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Newhills Secondary School Handbook

Session 2022-2023



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**Newhills Secondary School
Handbook**

Welcome to Newhills Secondary School.

I would like to welcome you and your son/daughter to Newhills. This handbook contains a range of information that you will hopefully find helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you need more information.

I hope that this handbook gives you a glimpse of life at Newhills. We look forward to having you and your child work with us and hope that this will be the start of a strong partnership.

Alison Lochrie
Headteacher

Last updated September 2022

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School Vision

Our school is a place of excellence where we will endeavour to ensure that your young people can achieve their full potential.

Our school is a caring place where young people are listened to, make their own contribution and are valued as individuals.

Our partnership working among young people, parents, staff and the community will enable our pupils to be confident and successful citizens of the future.

School Values

Our shared values within Newhills are:

- Honesty
- Responsibility
- Trust
- Teamwork
- Happiness
- Kindness and care

School Aims

Our school aims are:

- To offer a curriculum that develops skills for learning; skills for life and skills for work with a focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing.
- To develop partnership working that will build the bridge from school to their life beyond, ensuring a positive transition into the adult world.
- To create learning opportunities that will ensure our young people achieve and attain the best they can.
- To put our young people at the centre of learning.
- To support our young people to be caring, responsible and active global citizens.

School Information

You can cut out the following information and have it on your fridge, work desk or in your purse etc, for ease of finding the numbers required.

Contact Details:

Newhills Secondary School

42 Newhills Road

Glasgow G33 4HJ

Phone: 0141 773 1296

Email: headteacher@newhills-sec.glasgow.sch.uk

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Background information

Newhills Secondary School caters for pupils with complex additional support needs. Newhills is a co-educational and non-denominational establishment. We are part of the Lochend Learning Community and pupils attend for six years of secondary education. Our current role is 36 and our capacity is 40.

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School Staff

Headteacher	Alison Lochrie
Depute Head	Emma Ashmore (0.8 DHT)
Principal Teacher	Kate Kirk (0.8 PT and 0.2 DHT Acting)
Class Teachers	Catherine (0.2 PT Acting) Heather Jen Joanne (Part Time) Laura D Laura M (Part Time) Laura P Laura Jo (Part Time) Lynne Mari (Part Time)
Grade 5	Alan (Acting) Ashley Cathe Marjory
Support for Learning Co Ordinator	Susan (Acting)
Support for Learning Worker	Ann Carol Caroline Davie Elaine Jackie (Part Time) Jean Jeanette Jenny Joanna Leeanne Maria Maureen Megan Rose Sharon Sheena (Part Time) Shereen Tracey Tricia
Health and Wellbeing Workers	Barbara Leanne Lisa
School Nurse	Sharon
Janitor	Angela
Clerical Assistant	Charmaine
Cleaners	Donna and Michelle
School Kitchen	Lynda
Drivers	Davie, Jimmy, John, Mandy, Tam, Stewart

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Moving from Primary School to Newhills

We receive pupils from all areas of the city. Pupils who are due to transfer begin a phased transition programme in January. This is done in liaison with the feeder primaries and involves not only pupils but staff and families as well. It enables everyone to get to know each other and allows any questions to be answered and any fears allayed.

All placing of pupils is done through Glasgow Division Education Psychological Services. Advice regarding placement may be sought from either the school or:

**Education Department
Wheatley House
25 Cochrane Street
Glasgow**

Parents seeking a place for their child are welcome to visit the school.

The School Day

Session 2022 - 2023

Staff: 9.00am – 3.30pm

Pupils: 9.30am – 3.00pm

Educational classes begin at 9.30am where pupils follow a set morning routine for each day. At 10.15am there is a break, which is currently spent in class. Pupils are offered various activities as well as their morning snack. Classes recommence at 10.30am and stop for lunch at 12.00. Lunchtime is seen as an opportunity to work on skills such as communication, appropriate behaviour and social skills. This is supported by teaching staff. At 12.30pm lunchtime activities begin where pupils can choose preferred activities, including spending time indoors dancing, playing games, doing hair and beauty. When the weather is fair, pupils can go outside to our sensory garden or play football in the playground. Classes recommence for the afternoon at 1.00pm and continue until 3.00pm with a 15 min break at 1.45pm. As well as assemblies throughout the term, we sometimes do a Friday Funk parade to celebrate and showcase our work.

