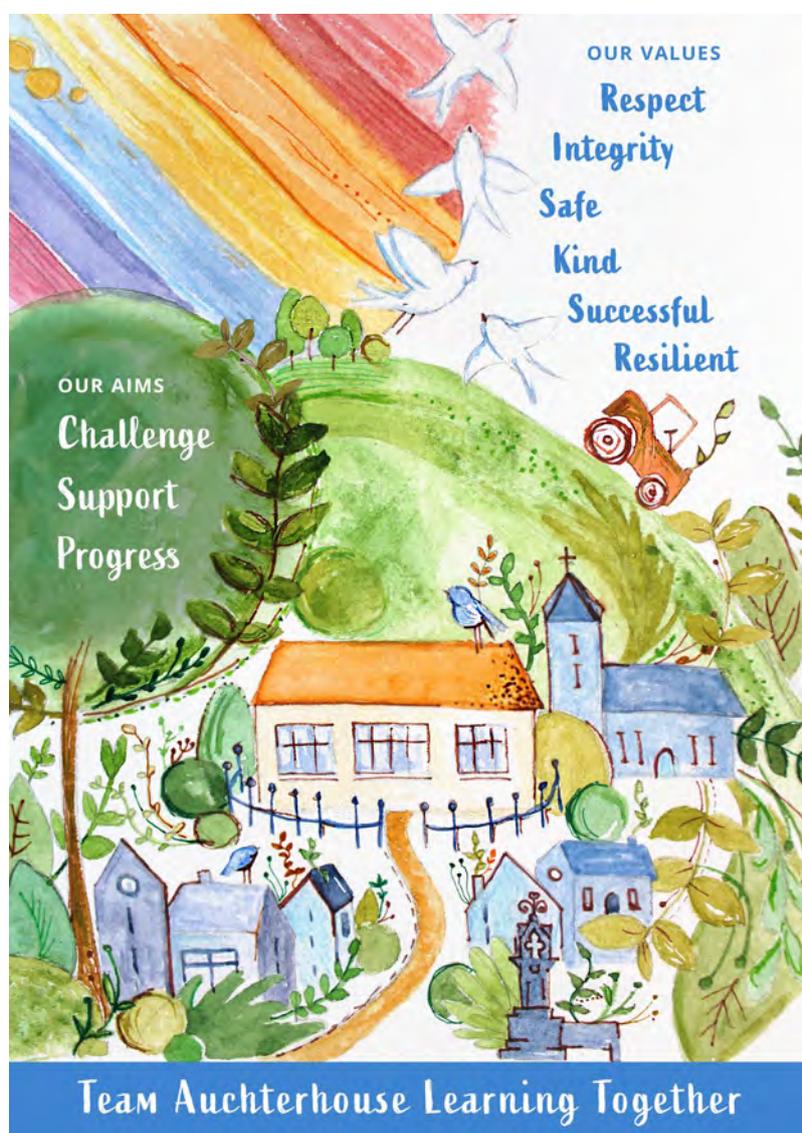
If you wish to be a regular parent helper, PVG (Protecting Vulnerable Groups) checks have to be completed. Please discuss this with the Head Teacher.

SCHOOL ETHOS

We are committed to developing pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural values. We do this through the ethos and the curriculum. We do this in partnership with parents and take account of the needs of pupils and the views of parents.

We welcome and encourage diversity and individuality, while emphasizing our common commitment to moral values such as honesty, respect for others and compassion and justice. All who are involved in the life of our school have the right to be respected as individuals and carry the responsibility to act in a considerate and respectful manner towards others. We implement council policy on equal opportunities and racial equality. All pupils have access to the full range of educational experiences available within the resources of the school. We are committed to eliminating discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, gender or disability.

Our Vision, Values and Aims involved a consultation process with pupils, staff, parents and members of the community of Auchterhouse.



SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LINKS

Auchterhouse Primary is an integral part of the community. Children develop skills and learn to be better citizens as they engage with and support the work of the local community. Our pupils enjoy close links with the local Church of Scotland and will often bring food gifts for local charities at Harvest Time. On Friday's nursery and school children have opportunities to work with members of the community during our Team Auchterhouse Learning Together (TALT) sessions, such as in the Community Garden or art clubs. Every term the older children organise and run a Community Café which is well attended and positive feedback is always received.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

[Angus Council anti-bullying policy](#)

Positive behaviour is essential to good learning. The general aim of the school is to provide an atmosphere of mutual respect and collective responsibility. Pupils, parents and staff all have an important part to play in producing and sustaining this positive ethos. The rules of the school are of a common sense nature, bearing in mind the interest and safety of all concerned.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

All staff encourage pupils in all activities to give their best.

All end of term services take place within Auchterhouse Church where we celebrate achievements such as: Bikeability Awards, Young Leader Award, P7 Achievements.

For sports day, children are allocated a house where throughout the day they earn points through various activities and a trophy is received for the winning team.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school has a large tarmac play area to the front of the school and there are extensive grass areas, which are used for outdoor games in good weather. The village hall is used for P.E. on a weekly basis. Extra-curricular clubs include tennis, cross country, football, korfball and curling.

The school take part in many Active Schools events such as the Scottish Country Dance Festival and Cross Country Competitions.

The Angus Library van visits the school regularly and all children are encouraged to borrow books for recreational reading. The school celebrates with music and drama at Christmas and Easter and during national events such as Burn's Night. There are a number of social events, which include parents and family members, some organised by the school and some by the Parent Council.

