



*Learning, growing, caring, sharing*

**Primary 5  
Information booklet for Parents/Carers**

*UNCRC Article 1: Everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights in the convention.*

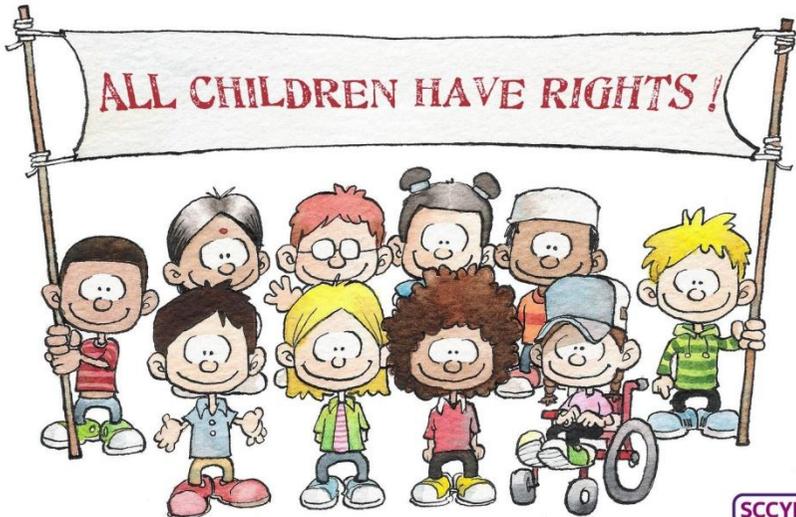


illustration : alex leonard

U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child: Article 1



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your family have had a great summer holiday and are ready for the start of the new session. This leaflet is to inform you of routines and procedures in Primary 5 at Mayfield Primary School this coming year.

### **Teaching staff**

Miss Rachel Forbes

Mrs Nicky Scott

PE: Mr Wilson

ICT: Mr Blyth

Music: Miss Haggart

### **Attendance and time of arrival**

*UNCRC Article 28: Every child has the right to an education.*

We do expect children to attend school each day unless illness prevents this. Please don't forget the start of the school day is 8.50am and children need to be in the playground at the time of the bell.

### **School dinners**

*UNCRC Article 6: Every child has the right to life.*

In an effort to cut down on administration within school we would be grateful if dinner money can be paid weekly on a Monday. The cost for this is £1.80 per day.

### **Snack**

*UNCRC Article 6: Every child has the right to life.*

Mayfield Primary School is a health promoting school, so with that in mind we would appreciate it if children only brought fruit or vegetables to school as a snack. This is both a healthy and non-messy option. Children having a healthy snack Monday to Thursday receive a stamper at the end of each week. We hope you will support us in developing healthy eating habits by encouraging our healthy

snack policy. Fridays are 'treat' days in school, so any snack of your choosing can be brought on this day only.

**Please note, we are a 'Nut aware school' and some pupils in school are allergic to nuts. Any exposure to nuts may cause life-threatening allergic reactions, requiring emergency medical treatment. To reduce the chance of this occurring, we ask that you do not send any products containing nuts to school with your child.**

### **Water bottles**

*UNCRC Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health.*

We encourage children to drink water. If you would like your child to have water (which helps avoid dehydration), please send a sports bottle labelled with your child's name which can be kept in class.

### **Uniform**

We aim for all children to wear school uniform every day. The school uniform consists of navy blue sweatshirt, dark trousers or skirt, and a white polo shirt. Children may also choose to wear a shirt and school tie. Please ensure all uniform, especially jumpers, are clearly labelled. School staff will monitor and reward pupils for wearing full school uniform and we appreciate your support with this.

### **Jewellery**

For safety reasons, looped/dangle earrings must not be worn in school, and all jewellery must be removed during PE lessons. Teachers cannot take responsibility for looking after these items during lessons and no compensation will be made if they go missing. Please help us by insisting that your child adheres to our policy.

### **Curriculum for Excellence**

*UNCRC Article 29: Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.*

Active learning challenges children's thinking and engages children in an interest in, and take responsibility for, their own learning.

In school we are all working towards the four capacities of A Curriculum for excellence, where we hope to encourage:

**Successful Learners** - using imagination and creativity, tackling new experiences and learning from them and developing important skills including literacy and numeracy through exploring and investigating while following their own interests.

**Confident Individuals** - succeeding in activities, having the satisfaction of a task accomplished, learning about bouncing back from setbacks and dealing safely with risk.

**Responsible Citizens** - encountering different ways of seeing the world, learning to share and give and take, learning to respect themselves and others and taking part in making decisions.

**Effective Contributors** - playing together in leading or supporting roles, tackling problems, extending communication skills, taking part in sustained talking and thinking and respecting the opinions of others.