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Term Dates 2022 - 2023

September

- Friday, 23 September and Monday, 26 September 2022 (September weekend holiday)

October

- Friday, 14 October 2022 (In-Service Day)
- Monday, 17 to Friday, 21 October 2022 (October Week)

December - Christmas and New Year

- Schools close at 2.30 pm on Thursday, 22 December 2022
- Friday, 23 December 2022 - Tuesday 3 January 2023 (Christmas holidays)

January

- Schools return on Wednesday 4 January 2023

February Mid-term break

- Monday, 13 February 2023
- Tuesday, 14 February 2023
- Wednesday, 15 February 2023 (In-service day)

April - Spring Holiday (Easter)

- Schools close at 2.30 pm on Friday, 31 March 2023
- Monday, 3 April - Friday, 14 April 2023 (Spring Break)
- Schools return on Monday, 17 April 2023

May

- Monday, 1 May 2023 (May Holiday)
- Thursday, 25 May 2023 (In-service day)
- Friday, 26 May 2023 and Monday, 29 May 2023 (May Weekend)

June

- Schools Close at 1.00 pm on Friday 23 June 2023
- Schools close at 2.30 pm on Friday 1 April 2022
- Good Friday 15 April 2022
- Easter Monday 18 April 2022
- Schools return on Tuesday 19 April 2022

May

- Monday 2 May 2022 (May Holiday)

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- Thursday 5 May 2022 (In-Service day to coincide with Scottish Local Government Elections)
- Friday 27 May 2022

June

- Thursday, 2 June 2022
- Friday, 3 June 2022 - Queen's jubilee.
- Schools Close at 1.00 pm on Friday 24 June 2022

August

- Monday 15 August 2022 (Return date for Teachers)

Details of holiday dates are available on the Glasgow City Council website:
<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17024>

Pupil Absence

Within Glasgow Secondary Schools good attendance is encouraged at all times to ensure pupil success. Parents are asked to advise if their son or daughter is going to be absent. This should be done as early as possible on the first day of absence. If the young person is going to be absent for some time, it would be helpful to know at the earliest opportunity. All unexplained absence is investigated by the school and appropriate action is taken.

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Medical & Healthcare:

School Nurse

Yorkhill Trust provides a registered nurse, Sharon Falconer. Sharon trains our Health & Wellbeing workers and monitors pupil health and wellbeing, for example height and weight. She works in partnership with families to enable them to care for their child with any health and wellbeing concerns. Sharon can be contacted on **0141 781 4310** by parents if they wish to discuss any concerns they may have regarding their child.

Health and Well Being Workers

Trained by our school nurse: Barbara, Leanne and Lisa support pupils who require medical interventions. Medication sent into school must be unopened and have a clearly marked label from the doctor stating the pupil's name and dosage. Signed permission must also be given by the parent/carer.

If a young person becomes ill during the course of the school day, he/she may require to be sent home. Please ensure that you keep the school informed of **all** of your current contact details.

Parents and carers should inform the school of any medical requirements relating to their child. If a young person requires medication during the school day, parents and carers must complete the appropriate medical form. This is available on request from the school nurse or Health & Wellbeing workers.

Emergencies

We make every effort to maintain a full educational service; however, on some occasions, circumstances arise which lead to disruption. Schools may be affected for example, by severe weather, temporary interruption to transport, power failures or difficulties with fuel supply.

In such cases, we shall do all we can to let you know about the details of our closure or re-opening by using letters, texts and the local media etc. Please ensure that you keep the school informed of **all** of your current contact details.

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School Dress Code

Our school uniform promotes a real sense of school identity, shared values, self-confidence and a shared sense of community. The uniform is actively supported by our pupils, families and the Parent Council and is of great benefit to our young people.

