

# 2024



# SCHOOL HANDBOOK

LINICLATE  
ISLE OF BENBECULA  
HS7 5PJ

TELEPHONE: 01870 603690

EMAIL: [sgoillionacleit@gnes.net](mailto:sgoillionacleit@gnes.net)

WEBSITE: <http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk>



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## A LETTER FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

A Charaid chòir,

Sgoil Lionacleit is a six-year comprehensive school serving the islands of Berneray, North Uist, Benbecula, South Uist and Eriskay. The school has 258 pupils.

The School Handbook will give you useful information about Sgoil Lionacleit which will help you support your child.

Our school has well-qualified, committed and experienced staff. We value our pupils and encourage openness, honesty and respect for themselves and others.

We have partnerships with many local organisations to help us deliver high quality education to our pupils.

We are very proud of the achievements of our present and former pupils. I see it as my duty to ensure that your child is challenged, is successful and enjoys their time here.

I look forward to welcoming you and your child to our school.

Gach deagh dhùrachd

*Mr Gordon Young*



51 pupils took part in a poster competition to mark Seachdain na Gàidhlig. Pupils were asked to design a poster to encourage the use of Gaelic around the school and in the community.

## SECTION 1 - ETHOS

### VISION

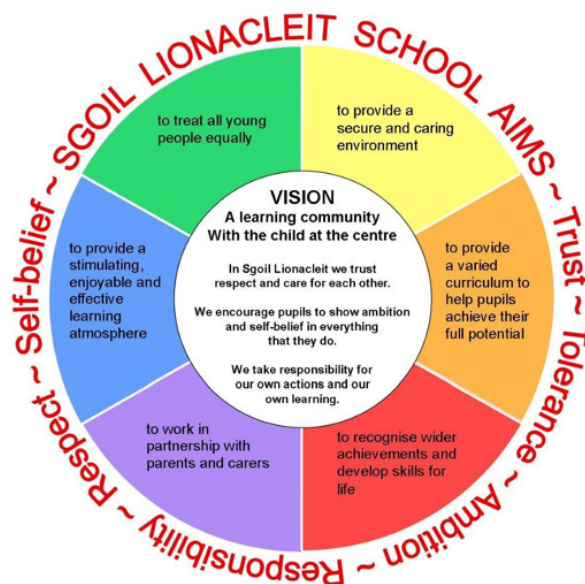
In Sgoil Lionacleit we trust, respect and care for each other. We encourage pupils to show ambition and self-belief in everything that they do; take responsibility for their own actions and learning.

### VALUES

We value trust, tolerance, ambition, responsibility, respect and self-belief.

We aim to deliver an education of the highest quality in Sgoil Lionacleit by:

1. Enabling our young people to be confident individuals, successful learners responsible citizens and effective contributors.
2. Treating all people equally and ensuring equality of opportunity and provision for all pupils.
3. Providing a varied curriculum to help pupils achieve their full potential.
4. Providing a stimulating, enjoyable and effective learning atmosphere.
5. Creating an ethos in which hard work is valued and self-discipline and respect for others are evident.
6. Striving continually to raise levels of attainment and achievement for all.
7. Developing an awareness of real-life issues and skills to prepare young people for life.
8. Working in partnership with parents, carers and our community to promote excellence.
9. Developing self-esteem, nurturing a sense of community responsibility and so creating a concern for others.
10. Charting pupil progress so that each individual's existing skills are enhanced and new skills developed.





## SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL VALUES

As a school we seek to foster mutual respect, understanding and friendship without diminishing the distinct elements of the diverse faith traditions that exist within Uist and Benbecula. Also we are guided by the recommendations contained in national and regional guidelines.

The school is privileged to have the voluntary services of our committed chaplains: Rev Alen McCulloch, Rev Tom Penman, Rev Ishbel MacDonald Fr Michael Hutson and Fr Michael MacDonald. They contribute not only to curricular Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies, but also to Religious Observance within Sgoil Lionacleit. School Assemblies are held weekly on a rotational basis and are led in turn by the chaplains. In addition to this, there are a number of religious services held in the school throughout the year, to which parents are invited to attend.

### PRACTICE IN RELATION TO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We continue to observe this custom through the traditional one lesson per week. Parents may elect that their children should not receive any instruction in religious subjects by notifying the Head Teacher in writing.

