

# **CROMARTY PRIMARY SCHOOL**



## **Handbook 2026 - 2027**

**Address: Cromarty Primary School, Braehead, Cromarty  
IV11 8XR**

**Website:**

<https://sites.google.com/highlandschools.net/cromartyprimary/home>

**Tel: 01381 600465**

**Email: [cromarty.primary@highland.gov.uk](mailto:cromarty.primary@highland.gov.uk)**

**Head Teacher: Mrs Julie Dinwoodie**

Updated December 2025



CROMARTY  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Please ask for: Mrs. Julie Dinwoodie  
Direct Dial : 01381 600465  
E-mail : [julie.dinwoodie@highland.gov.uk](mailto:julie.dinwoodie@highland.gov.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

May I take this opportunity to welcome you as the parents of a new child to Cromarty Primary School.

Starting school life at Cromarty Primary will be an exciting and challenging time for your child. We usually find new pupils settle down quickly to school life, thanks to our nurturing and caring ethos. Please do not hesitate to come and discuss any queries you may have. The staff are welcoming and will gladly assist you with any queries or concerns that may arise for you or your child.

This handbook explains certain aspects of the education provided by Cromarty Primary School and contains information about your child's new school. Please read and retain in a safe place for future information

Kind regards,

*Julie Dinwoodie*

Head Teacher

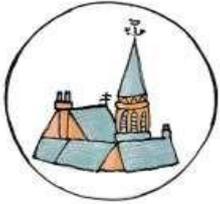
Head Teacher: Mrs. Julie Dinwoodie  
Cromarty Primary School, Braehead, Cromarty, Ross-shire IV11 8XR Tel: 01381600465  
E- Mail [Julie.dinwoodie@highland.gov.uk](mailto:Julie.dinwoodie@highland.gov.uk)  
Website: <https://sites.google.com/highlandschools.net/cromartyprimary/home>



## *Aims of our Curriculum*

- *to provide a responsive and stimulating curriculum*
- *to bring learning to life, equipping everyone with skills for now and in the future*
- *to ensure we are part of a happy, safe and inclusive community*
- *to create opportunities for personal achievement and success*

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**CROMARTY**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## About Cromarty Primary School

Cromarty Primary School is a busy, happy school serving the community of Cromarty and beyond. It is a P1-7 non-denominational school with a current roll of 51 pupils. We are extremely fortunate to have such a historically beautiful and yet modern school situated in the heart of the town overlooking the Cromarty Firth.

The school draws its pupils from a wide catchment area - as far as Shoremills on the shore road, Davidston and Eathie on the main Inverness road. Most of our children are able to walk to school which is great for our Eco Status. We gained our 4th Eco-Schools Green Flag Award in May 2019. Children from out with the catchment area can also attend the school, after applying for a placing request via the Highland Council Website.

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/887/enrol\\_your\\_child\\_for\\_school/2](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/887/enrol_your_child_for_school/2)

We actively encourage Home/School/Community links and we have a very active, supportive and hardworking Parent Council.

We have a designated gym hall, multi-use outdoor games area, separate canteen and three beautifully modernised classrooms. We are fortunate that the CALA run Nursery and After School Club has moved into our building since August 2021. Sophie Lumsden is the Manager and can be contacted on 07801249066.

We have an experienced and committed staff allocated to each class and additional expertise is provided by visiting staff from the local academy to assist with PE.

## School Staff

<u>Class</u>	<u>Staff Names</u>	<u>Job Title</u>
P5/6/7	Mrs Julie Dinwoodie	Head Teacher & Class Teacher
P5/6/7	Mrs Emma Honeywill	Management Cover & PEF Cover Teacher
P1/2/3	Mrs Kerry Martin	Class Teacher
P3/4/5	Mrs Munro	Class Teacher

### Support Staff

Ms Angela Chisholm	Pupil Support Assistant (4 days)
Ms Rua Connell	Pupil Support Assistant (4 days)
Mrs Emma Morrison	Pupil Support Assistant (4 days)
Ms Rachel Douglas	Pupil Support Assistant (2 days)
Mrs Joanna Rose	Clerical Assistant

### Visiting Staff

Mr Mackintosh	PE Monday afternoons
Mrs Salmond	PE Thursday afternoons
Mr Ellis Ash	Strings Instructor - Wednesday afternoon
Mrs Lindsey Harper	School Nurse

### Non-Teaching Staff

Mrs Christel MacLean	Cook in Charge
Ms Michelle Jack	Assistant Cook
Mr Jeff Benjamin	School Cleaner, Playground Assistant & FMA (3 hours per week)

## **Communication**

A monthly newsletter update is sent out via email around the last Friday of each month. Our updates provide information about events and news that have been happening in Cromarty Primary. Occasionally paper copies of information requires to be issued and email recipients are notified. We also have a school website which is updated regularly @ <https://sites.google.com/highlandschools.net/cromartyprimary/home>

We also make good use of a private school and Parent Team Facebook page which is regularly used to share good news and communicate information on a regular basis. If you wish to be added to the closed group, please contact the Parent Team email- [Cromarty.Primary@highlandpc.co.uk](mailto:Cromarty.Primary@highlandpc.co.uk)

## **Concerns/Complaints**

In accordance with our Complaints/Concerns Policy, if any parents have concerns/complaints about any aspect of the school or their child's welfare, they should contact the school at the earliest opportunity. This can be done by email, letter or phone call. Our procedures can be found on the website.