The school uniform is:

- School polo shirt
- School sweatshirt
- Black or navy trousers
- Black or navy skirt
- Appropriate school footwear

PE Kit

It is important that pupils come prepared to learn and for PE this requires appropriate clothing. All jewellery should be removed.

There are forms of dress that are unacceptable in school, such as items of clothing which:

- Potentially encourage factions (such as football colours).
- Could cause offence (such as anti-religious symbolism or political slogans).
- Could cause health and safety difficulties (such as loose-fitting clothing, jewellery).
- Could cause damage to flooring.
- Carry advertising particularly for alcohol or tobacco.
- Could be used to inflict damage on other pupils.

Clothing & Footwear Grants

Parents/Carers receiving Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based), Working Tax Credit (with a total annual income of less than £15,860*), Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit or Universal Credit (where income is less than £7,920) will normally be entitled to monetary grants for footwear and clothing for their children. Information and application forms may be obtained from schools and at:

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17885>

School Meals

Glasgow City Council provides free school lunches and milk for all of our pupils. Every pupil has a choice of food. Special diets for children with medical requirements can be provided. Please inform the school office if this is required. Young people who prefer to bring packed lunches are welcome to do so.

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Transport

The education authority will normally provide free transport to all pupils who attend an Additional Support for Learning (ASL) school. This policy is more generous than the law requires. This means that the provision of transport could be reviewed at any time.

It is also the parent/carer's responsibility to ensure that the child behaves in a safe and acceptable manner whilst using school transport. It is expected that no child/young person with additional support needs will be on transport for more than one hour.

Parental Involvement

We believe it is important that parents are included in all areas of their child's education. We encourage parents who wish to discuss any concerns to phone or visit the school for a chat. We are in the process of re-establishing our Parent Council and the School Gate sessions.

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Reviews

These are meetings of parents/carers, pupil, Head teacher, class teacher, psychologist, social worker and any other relevant agencies, to discuss the pupil's progress.

Post Placement Reviews take place approximately three months after a pupil has transferred to Newhills.

School Reviews are yearly meetings which take place for every pupil.

Future Needs Reviews occur when the pupil reaches 14+ to begin to plan transition into adult services.

Communication with Parents

At Newhills Secondary School we strongly encourage all parents to become involved in the education of their children. We are always ready to listen to suggestions for new ways of stimulating parental interest. We contact and involve parents in many ways. For example:

Seesaw – your young person's teacher will regularly update their Seesaw account to showcase some of the highlights of our pupils' learning. Teaching staff and parents/carers can communicate via the Comments and Private Messaging functions.

Termly & Monthly Newsletters – we have a termly and monthly newsletter sent out to keep parents and carers informed about activities and forthcoming events.

Letters – further information which requires a response may be sent out in letter form.

Twitter – Our Twitter account is private and is a good way to see photos of events/school activities.

Text Messaging – you will also receive text reminders about events/school closures etc.

Meetings - Parents and carers are welcome to come in to the school to discuss any aspect of their child's development and progress. To avoid disappointment, it is advisable to make an appointment. There are various opportunities throughout the year when parents can discuss their child's progress with school staff.

Parents and carers are welcome at other events throughout the school year e.g. workshops, information events, class performances, award ceremonies, and assemblies. The school newsletter, letters and texts will keep you informed.

Strong communication links between home and school ensure parents and carers are confident to address any concerns they may have about their child's education with the Senior Leadership team.

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Parent Groups

We have recently introduced 'Transition Tuesdays' and Taster Tuesdays'- weekly Focus Groups with content decided by parents and carers, around topics which are most relevant to our young people and their families. These are also a great opportunity for parents to meet and get to know one another.

Homework

We work in partnership with parents on their young person's long term targets. For many pupils this means practising skills they have learned at school in everyday situations at home, for example, getting dressed, taking responsibility for packing their snack for school. For others it may be practising reading. Class teachers are always happy to work with parents on activities that can be done at home.

Home School Diary

Teachers use the Seesaw app to share updates of pupil progress and important information with our pupils' families. This enables parents/carers to chat about school activities and is an opportunity to celebrate our learners' success.