*"Whereas it has been the custom in the public schools of Scotland for instruction in religious subjects to be given to students..."*  
(Education Scotland Act)

### PRACTICE IN RELATION TO RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

The aims of religious observance are:

- » To promote the spiritual development of all members of the school community;
- » To express and celebrate the shared values of the school community;
- » To raise awareness of values underpinning life's varied activities;
- » To reflect on values, beliefs, commitment and hope.

Parents may elect that their children should not take part in such observance by notifying the Head Teacher in writing.

### EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school offers a range of interesting extra-curricular activities for example:

- |                 |              |                                   |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| » Athletics     | » Pipe Band  | » Film G Club                     |
| » Inventor Club | » Volleyball | » Duke of Edinburgh Award         |
| » Local Mod     | » Basketball | » Eco - working toward Green Flag |

*Additional information about activities in and out of school can be found on our website at: [http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/docs/activities/doac\\_sl.pdf](http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/docs/activities/doac_sl.pdf)*

## SECTION 2 - PRACTICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

### Contact Details

**Head Teacher:** Mr Gordon Young

**Name of School:** Sgoil Lionacleit

**Address:** Liniclate,  
Isle of Benbecula  
HS7 5PJ

**Telephone Number:** 01870 603690

### Website:

<http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk>

### Email address:

[sgoillionacleit@gnes.net](mailto:sgoillionacleit@gnes.net)

### Chair of Parent Council:

Mrs Ann MacDonald

### E-mail contact:

[sgoillionacleitparentcouncil@hotmail.com](mailto:sgoillionacleitparentcouncil@hotmail.com)

### Organisation of the School Day

**Start Time:** 8.50

**Morning Break:** 10.30 – 10.45

**Lunch Time:** 12.25 – 1.10

### Finish Times:

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 3.40pm

Friday: 2.00pm



### About the School

**Stages of Education provided for:** S1 – S6 non-denominational.

**Present Roll:** 258.

**Assembly for Religious Observance:** Friday, Period 1 on a rotational basis for all year groups.

**School Assemblies:** Every Monday morning.



A student from Sgoil Lionacleit joined #CabinetTakeover where First Minister Hamza Yousaf co-chaired the Cabinet meeting with children and young people. .

## TERM DATES

### Spring 2024, Term 3

Opens:	Thursday, 4 January	Staff & pupils
	Friday, 16 February	Staff & pupils
Closed:	Monday, 19 February	Staff & pupils
Closed:	Tuesday, 20 February	Staff & pupils
In-Service:	Wednesday, 21 February	Staff in only
Closes:	Thursday, 28 March	Staff & pupils

### Summer 2024 Term 4

Opens:	Monday, 15 April	Staff & pupils
Closed:	Monday, 29 April	Staff & pupils
Closes:	Thursday, 27 June	Staff & pupils

## SESSION 2024-2025

### Autumn 2024, Term 1

In-Service:	Monday, 12 August	Staff in only
In-Service:	Tuesday, 13 August	Staff in only
In-Service:	Wednesday, 14 August	Staff in only
Opens:	Thursday, 15 August	Staff & pupils
Closes:	Thursday, 10 October	Staff & pupils

### Winter 2024, Term 2

In-Service:	Wednesday, 23 October	Staff in only
Opens:	Thursday, 24 October	Staff & pupils
Closed:	Friday, 22 November	Staff & pupils
Closed:	Monday, 25 December	Staff & pupils
Closes:	Thursday, 20 December	Staff & pupils

### Spring 2025, Term 3

Opens:	Monday, 6 January	Staff & pupils
Closed:	Friday, 14 February	Staff & pupils
Closed:	Monday, 17 February	Staff & pupils
Closed:	Tuesday, 18 February	Staff & pupils
In-Service:	Wednesday, 19 February	Staff in only
Closes:	Friday, 28 March	Staff & pupils

### Summer 2025, Term 4

Opens:	Monday, 14 April	Staff & pupils
Closed:	Friday, 18 April	Staff & pupils
Closed:	Monday, 21 April	Staff & pupils
Closed:	Monday, 5 May	Staff & pupils
Closes:	Thursday, 27 June	Staff & pupils

NATIONAL MOD: 11-19 OCTOBER 2024

GOOD FRIDAY: 18 APRIL 2025

EASTER MONDAY: 21 APRIL 2025

PROPOSED START DATE FOR SESSION 2025-2026    TEACHERS: 11 AUGUST 2025    PUPILS: 14 AUGUST 2025



## ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCE

At the start of the school day, pupils will attend their first class, where the class teacher for period one will take an electronic register; the class teachers will repeat this process every period of the school day.