We will strive to acknowledge your concern within 24 hours and will keep you updated on how we resolve the problem. The school will always endeavour to resolve issues by listening to parents and seeking solutions in partnership.

Should a situation not be resolved, parents can contact the Area Quality Improvement Manager, Mrs Annika Jansson via email @ [annika.jansson@highland.gov.uk](mailto:annika.jansson@highland.gov.uk) or phone Dingwall Council office on 01349868603

Parents can also find information from **Parentline:**

**<https://www.children1st.org.uk/help-for-families/parentline-scotland/>**

## **Placing Requests/Parental Choice**

Each school serves its own particular catchment area. Pupils whose homes are located in that area will have priority in being allocated a place in the school. However, parents have the right to specify the school in which they wish to place their child.

Application must be made to the Area Quality Improvement Manager, Annika Jansson on 01349868603 or via email [annika.jansson@highland.gov.uk](mailto:annika.jansson@highland.gov.uk)

**[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/887/enrol\\_your\\_child\\_for\\_school/2](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/887/enrol_your_child_for_school/2)**

Transportation to and from school, for placing request pupils, is a parental responsibility. If pupils live out with the school catchment area and their parents wish them to attend Cromarty Primary they can contact Mrs Dinwoodie to arrange a visit.

Parents of children with additional support needs, (including those that have Coordinated Support Plans) can make placing requests to any school in Scotland including schools outside

of the local authority area they live in. All appeals about placing requests to special schools will be referred to the Additional Support Needs Tribunal.

### **Transport**

If your child is under 8 years of age and lives more than 2 miles from the school or if your child is over 8 years and lives 3 miles from the school, then free transport will be provided by the local authority or you could be subsidised for travel costs.

Our school transport is currently provided by **Sneckie Taxis**.

If your child normally uses the taxi, please ensure that you advise the taxi driver directly if your child does not require transport service for any reason. This communication is vital and is the parent's responsibility. **Only those children who have been authorised to use the taxi service may do so for insurance purposes.**

### **Transport Office**

Please note that transport is not a school responsibility and any queries should be addressed to the Transport Development Officer, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX or [public.transport@highland.gov.uk](mailto:public.transport@highland.gov.uk).

[http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/12/school\\_transport](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/12/school_transport)

### **Attendance/Absence**

Good attendance is vital if pupils are to achieve their full potential. If a pupil is absent from school, a parent or guardian should **phone** the school on the first day of absence, on the school number 01381 600465. If we have not heard about the reason for a child's absence by 9.30am we will try to contact the child's home/parent mobile by telephone. Schools are required to keep an attendance register by law. We have a responsibility for the care and welfare of all pupils during school hours therefore need to know the whereabouts of absent pupils. When returning to school after an absence, the parent or guardian must give written reason for the time absent either in letter or email format.

**Permission to leave during the school day:** If a pupil needs to leave during the school day for an appointment etc., they need to bring a note from a parent or guardian. Parents should come to reception to collect and return their child.

If pupils fall ill during the day, parents will be contacted for them to collect their child, therefore it is essential that we have up to date daytime contact numbers and emergency contact numbers for all pupils.

For pupils who are to be taken out of school for a reason other than illness, e.g. for an appointment or holiday, a note must be provided prior to the absence seeking permission from the Head Teacher. **Please be aware that holiday absences will be recorded as unauthorised absence.** When parents are considering whether or not to remove their children from school for a family holiday, they should be aware that such a decision:

- will result in a significant loss in classroom experience;
- will result in a pressure to 'catch up' on missed work by pupils;
- could result in pupils missing assessments with consequential impact on pupils and teachers;
- could result in the loss of curricular activities;
- will affect school attendance records and efforts to raise standards of attendance;

In conclusion, we would ask parents to be aware of these considerations when making decisions on planning holidays during term time. We have enclosed a link to the school term dates on the Highland Council website to aid parents in planning any holidays they may be considering;

[www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/32/school\\_term\\_dates](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/32/school_term_dates)

### **Drop off and collection of pupils**

Parents are respectfully requested **not to park on Braehead**. In previous years we have had two road accidents right outside the school caused by congestion of parent cars. Parents are encouraged to park in the Links car park. All P1-3 pupils should be collected at the front door via the school gates; this is for your child's safety. Please let the class teacher/school office know in advance if another adult is collecting your child.

### **Adverse Weather**

If the school requires to close due to adverse weather, we will endeavour to contact all parents via the school email system and on our closed Parent Team Facebook page.

You can also access the highland school closure website on

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/schoolclosures> for school closure information. Some radio stations will also notify of school closure.

Please note if there is a power cut in the town and the school has no power we may need to close at short notice.

### **After School Club**

CALA Out of School Care offer an after school club on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. The children can access the club within the school from 3pm until 6pm. Please contact The After School Club on 07516737138 for more details or to book a place.

## Practical Information

### MILITARY FAMILIES

Our school welcomes and supports families from Forces families; serving, veterans and reservists. We understand some of the challenges that mobility of service life can bring and we look forward to working with you to ensure a smooth transition for your child coming to our school. Visit the Highland Council Armed Forces Website for lots of helpful information and support.