Summary of times for contact with Parents/Carers

DAILY	School can be contacted on 0141 - 773 - 1296 Nurse can be contacted on 0141 - 781 - 4310 Informal contact via bus/taxi escort. Daily home/school diary/Seesaw
ANNUALLY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- School Review – meeting to discuss educational progress.- Medical Review – meeting to discuss medical issues where appropriate, otherwise at two year intervals.- Meeting with class teacher to discuss A.S.P. in September.- Progress meeting in January.- Meetings with class teacher to discuss report card – May.- Parents' meetings relating to a particular topic e.g. post school provision as appropriate.- Social events throughout school year e.g. Christmas Fayre - Parent information events.

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Music Therapy

As part of our Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) this session we have employed a Nordoff Robbins Music Therapist, Laura. Laura works with the pupils on a Monday, delivering a range of class and 1:1 music sessions.

Data Protection Act - use of information about children and parents/carers

We collect information about children attending school (and also about parents/carers, emergency contacts etc. provided in the annual data check) to allow us to carry out the Council's functions as the education authority for the City of Glasgow. This may sometimes involve releasing personal information to other agencies and other parts of the Council, particularly in relation to child protection issues or criminal investigations. It may also be used for research purposes (see the link below for more details regarding this).

Information held by the school is, in legal terms, processed by Glasgow City Council. The Council is registered as a data controller under the Data Protection Act 2018 and all personal data is treated as confidential and used only in accordance with the Data Protection Act, the General Data Protection Regulations and the Information Use and Privacy Policy approved by the City Council. For more information on how we use personal information, or to see a copy of the Information Use and Privacy Policy, see:

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=22069>

Education specific privacy statements can be accessed at:

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=22069>

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

An EMA is a weekly payment worth up to £30 for students who are planning to stay on at school in post-compulsory education and who are willing to participate in an approved learning agreement at school for a minimum of 21 guided learning hours per week. Application forms are distributed to all pupils in the Senior phase at the start of each academic session. Further information on full eligibility criteria and application forms can be obtained from the school.

Additional Support Needs/Accessibility Strategy

The school has a duty to ensure that all our pupils have equal access to the curriculum, supported as appropriate to meet their individual needs. This covers not only the content of lessons and teaching strategies but also minor adaptations to the physical environment of our buildings to address the needs of pupils with physical or sensory impairments. We also need to ensure that parents and carers who have a disability have equal access to information about their children. This will involve, for example, relocating the venue for parents'/guardians' meetings to facilitate physical access; provision of an interpreter for deaf people or people with English as an

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Additional Language; agreeing a phone contact system to provide direct feedback to parents and carers.

Emergency Contact Information

At the start of each school session, parents and carers will be issued with the annual data check form. Please ensure that this is completed and returned to the school. It is also important that you let us know if there are any changes to your telephone number(s) or to those of your emergency contacts throughout the year.

Appointments During School Hours

If your child has an unavoidable appointment, please inform the school by letter or telephone call to ensure that they have permission to be absent from class.

Comments & Complaints

We aim to have positive relationships across our school community. However, if you have a comment or complaint about any aspect of school life, please contact the Headteacher in the first instance.

Glasgow City Council complaints procedures are available:

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=16133>

**Customer Care Team
Customer & Business Services
Glasgow City Council
City Chambers
Glasgow G2 1DU**

Tel: **0141 287 0900**

e-mail: customercare@glasgow.gov.uk

The above website also includes information on data protection and freedom of information.

Curriculum

Curriculum for Excellence 3 - 18

Curriculum for Excellence has been introduced to raise standards of learning and teaching for all 3 to 18 year olds. It aims to help prepare children and young people with the knowledge and skills they need in a fast changing world. As part of a Curriculum for Excellence, all children from pre-school to the end of S3 will receive a rounded education known as a Broad General Education (BGE). Curriculum for Excellence is all about bringing real life into the classroom and taking lessons beyond it.

