

# Ferryden Primary School Handbook 2024-25



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

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## CONTACT DETAILS

School Name - Ferryden Primary School

Address - Craig Crescent, Ferryden, Montrose, Angus, DD10 9RF

Telephone Number - 01674 907511

Email Address – [ferryden@angusschools.org.uk](mailto:ferryden@angusschools.org.uk)

Head Teacher's name – Miss Michelle Mackay

Class Stages - P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7

Present Roll - 165 (including nursery pupils)

Twitter - @FerrydenPS

Parent Partnership Facebook – Ferryden's Voice

### STAFF

Head Teacher	Miss Michelle Mackay
Depute Head Teacher	Mrs Laura Jones
Senior Early Years Practitioner	Mrs Rebecca Forbes
Early Years Practitioner	Mrs Jill Morton
Early Years Practitioner	Miss Alison Coull
Early Years Assistant	Mrs Samantha Wyness
Primary 1 Teachers	Mrs Dionne McCombie / Miss Suzanne Reid
Primary 2 Teacher	Miss Caitlin Tindal
Primary 3 Teacher (Probationer)	Mrs Collette Cooper
Primary 4 Teacher	Mrs Jill Bridges
Primary 5 Teacher	Mrs Fiona Minty
Primary 6 Teachers	Mrs Laura Cameron / Miss Jen Jamieson
Primary 7 Teacher	Miss Neve Fordyce
McCrone Teacher	Mrs Edith Carmichael
Additional Support Needs Teacher	Mrs Jennifer Scott
Primary School Assistant	Mrs Lisa Braes
Primary School Assistant	Mrs Elizabeth Hood
Primary School Assistant	Mrs Lisa Waghorn
Senior Clerical Assistant	Mrs Kerry Laidlaw

Brass Teacher	Miss Julie Smith
Guitar Teacher	Mrs Caroline Jones
Piano Teacher	Miss Lesley Mines
Upper Strings Teacher	Miss Beth Wyllie
Cleaner	Mrs Vivienne Simpson
Cleaner	Mrs Valerie Barker
Janitor	Mr Garry Donald
Kitchen Assistant	Mrs Audrey Anderson
Kitchen Assistant	Mrs Wendy Murray
Kitchen Assistant	Mrs Valerie Barker
Crossing Patroller	Mrs Valerie Barker

Timing of the School Day, including Arrival, Dismissal and Break Times

### **Nursery**

8:40am - 4pm

### **P1/P2/P5**

8.50– 10.30am

10.30-10.50 morning playtime

10.50-12.30

12.30 –1.30 lunchtime

1.30-3.10pm

### **P3/P4/P6/P7**

9.00– 10.30am

10.30 -10.50 morning playtime

10.50 -12.30

12.30 –1.30 lunchtime

1.30—3.20pm

## **VISITS OF PROSPECTIVE PARENTS**

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

We welcome visits from families considering Ferryden as a school for their child. Please contact the school to arrange a mutually convenient time. Once your child has been allocated a place you will be invited along to meet the staff and children, to find out more about the curriculum and to share information about your child.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

All products can be ordered online from <http://schoolwearmadeeasy.com>

### **Our Uniform is:-**

- Navy crew neck sweatshirt/cardigan embroidered with the Ferryden logo.
- School tie with a white/navy polo shirt or white shirt.
- Navy/grey school trousers, skirt or pinafore or blue gingham summer dress.

### **PE Kit**

Our indoor gym kit is black/navy shorts, white t-shirt and gym shoes/ trainers. The children would also benefit from having an outdoor PE kit of jogging bottoms, cosy top and trainers in a separate gym bag. This is because many of our PE activities will take place outside throughout the school year.

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.

## **PARENTAL CONCERNS**

Contact the school immediately if you have a concern. We want to deal with all matters as early as possible. Contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. If you would prefer to discuss the issue with a member of the management team contact:

- Mrs Jones - Nursery to P2
- Miss Mackay – P3 to P7

The staff will listen to your concern and agree a way forward with you. They will follow-up with a telephone call approximately one week later. This is to ensure all matters have been resolved.