Please get in touch with us as soon as you can so we can work together to ensure we are ready for your child or young person joining us. This is particularly important if they have additional support for learning (ASL) needs so that we can where possible have the appropriate support in place. (ASL is the term used in Scotland, in England a similar term is SEND).

Highland Council proudly committed to the Armed Forces Covenant many years ago and have built positive relationships with its Armed Forces community. There is a unique and dedicated partnership, The Military Liaison Group (Education), often referred to as "The MLG" extend a [warm welcome to you](#). This was formed to promote and ensure the equity and equality for any child or young person from an Armed Forces family, within an educational context, so that they thrive whilst with us in Highland.

There is a dedicated website in Highland, Armed Forces Families Website that has been developed and informed by our Armed Forces community's needs. It is an easy to navigate website with helpful information, guidance and support for families, educators, children and young people and communities. Here is a link to take you directly to the [Enrolment](#) page which may be particularly helpful.

Our children and young people have co-created a warm welcome to you and your family. Click the links here Primary School [Welcome](#) | Secondary School [Welcome](#)

Please get in touch with the Headteacher if you have any queries or if you would prefer, contact the MLG (Education) lead [here](#).

### School Uniform

We encourage the children of Cromarty Primary to wear school uniform. All our pupils wear our uniform - it helps create a positive ethos within the school and develops a sense of pride.

Our uniform comprises:

- Red Sweatshirt/ cardigan/ hoodie with the school logo if possible
- Red or white polo- (school logo optional)
- Black/Dark Grey trousers, skirt or leggings

- Indoor gym shoes
- PE T-shirt and shorts

**PLEASE NOTE THAT FOOTBALL STRIPS OR RIPPED JEANS ARE NOT PERMITTED AS ANY PART OF SCHOOL UNIFORM.**

Items can be purchased through Highland Schoolwear in Inverness

<https://www.schoolwearmadeeasy.com/>

or MacGregor's Schoolwear in Inverness- <http://macgregorschoolwear.co.uk/>

### **Free school Meals & School Clothing Grants**

Free school meals and assistance with school clothing can be claimed if you are receiving any one of the following:

- Income Support
- Universal Credit (where the monthly earned income does not exceed £610).
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Any income related element of Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, but not in receipt of Working Tax Credit, and your income is less than £16,105 (as assessed by the HMRC)
- Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit and an income below £6,420 (as assessed by the HMRC)
- If you are 16 to 18 yrs. old and receive any of these benefits in your own right, then you can claim for yourself.
- If you are an asylum seeker receiving support

More information can be found on the Highland Council Website at

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools\\_-](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools_-)

[grants\\_and\\_benefits/10/free\\_school\\_meals\\_and\\_assistance\\_with\\_clothing](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools_-grants_and_benefits/10/free_school_meals_and_assistance_with_clothing)

### **Children in Primary 1-5**

Remember if a child is in primary 1-5 they are automatically entitled to a free school meal; no application is necessary. However, applications for assistance with school clothing must still be made.

### **School Meals**

We are very fortunate to have our own school kitchen with excellent staff who provide a healthy and varied menu. The menu changes weekly, running on a 3-week rota and a copy of the menu is issued to all children. Currently we offer a 3-choice menu.

Information on school meals can be accessed via the link -

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/download/9/school\\_menus](https://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/download/9/school_menus)

Canteen money should be paid to the Cook on a Monday morning - cheques should be made payable to Highland Council. At present the cost is £2.40 a day for P6/7 pupils. Packed lunches must be carried in an appropriate carrier and for health and safety reasons, no hot food or drinks, glass containers or cans are permitted in school. The Highland Council cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to packed meals or their containers. We ask that parents provide a healthy packed lunch with plenty of fresh fruit.

### **Tuck Shop**

Cromarty Primary offers a snack time menu at playtime available to all children every day and we would encourage everyone to use this facility.

### **Nut Aware School**

We have several pupils in our nursery and school who have severe nut allergies. We strongly ask that all parents and carers support our caring school to become, '**Nut Aware**' and ensure there are **no snacks or lunches** contain any nut products (including within sweets/chocolates). Thank you.

### **PE/Spare Clothing**

Children should have indoor gym shoes to change into and bring a good-sized schoolbag. Shorts or jogging bottoms, T-shirts and gym shoes/soft trainers are required for PE. Pupils in P1-6 can wear their PE kit to school on the days they have PE to avoid wasting extra time changing. We do ask that pupils in P7 practise changing in preparation for PE at secondary school. During Terms 1 and 4 we endeavour to have PE outside. Pupils require trainers suitable for being outside for this.

It is also useful to have a change of clothing in school especially for the younger pupils in case of accidents or getting muddy at playtime. The labelling of clothing e.g. jackets, sweatshirts etc. helps to identify clothing and reduces the amount of lost property.

### **Class Organisation**

At the time of writing, our roll stands at 51 pupils and comprises a P1/2/3, P3/4/5 and a P5/6/7 class.

School Hours: Children are asked not to arrive before 8.40am

School Starts - 9.00am

Interval - 10.40-11.00am

Lunch - 12.30-1.15pm

Afternoon break P1-3 - 2.00-2.30pm

School Closes- 2.55pm for pupils in P1-3, and 3.00pm for P4-7

### **Emergency/Crisis Procedures**

We have a Major Incident Emergency Plan which is updated each year. If there is a major incident e.g. a fire which requires the school to be evacuated, then all persons will proceed to the Victoria Hall. The Head Teacher will have a list of all parent contact numbers and parents will be contacted. All staff will remain with the pupils until parents have been contacted.

