**Cairney School**

Our school vision, aims and values are reviewed annually by staff, children and parents in the school. We use these as the basis for developing a clear vision and rationale for the curriculum, taking into account the learners’ entitlements and our engagement with all our stakeholders in clarifying our vision and values.

**Our Vision:**

***Cairney School aspires to be a happy, safe and inclusive learning community where everyone is treated fairly and with respect and encouraged to be the best they can be. Through high-quality, enjoyable learning experiences, we strive to inspire and challenge our learners to achieve their fullest potential. In our school, learning is an active, exciting, positive experience. We work in partnership with parents, carers and the wider community to enable our children to become:***

***Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors.***

**Aims:**

We aim to:

* sustain a welcoming, positive ethos which promotes health, wellbeing and respect for all,
* offer high quality learning opportunities, including outdoor learning experiences, which are enjoyable, relevant, engaging, challenging and promote both independence and teamwork
* ensure that all members of our learning community feel valued and supported and that individual achievements are recognised, shared and celebrated.
* identify opportunities to involve the wider community in the life of the school and work effectively with other agencies to ensure the best experiences for all our learners
* develop a whole school culture of self-evaluation and reflection to ensure continuous improvement as we strive for excellence
* to provide opportunities for all members of our learning community to communicate and interact with others in many different situations
* to get it right for every child and to provide a caring environment in which all children feel safe, healthy, active, respected, responsible, included and nurtured

**Our values are:**

Respect Honesty Encouragement Hard working Happiness Fairness

**The Whole Curriculum**

 *‘The totality of all that is planned for children and young people through their education.’*

Our vision, aims and values underpin the structure, implementation and delivery of the curriculum for all learners at Cairney School. Our curriculum endeavours to develop the whole child to reach his/her potential and prepares children for the world beyond school by developing skills and knowledge which are relevant to their lives. Our curriculum supports and challenges pupils by using a variety of teaching approaches and takes account of different learning. We encourage a growth mind-set and a ‘can do’ attitude and are developing Visual Learning approaches in the classroom.

The purpose of the Curriculum for Excellence is to ensure that all young people become Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Effective Contributors and Responsible Citizens. At Cairney School, the learner’s journey that began in Nursery continues in Primary School and on into Secondary School, moving through the Curriculum Levels that describe different stages of learning and progress. Curriculum for Excellence identifies key values for life, four contexts in which learning takes place, six entitlements for learners, seven principles for curriculum design and eight curriculum areas in which learning is organised. Curricular Areas are broken down into Experiences and Outcomes (often referred to as the ‘Es and Os’): Experience – describes the learning and Outcome is what the learning will achieve. This is often explained, from the pupil’s perspective, as an ‘I can’ statement. These values, contexts, entitlements, principles and curriculum areas have been at the heart of decision making regarding our curriculum rationale.

**Our curriculum**

Our curriculum is unique because it is tailored to our school which is rural and very small with only one class of P1 -7 pupils. Local studies are included as part of our rolling programme. Our curricular plan/map has been created through bundling the Experiences and Outcomes and takes into account National priorities and Local advice (e.g. Aberdeenshire Frameworks). In Cairney School a broad general education is ensured by our curricular plan/map which is designed to cover all Experiences and Outcomes over a three year period. We have identified the Experiences and Outcomes delivered through the life and ethos of the school and those themes that will be covered on an annual basis. We have links with other small school partners providing opportunities for learning with others for both pupils and staff e.g. science days, sports day, Visual Learning project, P7 pupils collaborating via GLOW etc. Learners will be assessed throughout their learning journey and assessment will be part of the learning process, which is crucial to tracking progress and planning next steps. Pupils will demonstrate learning through making, saying, writing or doing, which offers a range of assessment opportunities.

At Cairney School, there are:

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT**

The children’s Learning Journeys and sharing of wider achievements via our ‘Reach for the Stars wall’ demonstrate to the whole school community the high value we put on our pupils’ personal achievements. Pupils, parents and staff are encouraged to recognise and support wider achievement and personal target setting. Our charity work involves the whole school and develops the concept of giving. Other opportunities for personal achievement include opportunities to perform, through participation in our Cairney School achievements, working collaboratively, our P6/7 residential trip and our Cairney School challenges e.g. reading challenge, fitness challenge etc.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ETHOS AND LIFE OF THE SCHOOL**

This includes opportunities to participate responsibly in decision-making, to contribute as leaders and role models, offering support and service to others and playing an active part in putting the values of the school community into practice. A wide variety of opportunities take place regularly throughout the year - Eco Group, Pupil Council, participation in Pupil Focus Groups, digital leaders, charity work and work to support our local community allowing pupils to grow, develop and support the work of the school.

**PARTNERSHIPS WITH OUR COMMUNITY AND OTHERS**

We provide regular opportunities for our local community to work with us and for our pupils to work with the local community. These include preparing musical and drama activities to entertain grandparents/ parents/ carers/ and the local community, raising funds for local charities, organising Community Cafés, working with our ‘Cairney Critters’ mums and baby/toddler group and leading the Remembrance Service for the community in November in the village hall.

**INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING**

*Key principles: three curricular areas at the most, responsive planning, personalisation and choice [with reference to the Aberdeenshire progression framework Interdisciplinary Guidance Paper].*

We plan for broad learning through the subject areas. We also provide opportunities for deeper learning. Pupils are given regular opportunities to focus their learning and apply skills in greater depth through interdisciplinary learning. This gives pupils opportunities to further their interests, apply their knowledge, make connections and challenge their thinking, based on experiences and outcomes drawn from different curriculum areas.

August 2016

Updated: March 2017

**CURRICULUM: RATIONALE**

*Do you have any comments to make regarding this document?*

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*Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Please remove and return to the Head Teacher Carney School*

1. **Participation in Trips/Outings (e.g. supervision, additional staff)**
	1. …………………………………………………………………………………………….
	2. …………………………………………………………………………………………….
	3. …………………………………………………………………………………………….

(Contact for advice: School SFL Staff, PTU, Parent)