## **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:

During the school day:

- Helping in the nursery class
- 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
- Teaching playground games
- Golden Time activities e.g. board games, art and craft in small groups
- Running or assisting to run a Lunch Club
- Supporting educational visits/trips
- School concerts – making costumes, props, supervision of children
- Road safety – Cycle Training

Outwith 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

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

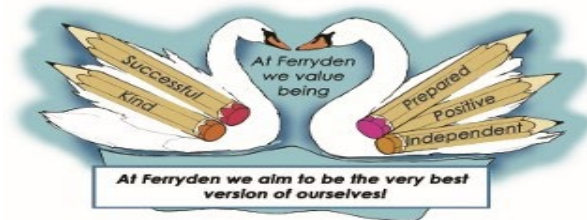
Parents are invited to attend two Parents Evenings during the school year. There you will meet your child's class teacher for a ten minute interview and hear about your child's progress. It's also an opportunity to hear how you can best support your child's learning.

We would encourage you to look at your child's learning log with them on a daily or weekly basis.

Support as appropriate the completion of homework as advised by the school.

### **SCHOOL ETHOS**

We are committed to children becoming ready, respectful and safe in everything that they do. We encourage the children to be resilient and promote a positive growth mindset, in everything that they do.



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.

**Details of the schools partnerships with denominational bodies at local and national level (if any) (School Specific)**

**Details of the schools' role in the community and how it works with organisations, bodies and persons who work with the school and how it promotes positive behaviour, good relationships and motivates pupils (School Specific)**

## **SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LINKS**

Ferryden Primary School is an integral part of the community of Ferryden and Montrose. Children develop skills and learn to be better citizens as they engage with and support the work of the local community. Our pupils participate in community events and competitions organised by the churches, museums, horticultural society, Rotary Club and the Active schools coordinator. We enjoy a close relationship with the members and minister at Ferryden and South church, who support school by hosting our end of term services, running Scripture Union and Storykeeper clubs, visiting school regularly and helping at the school's Fairtrade café. The Fairtrade café is run by the children of the Fairtrade committee and Mrs Jones, Depute Head Teacher, on the first Wednesday of every month of the school year. This is a great opportunity for the children to engage with members of the local committee and give something back, while gaining some real and meaningful skills for learning, life and work. A recent development with regards to community engagement is two children now attending the community council.

## **POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT**

[Angus Council anti-bullying policy](#)

Good behaviour is essential to good learning. The 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 this. The rules of the school are of a common-sense nature, making consideration of the interests and safety of all concerned.

Our rules are as follows: -

- Ready
- Respectful
- Safe

When behaviour is not as we would hope, we use "Restorative Approaches" to resolve issues, repair relationships which have been harmed by the behaviour and to help the children see consequences of their actions.

## **CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT**

Children work hardest when they know their work will be appreciated and praised. Staff encourage pupils at all times and in all activities to give their best. Their effort may be rewarded verbally by praise, or non-verbally by a smiley face or sticker.

In all the classes children are allocated to one of four houses, Craig, Esk, Lunan or Usan. Pupils gain points for their house by producing work of good quality and behaving in a positive manner. The house points are counted by the House Captains on a weekly basis and shared with the whole school at assembly. The House which has the most points at the end of term receives a treat- DVD afternoon, trip to the park or pyjama afternoon.



We also work with children and their families to celebrate their many and varied achievements out with school. We celebrate these at assemblies, in our newsletters and on our achievement board.

Teachers also meet with their children termly to discuss the clubs and activities they are involved with in school and out with. This enables staff to build up as full a picture of the children as possible.

## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

There is a variety of extra-curricular activities available for your child to participate in. See the list below for what is currently on offer in school:

Monday	Athletics, Netball, P3/4/5 Book Club
Tuesday	Running Club, Animation Club
Wednesday	P6/7 Book Club
Thursday	Board Games, P1/2 Book Club
Friday	Eco Club

The above opportunities will be shared with your child during an assembly. If they are interested, they should ask for an application form from the school office. The form should be completed and signed by a responsible adult in the family home and returned to school.

## **PUPIL COUNCIL**

### **House Captains:**

There are House Captains at Ferryden they are chosen from Primary 7. The House Captains members are elected by the Head and Depute Head teachers at the beginning of session and they hold office for the duration of one year. Throughout the year they will meet regularly with a member of the management team. They will be involved in taking forward school improvement priorities and addressing emerging issues as they occur as well as arranging House events for the school.

### **Eco Committee:**

The Eco committee meet regularly and have representation from all classes in school. This year they are working on encouraging everyone in school to recycle and will have the responsibility of emptying the mixed recycling bins on a weekly basis.