PUPIL COUNCIL

Throughout the year, all our pupils are involved in leadership groups and will meet with a member of staff. These can include the Learning Council, Eco Council and Community Champions. Pupils will be involved in taking forward school improvement priorities and addressing emerging issues as they occur. Pupils have a great responsibility to the development and maintenance of the environment in and around the school.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Your child will learn in a variety of different contexts and groups including ability, co-operative and social. Pupils will have planned opportunities to work with children across a number of age stages. This learning is known to benefit learners of all abilities. At Auchterhouse, we are proud of the environment and facilities in the school. Children can learn a great deal from exploration in the grounds, from growing in the garden and greenhouse and from working with many of the experts in the local community. We believe that learning should not be confined to classrooms and so visits to Dronley Woods, local farms, church and museums can become a rich stream of realistic learning. We plan for children to transfer learning from one context to another so that our young people are confident and competent citizens who are able to excel in an ever changing world of learning, life and work.

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. Recycling, The Victorians. This will be shared regularly with parents through weekly updates on Class Dojo.

Parents will be invited to share comments regarding their child at various points throughout the year such as school events and online surveys. However, feedback from parents is encouraged at any time throughout the year.

LEARNER LED CONFERENCES

All parents are invited to attend one Learner Led Conference and one parent evening appointment throughout the year. At these meetings parents will have the opportunity to meet their child's class teacher 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. In addition, the school also arranges a number of shared learning events for parents. An annual calendar of events is prepared and circulated to families.

THE CURRICULUM AT SCHOOL, LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL

Regular Class Dojo posts are sources of considerable information, enhancing the work of classes across the school. Curriculum events are planned for families and will include the leadership and participation of children.

There are links to national information at www.angus.gov.uk/linksforparents.

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 offers sessions between 9.15am – 3.15pm, Monday – Friday, during term time only.

Other attendance patterns are available in other Angus Council settings and in our wide range of partner nurseries, playgroups and child-minders. 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.

LIAISON WITH SECONDARY SCHOOL

The school maintains close links with Monifieth High School and other Primary Schools within the Angus area.



Pupils normally transfer to Secondary School in August following completion of their P7 year. You will be contacted by letter and offered a place at the secondary school serving your home address which you may either accept or decline.

Secondary schools have their own arrangements for meetings with prospective parents, and you will be given details of these meetings. The secondary school will arrange a number of meetings for parents, carers and children. You are strongly encouraged to attend these meetings.

Secondary staff visit P7 pupils to discuss aspects of their transfer with them.

Parents who wish to transfer their children to a secondary school other than that proposed by the Education Authority must submit a written placement request. Individual schools have no part of the decision making process regarding placing requests.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

Some recent achievements that we are extremely proud of are:

- Achieving the Gold Rights Respecting Schools Award.
- Organising termly Community Cafes that are well attended.
- All children from Nursery to Primary 7 take part in 'Team Auchterhouse Learning Together' to provide enrichment activities to support the curriculum and partnerships with families and the community.
- Feedback from visitors frequently comment on the positive ethos of the school.
- Pupils and staff have been trained in the use of Kitbag; a resource to build resilience and provide communication strategies.
- A range of extra-curricular clubs led by parents and pupils and sports club.

IMPROVING STANDARDS

- Planning and progress meetings take place 3 times per year to ensure support, challenge and timely interventions are consistently applied throughout the school for numeracy, literacy and health and wellbeing.
- Progression pathways in numeracy, literacy and health wellbeing ensure teachers know what to cover, ensuring cohesion, shared understanding and consistency, leading to high quality teaching.
- Moderation activities with other schools have validated the cycle of high-quality planning, teaching and learning.
- All teachers are making use of the outdoor environment through planned lessons. Outdoor learning has been planned for numerous curricular areas including numeracy, maths, reading, writing, art and technology.
- All children experience learning using the local community such as Dronley Woods and, through learner surveys, most children from Primary 1-7 enjoy spending time learning outside.
- All parents surveyed agree that their child is making good progress at school and that they receive feedback about their child's learning and development.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The main priorities for development are summarised below:

- Support and challenge for all learners.
- All pupils will be able to articulate the progress and next steps in their learning.
- All children can confidently use digital technologies to enhance their learning.
- All children, staff, parents and the wider school community will have the opportunity to develop the school's curriculum rationale.
- All children, staff and parents know and understand the curriculum rationale and its relevance to our school context.
- All children are developing an understanding of the four capacities and what these mean for them.
- All learners are developing an understanding of what skills and attitudes are required for being part of a workforce.
- All children, staff and parents have an understanding of metaskills.
- All learners demonstrate awareness and understanding of Global Goals, can link this with the UNCRC and can share with others.

The School Standards and Quality Report and the School Improvement Plan is reviewed annually and can be obtained from the school office.

HEALTH CARE

You can contact your school health staff at: -

Our school nurse is currently Carron Forbes
Telephone number: 01382 660111 Ext. 54007

Health Visitors have responsibility for the welfare of nursery children and they can be contacted through your G.P.

CHILD PROTECTION CO-ORDINATOR

If we think a child has come to harm as a consequence of possible abuse, we need to report it.

At least one member of staff in each school is responsible for child protection matters. They will have had special training in this area.

In our school the Child Protection Coordinators are: Laura Cowper & Meagan Sumpster

If you want to know more about child protection and the safety of children, contact the school. There is also information about child protection on the Angus Council website.

As a school we have good contacts with health professionals, social workers and the police. Any or all of them may offer support, or become involved, if concerns of abuse arise.

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