If your child cannot attend school due to illness, please get in touch with the School Office on 01870 603690 before 9.30 am. It is vitally important that parents/guardians inform the school of absence/lateness as we must account for our pupils at all times. If we do not receive an explanation by 9.30 am, a staff member will contact you by telephone to find out why your child is not in school.

## PUPILS ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

All pupils arriving late for school must bring a note of explanation from parent/carer. We insist on this to avoid any cases of truancy.

## REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

All requests for leave of absence from school other than for medical or dental appointments must be made to the Head Teacher in writing. It is important that full information be given as to the exact date, time and reason for the absence. Requests for absence must be placed at least **one week in advance** of the requested date.

The Scottish Government classify family holidays for the following reasons as unauthorised. The availability of cheap holidays; The availability of desired accommodation; Poor weather experienced during school holidays; Holidays which overlap the beginning of term; and parental difficulty obtaining leave (with local judgement applied in cases where evidence is provided by the employer that cannot accommodate leave during school holidays without serious consequences).

Family holidays judged to be important to the well-being and cohesion of the family following serious or terminal illness, bereavement or other traumatic events will be treated as authorised.

**Request forms for withdrawal from school are available from the school website.**

## TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Secondary School Children living two or more miles from school are entitled to free transport. Children who are not eligible for free transport may apply for a non entitled space on School transport.



Details of charges and how to apply as well as the school transport policy and transport appeal forms are available on the council website.

It is the parent's responsibility to make sure their child arrives at the pick up point on time and behaves in a safe and acceptable manner while boarding, travelling in and leaving the vehicle. Children who misbehave can lose their right to home/school transport.

## SCHOOL TRIPS

School trips are arranged according to Council policy. They are risk assessed and under-written by the Council's insurers. Parents of young people on trips must be aware that there is no insurance cover for self-inflicted injuries.

## EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCES

EMAs provide financial support for 16 year olds from (nationally defined) low income families who undertake a full time school or college course. The Comhairle's Education and Children's Services Department will manage the scheme for pupils in Western Isles schools. EMAs are a weekly allowance payable during term time.

EMAs are paid directly into a pupil's bank account every two weeks. The size of the allowance will depend on the financial circumstances of the family. EMAs are only paid for full weeks within term time up to a maximum of 42 weeks in any one academic year. They can only be paid where 100% weekly attendance has been achieved by the young person (but authorised absences such as certified sickness and work experience count as attendance).

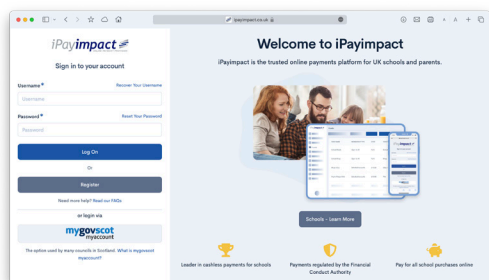
EMA payments are not made during short term holidays which include the October holiday, Christmas and Easter. For more information and application form please contact: Education Resources, CNES, Sandwick Road, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, HS1 2BW. Tel: 01851 822729 or 822763, e-mail: [ema@cne-siar.gov.uk](mailto:ema@cne-siar.gov.uk).



A group of S3 students taking part in an Outward Bound school trip to Loch Eil.

## SCHOOL MEALS

Sgoil Lionacleit cafeteria now operate a cashless catering system for pupil lunches. Impact Biometrics will allow pupils to pay for their meals using fingerprint identification. We would like to remind you of the importance to ensure that your child(ren)s account has sufficient funds to allow the purchase of school meals and snack items. **Schools meals normally cost on average of £2.19 for 2 courses.** Please note that items such as snacks and juices are additional items will incur additional cost. Pupils in receipt of Free School Meals will have a credit balance of £2.19 per day added to their account, **this amount if unused is not carried into the next day.**



Each child account has an account buffer of £10 once this limit has been reached a reminder email will be sent advising you to top up your child(ren)s account. If the balance is not cleared within 2 days of this reminder being issued your child's account will be credited and a formal debtor invoice will be raised to recover the balance due.