### **Reading Committee:**

The Reading committee meet regularly and have representation from all classes in school. They are working on encouraging everyone in school to read and enjoy reading, by organising lots of exciting activities.

### **Community Council Representatives:**

Two P7 pupils represent the school on the community council. They meet with the head teacher to discuss what issues the community council could perhaps help school with. The pupils also keep the community council informed of school activities and projects.

**Rights Respecting Schools:**

We have representatives to help us work on the United Rights of the Child and promote this across the school.

**LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

Your child will learn in a variety of different contexts and groups including ability, co-operative and social. Active learning is a key part of the teaching philosophy within our school, our teachers ensure that there is personalisation and choice within the curriculum for all learners.

**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 the homework diary 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 comments regarding the planned work for their child at various points throughout the year and are encouraged to feedback comments at any time through their child's homework diary.

Open afternoons for parents/ carers are held annually and when possible these involve the children describing and sharing their first-hand experience of the curriculum in school. We vary the curricular focus each time to allow parents to observe a wide variety of teaching and learning.

We are fortunate at Ferryden to have a proactive Parent Partnership who are involved in the curricular and policy developments for the children. The positive mutually respectful relationship between staff and the Parent Partnership ensures real and meaningful engagement in the continual improvement agenda at Ferryden.

We use all our pupil committees to enable children to regularly share their thoughts on their school and learning. Assemblies also provide a forum for the children to engage in dialogue with each other, as well as with the Depute and Head Teacher.

**THE CURRICULUM AT SCHOOL, LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL**

The curriculum we cover at Ferryden covers:

- Sciences
- Literacy
- Modern Languages
- Numeracy
- Expressive Arts (drama, music, dance and art)
- Social Studies
- Technologies
- Health and Well-being

- Religious and Moral Education

As with all Scottish Schools we use "Curriculum for Excellence" across the school. It is broken down into the following levels:

- Nursery to P1- early level
- P2-4- first level
- P5-7- second level

Curriculum evenings for parents such as the 'Learners for Excellence' evening are held annually. This is led predominately by the children. During this event the children describe and share their first-hand experience of the curriculum in school.

More local information can be found through the link above. There are links to national information at [www.angus.gov.uk/linksforparents](http://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 class offers sessions between 8.40am – 4pm, four days a week, over 38 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](http://www.angus.gov.uk/earlyyears).

## **LIAISON WITH SECONDARY SCHOOL**

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. This also ensures that transition is as smooth as possible for our pupils as they make the move to Montrose Academy, and we try to improve this year on year.

Address - Montrose Academy, Academy Square, Montrose, Angus, DD10 8HU

Telephone number - 01674 907500

Website - [www.montroseacademy.co.uk](http://www.montroseacademy.co.uk)

Email – [MontroseAcademy@angusschools.org.uk](mailto:MontroseAcademy@angusschools.org.uk)

Head Teacher – Mr Malcolm Smart

Transition opportunities for all P7 pupils session 2020-21 include:

- Regular visits from a variety of Academy staff;
- Visits from ex Ferryden pupils who are now in S1;
- Literacy and Numeracy days when the Ferryden pupils will work alongside children

- from all other cluster primaries.
- 2 visits to Montrose Academy library.

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT (School Specific)

### MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

We received our bronze Rights Respecting Schools award in June 2022 and we are now working towards our silver award. We were awarded our silver reading accreditation award in June 2023 and continue to work on our gold accreditation. We are also a cycling safe school which we were awarded in November 2022. We continue to work towards our Green Eco Flag award, with our staff and pupil Eco groups promoting and working towards recycling and sustainability, we have become part of the LEAF pilot too in session 22/23.

In February 2024, we had a HMIE Inspection. This was a very helpful and encouraging visit with positive next. The report can be viewed at the link below.

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-and-review/find-an-inspection-report/find-an-inspection-report/details?id=2573>

### IMPROVING STANDARDS

At Ferryden Primary School we have made good progress in our improvement journey. Our data is showing that most of our learners made progress or a year's progress in numeracy, reading and spelling. With almost all of our learners achieving their predicted attainment levels. With a few who have exceeded their predicted attainment levels.

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN





## HEALTH CARE

**You can contact your school health staff at: -**

School Nurse – Christina Forge  
 School Nurse Service  
 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 assistance 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.

## **CHILD PROTECTION COORDINATOR**

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 Coordinator(s) are:** Michelle Mackay and Laura Jones

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.



## 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](https://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](https://angus.gov.uk/linksforparents)