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In line with their Curriculum for Excellence entitlement, pupils learn in all 8 curricular areas until the end of S3:

Expressive Arts	Health and Wellbeing	Languages	Mathematics
Religious and Moral Education	Sciences	Social Studies	Technologies

There is also a focus on developing Literacy and Numeracy skills across every subject area as well as Skills for Learning, Life and Work as young people prepare for their adult lives. In addition, learning takes place in the following ways:

- Inter-disciplinary experiences (working across a range of subjects to link learning)
- Learning through the ethos and life of the school
- Opportunities for personal achievement

In addition, S1 – S3 pupils at Newhills work towards JASS (Junior Award Scheme Scotland) Awards.

Curriculum Pathway

The pathway through secondary education at Newhills Secondary School offers various different activities and experiences suited to each year group and pupil. The pathways for session 2022 - 202 are as follows:

S1

Sports Star Challenge
Dance
JASS – Bronze Award

S2

'A day in the Life' talks
Sports Star Challenge
Dance, Karate
JASS – Silver Award
Challenge Days – eg indoor rock climbing tubing and team building

S3

Work place visits
Dance, karate
JASS – Gold Award
Challenge Days – eg indoor rock climbing tubing and team building

S4 – NQ's /Wider Achievement
Half day College link

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Judo
Create Project Ability art project
World of Work Talks

S5 – NQ's/Wider Achievement

Full day Kelvin College link
Create Project Ability art project
Work Experience supported by school staff
Sense Outreach
Half Day Kelvin College supported school link
Half day Fair Deal Birgidale chef led cookery

S6 – NQ's/Wider Achievement

Two day Kelvin College link
Half a day link to Cosgrove Care supported work placement
Half Day Kelvin College supported school link
Half day Ibrox coach led gym fitness programme
Sense Outreach

The Senior Phase S4 - S6

Our Senior Phase offers opportunities for our young people to achieve SQA accreditation both within school and in partnership with outside partners. This session our young people will achieve accreditation through linking with Kelvin College.

In collaboration with the Scottish Qualifications Agency (SQA), we assess National 1, National 2 and Personal Achievement Award qualifications. Individual courses at National 1, National 2 and Personal Achievement Award levels are not be graded but are marked overall.

The SQA website www.sqa.org.uk/cfeforparents contains useful information to help you understand national qualifications.

As an inclusive school, we aim to meet the needs of all pupils in the Senior Phase. We have strong partnerships with local colleges and employers to ensure a senior phase pathway to meet our pupils' individual needs. Opportunities for personal development continue within and beyond the taught curriculum. The Senior Phase in particular offers senior pupils a range of opportunities to build leadership, communication and to transfer and generalise skills learned in school in a range of bespoke partnerships to meet their individual needs.

Encouraging excellence is central to our aspirations and expectations for all young people.

World of Work

This begins from S1 onwards with pupils having class jobs and responsibilities. Employers are invited in to talk about their jobs to pupils. This session we plan talks from people who help us for example policemen to local employers, for example, Soapworks.

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For Senior phase pupils, for whom it is appropriate, there is a meaningful programme of supported work experience as part of developing our young work force. S6 have their class job centre allowing pupils to practice applying and interviewing for job responsibilities within school. Some S6 pupils have a half day at Cosgrove charity shop and internet café working with a job coach.

Pupils are also involved in various work experience placements. This is an important part of the curriculum as it allows pupils to experience a range of work environments options as well as building confidence and self-esteem.

College

Pupils access college from S4 for half day vocational courses. These courses range from Home Economics to Drama and enable pupils to experience the college environment.

S5 pupils attend Kelvin College every Monday and when in S6 also on a Tuesday. Under the guidance of lecturers, they undertake Cookery and Health & Wellbeing activities.

Our senior class attends Kevin college where they undertake Art, Music, Cookery or Relaxation classes.

ACE – A Choice for Everyone

Every Friday there is an afternoon of activities based around a termly theme. Our **ACE** afternoon provides **A Choice for Everyone**. Pupils choose which activity they wish to join. Activities range from Art to Sustainability to Dance to Enterprise to cycling!

Throughout the curriculum young people are developing their:

- skills for learning
- skills for life
- skills for work

The ultimate aim being that the young person will move into a positive and sustained destination beyond school.