### **Head Lice**

Head Lice are a common problem in school aged children. They can't always be prevented but regular checking ensures early detection and treatment if necessary. If you find a living louse, ask your local pharmacist, school nurse, health visitor or GP for advice regarding treatment. Your child should be treated and the school notified prior to your child returning to school.

### **Health**

We have procedures and policies for administering medicines in school. This is available on our website. Pupils should not carry any medication to school under any circumstances.

# Term Dates 2026-2027



Information on Highland Council Term time dates and holidays can be found at:

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/32/school\\_term\\_dates](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/32/school_term_dates)

## Highland School calendar 2026/27

Please note - Dates may be subject to change

August 2026							September 2026							October 2026							November 2026										
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
32						1	2			1	2	3	4	5	6	41				1	2	3	4	45							1
33	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	37								42	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	46	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
34	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	38	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	43	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	47	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
35	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	39	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	44	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	48	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
36	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	40	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	45	26	27	28	29	30	31		49	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
37	31							41	28	29	30													50	30						

December 2026							January 2027							February 2027							March 2027										
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
50		1	2	3	4	5	6	2					1	2	3	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
51	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
52	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	4	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	5	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	10	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	14	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
2	28	29	30	31				6	25	26	27	28	29	30	31									15	29	30	31				

April 2027							May 2027							June 2027							July 2027											
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
15				1	2	3	4	19						1	2	24								28					1	2	3	4
16	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	20	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	25	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	29	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
17	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	21	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	26	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	30	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	22	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	31	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
19	26	27	28	29	30			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	28	29	30					32	26	27	28	29	30	31		

School holidays

In-service days

School days

# Home Learning

Over the last few years we have been reviewing our approaches to Home Learning. We believe that learning at home should be relevant, interesting and motivational for our pupils. We recognise that every family is unique and have tried to tailor our approach in response to changing circumstances. We use Termly Home Learning Grids that allow pupils to choose activities that suit them and their family situation. The activities vary in length, depth and level of support and allow pupils to collaborate with other family members or friends on a selection of 'family learning' tasks. Pupils can share their learning each week in our Talking About Learning time.

## Example of a Home Learning Task Grid:

<p>What do you already know about renewable energy in Scotland? Make a bullet point list.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Locate Scotland's largest offshore wind farm and list the reasons for its development. This link might help. <a href="#">Scotland's large windfarm open</a></p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Investigate weather forecasts on the BBC website. <a href="#">Cromarty Weather</a></p> <p>Identify wind speeds from a 10 day forecast and represent these in a table.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Write a poem about you and your family using rhyming words.</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Research animals who hibernate and look up ways that you may be able to help them stay safe over the winter.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Create a poster to teach the rest of the class something new about a hobby or interest that you have.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Can you make a picture using all the colours of the rainbow? Investigate how a rainbow is made.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Using a cup or empty box to keep a daily rainfall record for a week. Use millimetres and complete (mm) Use your results to make a chart.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>On a windy day investigate how far the wind can move objects of your choice. How will you record your findings?</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Think of a 'GimKit' theme and research questions that would be interesting for the class to learn about.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Re-read your favourite book and think of any hidden messages the author is trying to tell us.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Use your Chromebook to do a vlog on a topic of your choice.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Take some time to look at the clouds. Can you research and identify the types of clouds you see?</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Find out how to stay safe in certain weather conditions. What weather risks affect communities in Scotland and our local area.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Find a news story about the weather and how it has affected people around the world.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Plan an outdoor activity for you and your family.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Design a card game that you can play with your friends that involves counting.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Choose a flower close to your home and draw a picture of it using Charles Rennie Mackintosh techniques.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Watch a weather forecast. What numbers can you see on the forecast? What do these numbers mean?</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Design an ultimate umbrella or another super weather object. What features would it have? What would it look like?</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Have a walk around your local area. What can you see that tells you what season it is?</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Choose a board game and play with your family. Can you make up a new game and write out the rules?</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Think of an exercise you can do in the living room. Count how many times each person in your family can do it one minute. Can you improve?</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Plan a menu for a healthy family meal. Make a shopping list. Each person has to prepare a part of the meal. Enjoy!</p> <input type="checkbox"/>

## **School Ethos**

Here at Cromarty Primary we pride ourselves on the positive ethos and atmosphere within the school. We have high expectations for our pupils to be the best they possibly can be. We celebrate together when the pupils have achieved in any way. Through Head Teacher's awards, the pupils are celebrated as Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Effective Contributors and Responsible Citizens. Pupils know that they are achieving through a simple but effective reward system. This is a visual display of how children are progressing through our Bronze, Silver and Gold Shields. We follow the Highland Council Equalities and Diversity Policy and a copy of this can be found on our website in the Policies section.

## **Behaviour and Discipline**

Our aim is to create an atmosphere of mutual respect, trust and responsibility at Cromarty Primary. Promoting Positive behaviour is a key policy which we follow. The policy can be accessed from our website;

[https://highland.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/19358/anti\\_bullying\\_-\\_guidance\\_for\\_schools.pdf](https://highland.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/19358/anti_bullying_-_guidance_for_schools.pdf)

Positive strategies are used in the school and children are rewarded for positive behaviour primarily through our Gold, Silver and Bronze Award System.