The four above capacities will be addressed through eight curriculum areas:-

Health and Wellbeing

Language

Mathematics

Expressive Arts

Religious and Moral Education

Science

Social Studies

Technologies

Curriculum for Excellence values the individual and the contribution that each and every one of us can make to society. It is the curriculum that your child will follow throughout their school career. It should allow for seamless transition from nursery to primary and primary to secondary.

## Rights Respecting Schools

Mayfield Primary School aims to be a school where every aspect of a child is focused on and developed. As part of our school's mission to be a learning, growing, caring, sharing school, we are working **towards Level 2 as a Rights Respecting School**. This is an award which is given to schools on behalf of UNICEF.

### UNICEF



UNICEF is the world's leading organisation working for children and our rights. In 1989, governments worldwide promised all children the same rights by adopting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). These rights are based on what a child needs to survive, grow, participate and fulfil their potential.

## The Rights of a Child

### Level 1

So far, we have reached Level 1 of becoming a Rights Respecting School, which is a great achievement. This shows that:

- a knowledge of the United Nations Convention (UNC)
  - a rights respecting ethos
  - empowerment of children
- are becoming embedded in our school.



We really hope that you will feel able to support us in working towards our goal of being a Level 2 'Rights Respecting School'. We'd love you to become involved and look forward to sharing our work, whether at assemblies, in newsletters, classroom displays or the school website.

If you would like more information about the work of UNICEF or a Rights Respecting School then please visit: [www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa](http://www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa).

Thank you, The Rights Respecting Steering Group

### **How your child will learn**

Children have opportunities to engage in different types of learning activities which may be experienced within the classroom, or outdoors.

In Primary 5 we use our topics throughout the year to stimulate and motivate learning.

Our topics this year will include:

Block 1	August - October	The Victorians
Block 2	October - December	Materials and Construction
Block 3	January - April	Midlothian
Block 4	April - June	Space

These topics take on an interdisciplinary approach which encompasses several areas of the curriculum.

## **Literacy**

### **Reading**

We encourage a love of books through weekly visits to Mayfield library. Our time at Mayfield library is Thursday. We also have a non-fiction Library within the school and we visit this fortnightly. Please share books and other reading opportunities with your child at home.

Within the class the children will work on a number of strategies that support learning skills.

### **Writing**

By this stage in your child's education there is a wide range of writing skills that will be explored and practiced.

### **Handwriting**

The emphasis in Primary 5 is on the correct use of joins within words and the correct formation of letters. A high standard of presentation is expected at all times!

## **Numeracy and Maths**

Children use a wide range of strategies to support their learning eg games, whiteboards, ICT and group work.

Children develop a range of strategies throughout the school which they can use to tackle problems with confidence. They work independently, in small groups or whole class for these tasks.

## **Health and Wellbeing**

*UNCRC Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health.*

Children identify ways of keeping themselves safe and healthy in different aspects of their life. E.g. water safety and fireworks.

## **Physical Education**

P.E. will be taught by a PE Specialist and the Class Teacher.

PE takes place on Tuesday and Thursday. Could you make sure that PE kit is in school on these days. It would be helpful if PE kit could remain in school all week, in case it is needed, and then taken home on Friday to be washed. Kit should contain labelled shorts, T-Shirt and gym shoes, and stored in an appropriately named gym bag. Football tops should not be worn.

### **Expressive Arts**

Art and Design, Music, Drama and Dance are taught mainly through our topics and Assembly work.

### **RME**

*UNCRC Article 30: Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family.*

We explore feelings, friendships and attitudes during circle time and begin to understand the significance of special religious celebrations from different faiths.

### **Golden Time**

*UNCRC Article 31 Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a range of cultural activities.*

Golden Time is a reward for those children who have showed a consistent level of good behaviour. Golden Time takes place on a Friday morning and pupils are given the opportunity to sign up for a variety of activities.

### **Home/school tasks**

Home/school tasks will be given once a week. This work will support the activities being covered in class .Other home activities linked to topic work is issued throughout the year.

Please sign your child's work so that we know you have seen it.

## **Signing**

*UNCRC Article 23: A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and independence.*

Midlothian's Speech, Language and Communication provision is based at Mayfield. Therefore we use some sign language across school to support vocabulary building and language development.

## **Recycling**

We send off used stamps to help RHSC (Sick Kids). If you can help with either of these please, send items into the school office. **THANK YOU!**

## **School Growth Plan (SGP)**

Our developments for the coming year in school are written in a document called the School Growth Plan. Information on this can be found in the main corridor.

## **Websites**

Useful websites for you are:

School: <http://mayfield.mgfl.net>

Parent zone: [www.ltscotland.org.uk/parentzone](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/parentzone)

## **Meetings**

If you have any concerns regarding your child, I will be happy to speak to you. It is better to arrange an appointment with me through the office, so that a mutually convenient time can be sought, rather than speaking when the children are coming into school at the start of the day or going home at night. Your support with this is greatly appreciated. I look forward to working with you this year.

Miss Forbes

Class Teacher