Religious Observance

Our school has an established link with the local church; however, our youth worker has recently retired. We are in the process of actively re-establishing our link with a new youth worker. The youth worker assists with the Christianity element of Religious and Moral Education and provides opportunities for religious observance. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from religious observance and should inform the school in writing. Assemblies are held on a monthly basis.

In addition, parents and carers from religions other than Christianity may request that their children may be permitted to be absent from school in order to celebrate recognised religious events. Only written requests detailing the proposed

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arrangements will be considered. Appropriate requests will be granted on up to three occasions in any one school session.

Useful websites:

www.curriculumforexcellencescotland.gov.uk

www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone/index.asp

Multi Sensory Room

We have a large snoezeleum or multi-sensory room, which provides a sensory and interactive experience for our young people. For pupils with sensory impairments, stimulation is provided by mirrors, lights and music.

Sensory Garden

We have a beautiful garden which is accessed by all our pupils. Every class has responsibility for maintaining an area. We also work in partnership with the local community on annual garden tidy days and with pupils from Aultmore Autism Unit. We have recently had our paths widen to accommodate the new trikes and bikes that we have bought.

Partnership Links

We have excellent links with the local community: our indoor bouldering wall is located in Hub Sports which allows the local community to also access it. We link to Hub allotments for outdoor learning. We access the Home Economics facilities at Parkhill school. Our Broad and General Education pupils access Reidvale Adventure playground. Our partnerships reflect individual pupil needs, for example, Soccerworld, the bikes at Glasgow Green as well as Linn Park, which allows some pupils a large, safe space to move about freely.

Assessment & Reporting

All young people are assessed both formally and informally throughout the school year. This allows young people and their teachers to identify their strengths and areas for improvement. A variety of assessment methods are used to enable staff to pass on information to parents and carers about the progress of their child. Assessment records are kept by teachers and form the basis of discussion at parents' meetings throughout the year.

Dates of all parents' meetings and the schedule for issuing written reports is included in the school calendar which is issued at the start of term.

If you have any concerns about your child's progress do not hesitate to contact their teacher at any time.

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Pupil Profiles

All S3 learners have a profile which reflects their progress in learning and achievement and emphasises their strengths. The profile documents their key achievements in school, at home and in the community and the content is decided by the young person. The profile provides a valuable way for learners to share information about their achievements with their parents, teachers and future providers. The profile also supports the move from S3 into the senior phase of secondary school.

Support for Pupils

The school has a duty to ensure that all pupils have equal access to the curriculum, with appropriate support for their needs if required. This applies to the content of lessons, teaching strategies and minor adaptations to the school environment. There are a wide range of factors which may act as a barrier to learning. We are committed to working closely with parents and carers to ensure that they are fully involved in any decisions about support for their children's needs.

Any parent or carer seeking further advice regarding this policy should contact the Headteacher in the first instance.

Further information relating to additional support needs is available on the Glasgow City Council website: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18941>

Information on the Glasgow City Councils' Parental Involvement Strategy can also be found at: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17870>

GIRFEC

GIRFEC stands for 'Getting It Right for Every Child'. This is the Scottish Government led approach to making sure that all of our children and young people – as well as their parents or carers – can get help and support when needed from birth through to age 18 (or beyond if still in school).

The vast majority of Scotland's children and young people get the love and support they need from within their families and their wider, local communities. But even the most loving and caring families can sometimes need extra support. The GIRFEC approach aims to make it as easy as possible for any child or young person (and their parents) to get that help or support when they need it.

Promoting Positive Behaviour

Children's rights, as underlined in the UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child) are fundamental to a good school ethos. Adults in our school will work with young people to ensure that they are fully aware of their rights and fully respect the rights of others. Therefore, the approach within Newhills Secondary School is to build a positive ethos that demonstrates care and respect for all.

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The smooth running of Newhills Secondary School requires a high standard of behaviour from all within it. We appreciate the support of parents and carers in helping us to achieve this.

Positive behaviour is recognised and celebrated throughout the school. Pupil of the Week and assemblies celebrating successes encourage pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour.

Where procedures for behaviour management and support prove necessary we work in partnership with the parent/guardian. Their co-operation is important to achieve success.