General Guidance:

- Pupils and staff are required to conduct themselves in a respectful manner.
- A nurturing approach is followed by all staff.
- Pupils are supported to understand and celebrate the uniqueness of individuals
- Pupils and staff are expected to set a positive example to younger children by modelling positive relationships
- Older pupils build relationships with younger pupils through our Buddy System and Junior Leaders scheme.
- Pupils are encouraged to share their views on how to improve the school experience and focus on solutions to improve things for all.

**Staff are encouraged to focus on rewarding positive behaviour and encouraging pupils to restore positive relationships**

## **Parental Involvement**

At Cromarty Primary we endeavour to make our school a welcoming place for pupils and parents and we provide a range of opportunities for parents to become involved in their child's school life.

We strive to be an "Open School" and where possible we will reply to queries within 24hours.

### **Partnerships with Parents**

We welcome your involvement with your child's education and seek to promote family learning opportunities.

We aim to build a genuine partnership with our parents and we provide regular opportunities for parents to be involved with their child's education.

The school works very hard to keep parents informed regarding their child's progress and any key decisions being made about their education. This includes:

- Parents' evenings
- Open events to share pupil profiles
- Learning Conversations
- Information evenings
- Information on the school website/facebook page
- Google Classrooms
- Pupils Digital Profiles on Individual Google Sites

We encourage all pupils to create and extend digital profiles that will further support parents, pupils and staff to share the learning experience.

The support of parents in their children's education is key to the success of young people.

Taking time with them, discussing work, practicing language, helping them manage their home-learning and encouraging responsibility are important ways of supporting children's learning.

### **Parent Council**

Each parent/guardian of children in school is automatically a member of the Parent Forum. Representatives from the Forum then volunteer to serve on the Parent Council supporting the school in its improvements throughout the year, fundraising and actively encouraging all Parents to work in partnership with the school. They seek to enhance the pupils' educational experiences in order that all children can become Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors.

If you wish to become involved or have views you wish to express about educational issues, please contact the Parent Council.

## **Parent Team details: (Formed January 2024)**

### **Cromarty Primary School Parent Council**

Rebecca Rawlinson	Chair
Charlotte Thomson	Vice-Chair
Jessica Gunn	Secretary
Siobhan MacLeod	Treasurer
Nichola Watson	

**Email:** [cromartyprimarypc@gmail.com](mailto:cromartyprimarypc@gmail.com)

Cromarty Primary School Parent Council could always do with help. If you can offer any assistance, please contact any of the above.

Useful information for parents and how to get involved in your child's education, how to support the school, information on curriculum developments can all be found at

Parentzone: <https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/>

Further support can also be found at;

[www.children1st.org.uk/help-for-families/parentline-scotland/](http://www.children1st.org.uk/help-for-families/parentline-scotland/)

## The Curriculum

A [Curriculum for Excellence](#) aims to provide an education which focuses the needs of the individual child and is designed to enable them to develop the 4 capacities, which are to be a:

Successful Learner  
Confident Individual  
Effective Contributor  
Responsible Citizen

The curriculum is divided into 8 areas:

Languages and Literacy,  
Mathematics and Numeracy  
Health and Well-Being  
Religious and Moral Education  
Expressive Arts  
Sciences  
Social Subjects  
Technologies

**Cromarty's Learning, Teaching and Expectations Policy is available on our website and our Curriculum Rationale can be found via the link below.**

[Cromarty Curriculum - Google Slides](#)

**The Curriculum in Scotland is driven by the [National Improvement Framework](#)**

**Priorities of;**

- Placing the human rights and needs of every child and young person at the centre of education
- Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing
- Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children and young people
- Improvement in skills and sustained, positive school-leaver destinations for all young people
- Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy

At Cromarty this also includes initiatives such as Health Promotion, raising achievement and attainment, Global Citizenship, Inclusion and promoting Digital Literacy.

We aim to ensure that all pupils have equal access to all areas of the curriculum irrespective of gender, ethnicity, ability or background. Pupils are encouraged to think about their learning and the relevance it has to the wider world.

During their time at school our pupils progress through recognised awards e.g. Young Leaders Awards, Young Engineers, Science Crest Awards, Rights Respecting Schools



*[P1-7 took part in the Big Beach Clean 2025 with support from Cromarty Port Authority*

### **Residential Trips**

Cromarty Primary offers the children in P7 the opportunity to go on a residential outdoor course every year. This helps to develop independence, team work and social skills prior to moving from Primary to Secondary School. Currently P7 pupils have a 3 night residential at Loch Insh along with other schools in the area.

### **Theme days**

Throughout the session we will organise whole school Theme Days. This may include a focus on some skills for life, learning and work, a health and wellbeing focus or a Science and technology focus.



*[P5-7 Visit to Courthouse - October 2025]*

## **Progress Reports**

Assessment of the pupil's progress in all areas of the curriculum is mainly by means of continuous assessment (observation of each child's ongoing daily work). This type of formative assessment informs teacher, pupil and parent next steps, and we encourage all children to focus on the intention of learning experiences as well as criteria for success.

National summative assessments (SNSA) at P1, P4 and P7 help to identify progress and difficulties to support future learning and areas of school improvement. Children will also undertake summative assessments (Scottish Online Formative Assessment) in P2, 3, 5 & 6 to track progress and ensure concerns are picked up in a timely way.

An end of year report will be compiled by the class teacher and this will be supported by regular opportunities for parents to engage with their child's profile. This process supports discussion between pupil, parent and teachers so children are aware of where they are at in their learning and what their next steps are.

Pupils will complete high quality assessment tasks each term in Numeracy, Literacy and other curricular areas to show progression in learning as well as help teachers to moderate standards within the school and with the wider ASG staff.

We encourage all parents to contact us immediately for an appointment at any other time if they have concerns about their child's education or wellbeing.



*[Parents talking with the children about their learning during our Open days]*

## **Transition**

### **Secondary Transfer**

Pupils from Cromarty transfer from P7 to Fortrose Academy.

Head Teacher- Mr Nigel Engstrand

Address- Deans Road, Fortrose, IV108TW

Tel: 01381 620310

We are very fortunate in that we have an excellent transition system for our P7 pupils along with pupils from other feeder primary schools.

Liaison visits between the schools normally start in term 2 with several planned transition activities such as team games, basketball and more recently a ceilidh!

Academy staff also come to Cromarty to speak to the pupils about their move up to secondary. The Primary 7 pupils are invited to Fortrose Academy for a week in June to experience the timetable and meet the staff before the Summer holidays.

If it is thought that pupils would benefit from extra transition opportunities, these will be arranged with school, parents and pupils nearer the time.



*(P7 Transition Ceilidh- December 2025)*

### **Nursery to Primary Transition**

Currently, most pre-school children attend the Care and Learning Alliance (CALA) Cromarty Childcare Centre located within the school (August 2021). Throughout their pre-school year the children regularly join with primary pupils for weekly activities building their skills and confidence within the school environment and mixing with their school peers.

Pupils enrol in January for the following academic year. Staff from the school visit the nursery and buddies are set up to ensure support for pupils during their primary visits in May. An information session for parents is also held in May to explain the approach used in P1. Additional meetings and visits can be arranged for any pupil and family who require it.

## School Improvement

At Cromarty Primary we strive to continuously improve. At the end of every session we take stock of what we have achieved and how well we have done. This is communicated through our Standards and Quality Report and School Improvement Plan. We are supported in our School Improvement Journey by Area Quality Improvement Manager, Annika Jansen.

Our School Improvement plan for 2026-2027 and our Standards and Quality report for 2024-25 can be found on our website.

The school was inspected by HMIe in May 2019. You can read the summary of findings here along with the return visit letter;

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=2231>

Key strengths from the inspection were;

- The promising start made by the head-teacher in developing a positive ethos and supporting a culture change in the school. This includes building on the views gathered from parents on 'what matters'.
- Children enjoy the environment for learning provided by the design and facilities of the school and its grounds.
- The use of the local marine environment and input from community partners is supporting children's understanding of sustainable development.

The school was revisited in November 2021 where the following highlights were picked up;

- Under the very effective leadership of the headteacher, Cromarty Primary School has continued to improve and grow, despite the challenges of the pandemic.
- The headteacher and staff have kept a positive outlook during the periods of lockdown and different phases of children's return to school. At all times, staff's aim has been to support the health and wellbeing of children and families.
- Led very effectively by the headteacher, the school has made clear progress in meeting each of the recommendations that were identified at the previous inspection.
- The headteacher has introduced a range of helpful ways to strengthen the school's approaches to self-evaluation and quality assurance.
- Teachers have worked together to make successful improvements to the curriculum. There is a refreshed focus on ensuring that children develop skills for learning, life and work in exciting and highly relevant ways.

## **School Policies**

All school policies relating to health and safety, curriculum learning and teaching and welfare are held in the school and can be viewed in paper form or viewed on our website.

Most policies are also available on the Highland Council website;

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/893/schools -  
\\_general\\_information/29/school\\_policies\\_procedures\\_and\\_guidelines](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/893/schools_-_general_information/29/school_policies_procedures_and_guidelines)

- Absence Procedures
- Positive relationships and Bullying Prevention Policy 2019
- Administration of medicines in schools
- Child Protection Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Head Lice Jan 2016
- Home Learning policy 2019
- Parent Complaint Procedure
- Partnership Policy
- Photography procedures
- Promoting Diversity and Equality Policy Aug 2019

## **Support for Pupils & Additional Support Needs**

All children need support to help them learn and at times some require more help than others. We follow The Highland Practice Model staged approach to assessing, identifying and supporting Additional Support Needs. In this model every child has a 'named person' who is responsible for making sure that the child or young person has the right help to support his/her development and wellbeing.

If you have a concern about your child in primary school please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance or the 'named person', who will usually be the Head Teacher. Sometimes a Child's Plan may be put in place to help organise, monitor and regularly review your child's progress.

Scottish Ministers have asked us to draw your attention to these organisations which provide advice, further information and support to parents of children and young people with ASN.