In accordance with Glasgow City Council's Policy on Promoting Positive Behaviour Newhills Secondary School uses the C.A.L.M. (Crisis and Aggression Limitation Management) to manage challenging behaviour in the school. This is a whole school approach in which all staff are engaged. This training is designed to keep both our young people and staff safe.

Nurturing City

The Glasgow City Council vision 'towards the nurturing city', puts building positive, trusting relationships at the core of our work. We ensure children, young people and families feel they belong, they are listened to and they are valued by embedding the principles of nurture across our early years, primary and secondary establishments. Staff are trained in attachment and nurture which deepens understanding of child development and enhances effective practice by responding to the needs of all children and young people in a consistent and caring way. Nurture is a universal approach which builds resilience, helping to reduce the impact of adversity. Effective communication and collaboration with parents and carers build an ethos of partnership work, putting the child at the centre, to foster high quality learning contexts.

Each of our nurturing establishments contributes to the development of Glasgow as a nurturing city, creating safe environments which allow our children and young people to flourish by raising attainment and promoting positive mental health and wellbeing.

Pupil Council

Our Pupil Council is made up of one representative from each class. This is an important group which ensures that the views of pupils are heard.

Eco Council

Our Eco Council is made up of one representative from each class, and school staff are also represented. Eco school is incorporated into the curriculum by looking at our immediate environment – litter picking, recycling paper, tidying, maintaining our sensory garden, developing our outside area and the effects of the environment on the global community. We are very proud of achieving our 4 Green Flags and are currently working towards our 5th.

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Health Promoting School

Newhills has had health promotion status since May 2009. This means that health issues permeate the whole curriculum ranging from choosing healthy food at lunchtime, preparing healthy snacks during Home Economics, providing a range of active sport and lunchtime activities to raising awareness about health issues relating to our body. We work in partnership with our parents/carers keeping them up to date with newsletters, our health promoting noticeboard, talks, visiting speakers and taster sessions.

We are actively committed to identifying and responding to the health and wellbeing of pupils, staff and the wider community thus improving health, attainment and achievement. To facilitate this we liaise and work jointly with outside agencies.

Language & Communication Friendly Accreditation

We were delighted to be awarded Language and Communication Friendly Accreditation in June 2018. Newhills Secondary School was the first CLN school to achieve this status. This award celebrates the use of our communication strategies – Makaton, Boardmaker symbols, Objects of Reference, talkers and of course language to give our pupils a voice.

Links with the Community

Classes throughout the school use the facilities of the surrounding community on outings and ACE activities e.g. Easterhouse Sports Centres for swimming, The Hub for some work experience, the local allotments as part of our ECO programme etc. We have various students on practical placement. We have had Sports Leaders from Eastbank Academy leading a block of dance sessions. Our partnership with Glasgow City Council's Future Works programme allows us to access various different work experience placements across the city. Our students also enjoy opportunities to use the facilities at Reidvale Adventure Playground in order to access additional outdoor learning.

School Improvement

On an annual basis, you will receive a copy of our Standards and Quality report. The Standards and Quality report will be used to share the overall performance of the school and highlights progress in key curricular areas such as Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing. Our priorities for improvement are detailed in our School Improvement Plan which is discussed with our Parent Council. Any parent or carer seeking a copy of the plan can contact the school office.

Useful Contacts

Parent Scotland is a unique website for parents and carers in Scotland, from early years to beyond school. The website provides up to date information about learning in Scotland, and practical advice and ideas to support children's learning at home in Literacy, Numeracy, Health & Wellbeing and Science. Information is also available on Parentzone Scotland regarding additional support needs and how parents can get involved in their child's school and education. Furthermore, the website has details

OFFICIAL

about schools including performance data for school leavers from S4 – S6 and links to the national, and local authority and school level data on the achievement of Curriculum for Excellence levels. Parentzone Scotland can be accessed at:

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

Glasgow City Council:

Education Services
City Chambers East
40 John Street
Glasgow G1 1JL
Tel: 0141 287 2000

www.glasgow.gov.uk