- Enquire - the Scottish advice and information service for additional support for learning <http://enquire.org.uk/>
- My Rights, My Say - an advocacy and advice service for young people over 12 with additional support needs <http://enquire.org.uk/myrightsmysay/>
- Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance, an advocacy service to support parents and children
- Scottish Child Law Centre, an organisation providing free legal advice to young people

<https://hcpc.scot/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Highland-Child-Protection-and-GIRFEC-Guidance-2024-FINAL.pdf>

Class teachers monitor the progress of pupils with additional support. The needs of such pupils are generally catered for within the normal curriculum but with specialist advice and support as required. If necessary, a child's plan may be put in place to help plan, organise, monitor and regularly review a child's progress. Parents and pupils will be involved in these procedures and in reviews. More information can be found about the Highland Council model for support and child's plans at:

[Support for Learners Website](https://www.thrivingfamilies.org.uk/)

<https://www.thrivingfamilies.org.uk/>

Sometimes a Children's Service Worker will be involved in supporting a child. Our Children's Service Worker is based at Fortrose Academy and will generally focus on more social and emotional needs rather than issues about the curriculum or classroom learning. They:

- work in collaboration with the support team in school;
- work to support families in their own communities;
- work with individual pupils and small groups - offering a further level of support.

Parents/Carers will always be involved in discussions about any additional support being suggested for their child and any need that may be identified within the school.

Highland Council would seek to work in partnership with parents at all times, but sometimes you will have a concern that you don't feel is being addressed, or will want to talk to someone out with the school. Should you have any concerns that your child's additional needs are not being met, you should contact your child's named person in the first instance which is the Head Teacher. If your concerns continue, there are a number of means of resolving difficulties and disputes and information on this can be found at:

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/886/schools> [http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/886/schools\\_-\\_additional\\_support\\_needs/1/support\\_for\\_learners\\_additional\\_support\\_needs/1/support\\_for\\_learners](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/886/schools_-_additional_support_needs/1/support_for_learners_additional_support_needs/1/support_for_learners)

### **Child Protection Guidance Notes**

From time to time incidents can occur within the school setting which cause concern and could indicate that a pupil is suffering some form of abuse.

As per Highland Child Protection Committee Inter-agency Protection Guidelines, Education Service Staff **must** report such incidents to Social Work Services which can lead to a joint Social Work/Police investigation.

All agencies involved in Child Protection are obliged to make the welfare of children their paramount consideration and this will be the priority for Education Service Staff. More Information about Child Protection Procedures within Highland can be obtained from: <https://hcpc.scot/>

### **Highland Child Protection Committee**

Kinmylies Building,

Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NN. Tel 01463 703488

### **Employment of Children**

The employment of children byelaws regulate the types of occupation in which children under school leaving age may be employed and other conditions of employment. For further information please see:

[http://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/download/19/employment\\_of\\_children](http://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/download/19/employment_of_children)

**DATA PROTECTION-** *the following information has been provided by Highland Council for each school to be included in their handbooks*

### **Access to Pupil Records**

The Pupils' Educational Records (Scotland) Regulations 2003 extend to parents the right of access (with certain specific exceptions) to any record held by the Authority in relation to their child. Parents may make application to the Head Teacher.

### **Data Protection Legislation**

Information on pupils, parent and guardians is stored on a computer system and may be used for teaching, registration, assessment and other administrative duties. The information is protected by data protection legislation and may only be disclosed in accordance with the codes of practice.

### **Transferring Educational data about pupils**

The Scottish Government and its partners collect and use information about pupils through the *Pupil Census* to help to improve education across Scotland. This note explains why we need this information, how we use it and what we do to protect the information supplied to us. Further information can be obtained from <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/ScotXed>.

Data about pupil preferred routes, preferred occupations and anticipated school leaving date is also collected from S3/S4 to support planning for leaving school. This information is shared with Skills Development Scotland. Further information about 16+ Data can be found here: <http://hi-hope.org/directory/listing/16plus-planning>

### **Data policy**

Information about pupils' education is collected through our statistical surveys in partnership between the Scottish Government and Local Authorities through the ScotXed Programme which aims to help schools and Local Authorities by supporting efficient collection, processing and dissemination of statistical information. The Scottish Government then provides analysis of the data to support research, planning, management and monitoring of education services as well as to produce National Statistics publications.

Education data within Scottish Government is managed effectively by secure systems and is exploited as a valuable corporate resource, subject to confidentiality restraints. As part of its data policy, Scottish Government will not publish or make publicly available any information that allows individual pupils to be identified, nor will data be used by Scottish Government to take any actions in respect of individuals. Data is held securely and no information on individual pupils can or would be made publicly available by Scottish Government.

**The individual data collected by Scottish Government through the Pupil Census is used for statistical and research purposes only.**

Information on why we collect data about pupils and who we share this data with can be found in Highland Council's Privacy Notice which is available here: [https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory\\_record/1095920/enrol\\_your\\_child\\_at\\_a\\_school](https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory_record/1095920/enrol_your_child_at_a_school)

## Why do we need your data?

In order to make the best decisions about how to improve our education service, Scottish Government, education authorities and other partners such as the SQA and Skills Development Scotland need accurate, up-to-date data about our pupils. We are keen to help all our pupils do well in all aspects of school life and achieve better examination results. Accurate and up-to-date data allows us to:

- plan and deliver better policies for the benefit of all pupils
- plan and deliver better policies for the benefit of specific groups of pupils
- better understand some of the factors which influence pupil attainment and achievement
- share good practice
- target resources better
- enhance the quality of research to improve the lives of young people in Scotland

## Your data protection rights

The collection, transfer, processing and sharing of ScotXed data is done in accordance with data protection legislation. We also comply with the National Statistics Code of Practice requirements and other legislation related to safeguarding the confidentiality of data. Data protection legislation gives you the right to know how we will use your data. This note can give only a brief description of how we use data. Fuller details of each individual ScotXed survey, including the purpose of each and the published data, can be found on the ScotXed website

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/ScotXed/SchoolEducation>

Scottish Government works with a range of partners including Education Scotland, Skills Development Scotland and the SQA. On occasion, in order to help meet our aim of improving the life of young people in Scotland, we may make individual data available to partners such as the National Registers of Scotland to carry out research relating to the national population census and also academic institutions and organisations to carry out additional research and statistical analysis to meet their own official responsibilities. Any sharing of data will be done under the strict control of Scottish Government, and will be consistent with our data policy. This will ensure that no individual level data will be made public as a result of the data sharing and that these data will not be used to take any actions in respect of an individual. Decisions on the sharing of data will be taken in consultation with relevant colleagues and individuals within and out with Scottish Government. At all times pupils' rights under the Data Protection Act and other relevant legislation will be ensured.

## Concerns

If you have any concerns about the ScotXed data collections you can email the Head of Schools Analysis at [ScotXed@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ScotXed@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) or write to The ScotXed Support Office, Area 2D, Victoria Quay, Leith, EH6 6QQ. Alternative versions of this page are available, on request from the ScotXed Support Office, in other languages, audio tape, Braille and large print.

## Equality and Inclusion

For up-to-date information please see:

[http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/751/equality\\_diversity\\_and\\_citizenship/313/equal\\_opportunities](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/751/equality_diversity_and_citizenship/313/equal_opportunities)

In summary, our activities in school should ensure that we:

Eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, promote good relations. Activities should not discriminate against any of the following 'protected characteristics' age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity.

*Whilst the information in this handbook is considered to be true and correct at the date of publication, changes in circumstances after the time of publication may impact on the accuracy of the information.*

## **Appendix**

### **Health Promoting School**

As a Health Promoting school we also encourage pupils, staff and parents to think about healthier lifestyles. We have a School Travel Plan which promotes safe and healthy routes to school. Staff take part in health promotion activities. We value all the activities that make up a healthy and happy community.

School Meals cost £2.40 for pupils and just keep getting better, with better quality food, healthier meals, larger portion sizes and more and better choices. If a pupil has special dietary needs, please inform the school. Free meals can be claimed in certain circumstances, for

information and application form please see

[http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools -  
\\_grants and benefits/10/free school meals and assistance with cloth ing](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools_-_grants_and_benefits/10/free_school_meals_and_assistance_with_clothing)

Application forms can be accessed on the link above.

### **Administration of Medicines**

National Guidance on the Administration of Medicines in Schools has been issued by the Scottish Government. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/supporting-children-young-people-healthcare-needs-schools/>

This guidance is based on a number of common principles that will be consistently applied when identifying, supporting and reviewing the healthcare needs of children and young people in Highland schools to enable them to make the most of their learning.

Under Article 24 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, all children have a right to the highest attainable standard of health and to health care services that help them attain this. Article 7 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities states that children with disabilities have the right to express their views freely on all matters affecting them. The arrangements for each individual will therefore take account of the health professionals' advice, the pupil's views and, where appropriate, their parent's views.

NHS Highland, Highland Council and school staff will work collaboratively to ensure that pupils receive the service they need in the way most appropriate to their personal circumstances.

We will work with pupils and parents/carers to support the healthcare in our school, making reasonable adjustments that children and young people with healthcare needs might need and require.

Where appropriate, we will make arrangements for staff providing healthcare to pupils to receive appropriate training from a health professional, or other accredited source in the care they are providing.

Assistance with intimate care may be needed by children in any school and this will be provided if required to support these needs quickly and with respect for children's privacy, dignity and rights.

If your child requires medication, please note that this will only be administered by staff when there is clear written guidance from a parent/carer, providing:

- The name of the medicine, the quantity of the medicine to be given, the time it has to be given.
- As far as possible prescriptive medication should be given at home by parents/carers. If it is required to be given in school, the medication should be unopen, clearly marked with the directions from the pharmacist and administered as part of an agreed medical protocol.

### **Minor Injuries**

School will only deal with minor cuts and bruises, these will be cleaned and a plaster applied. If your child is injured, falls or becomes unwell during the school day you or the emergency contact you have provided, will always be contacted and you may be advised to collect your child from school.

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

Staff will support the emotional development and wellbeing of pupils through formal and informal curricular activities. Any concerns about a pupil's wellbeing can be discussed with the named person. School have access to Highland Council's Primary Mental Health Worker Service and consultation and advice may be sought if there are concerns that might require more targeted support. Parents would generally be involved in discussions beforehand, however a young person over the age of 12 can ask for support themselves.

### **Education Maintenance Allowances (EMA)**

An EMA is a weekly payment worth up to £30 for pupils who are planning to stay on at school after their leaving age. They must complete a learning agreement at school for a minimum of 21 learning hours per week.

In session 2020/2021 pupils born between 1 March 2001 and 30 September 2004 can receive payments from August 2020. Pupils born between 1 October 2004 and 28 February 2005 can receive payments from January 2021. Further information on full eligibility criteria and the online application process can be obtained from the school.

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/learninghere/grantsandallowances/ema/>