Your child(ren)s cashless catering account can be accessed and funds added via <https://www.ipayimpact.co.uk/IPI/Account/LogOn>

## APPLICATION FORMS

If you are struggling financially and wish to apply for assistance with Free School Meals & Clothing Grant then please contact the school office and they will advise you on where you can access the online application, alternatively you can request an application to be sent to you by post or contact the Education and Children's Services Department, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Stornoway - telephone 0845 600 7090. Parents of children who are eligible to receive Free School Meals will also be entitled to receive the Scottish Child Payments which are as follows:

- An autumn payment (£160) per child to be paid in October
- A winter payment (£160) per child to be paid in December

A payment of £2.50 per day, per child will also be made to assist with the cost of meals during the school holiday periods.

Clothing Grants are payable at £150 per child for those attending secondary school and £120 for primary pupils.

**PLEASE NOTE : FREE SCHOOL MEALS & CLOTHING GRANT MUST BE APPLIED FOR EACH YEAR.**





## SCHOOL DRESS

The policy of the school is to encourage pupils to take pride in their appearance and in the school they represent. Parents and pupils are asked to support the school's policy on School Dress. Garments with the school logo/badge are available through the School Office and you can obtain an order form for school uniform from the school's website, <http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/docs/info/SL-uniform-form-23.pdf>.

- » Black or white shirt/blouse with school tie
- » Black or white school polo shirt
- » School sweatshirt
- » Plain black sweatshirt
- » Black leggings
- » Black trousers
- » Black knee length skirt
- » Plain black jogging trousers
- » No blue jeans (plain black jeans may be worn)
- » No shorts/cropped trousers.



For all formal school functions or pupils representing the school on trips – white or black shirt with school tie.



## APPROPRIATE DRESS FOR PE

**Shorts or tracksuit bottoms**

**T-shirts, with long or short sleeves**

**Change of footwear**

**No vest tops**

i) For Health and Safety reasons, earrings are restricted to the stud type, especially when undertaking practical activities. Pupils wearing very large earrings will be asked to remove them.

ii) Clothing should be clearly identifiable with name tags sewn on.

iii) All outdoor clothing should be stored in pupils' lockers.

## PUPILS WHO DO NOT WEAR SCHOOL DRESS

Pupils who are not wearing appropriate school dress will be spoken to by a member of the school management team (SMT). If a pupil does not have their school clothes available to them that day, they should have a note from their parents / carers to explain why. Pupils who do not have school dress that day will be asked to be in dress code the following day.

Where a pupil has been spoken to twice, a letter will also be sent home outlining the school policy, indicating that the pupil has been spoken to twice and asking for parental co-operation. A third breach will result in a further letter home again with the above request. Further breaches will result in the parents /carers being invited to discuss the matter.

## EMERGENCY CLOSURE

It may be necessary, occasionally, to close the school at short notice and send the pupils home, for example, in exceptionally bad weather or if the electricity or heating system fails. If parents are not regularly at home during school hours, they should always make arrangement to have someone available to receive their children should such an emergency occur. The School will ask each parent to provide the address and/or telephone number of a person who can be contacted in these circumstances.

Parents should also feel free to contact the school if they are concerned about the safety of their children because of severe weather conditions and are free to call for them at any time.

## CLOSURE DUE TO SEVERE WEATHER

On occasion the Head Teacher, may be advised to keep school closed for pupils. This may be due to dangerous road conditions such as heavy snow or very high winds. In such circumstances information will be issued to parents using Groupcall, using the CNES website and using local radio. It is possible that closure applies to pupils from one particular area because the weather is localised in that area.



Loch Eil Trip, 2023



## CONCERNS, COMPLAINTS, COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS PROCEDURE

We are keen that you should be completely satisfied with your child's education, and we encourage feedback from parents and pupils. We are, therefore, interested in feedback of all kinds, whether it be compliments, suggestions, concerns or complaints.

If you have concerns regarding your child's education, progress or welfare, please contact the school as soon as possible either by telephoning the School Office or in writing - either a letter or email to [sgoillionacleit@gnes.net](mailto:sgoillionacleit@gnes.net). Once received your concern will be passed to the most appropriate person who may be a member of the Senior Management Team, Faculty Head or Principal Teacher or Guidance Principal, who will contact you and discuss the matter further.

If you have a complaint about the school, please make it initially to the Head Teacher, and allow the school to respond and resolve the issue. In some cases, your concerns can be dealt with immediately. In other cases, more extensive investigations may have to be carried out. The Head Teacher will notify you, generally within five working days, of the school's response.

### Concerns, Complaints, Comments and Suggestions Procedure

These things should be shared openly and resolved fairly rather than being allowed to damage the relationship between the family and the school. There will be no negative consequences arising from making a complaint; we will deal with the issue confidentially and as quickly as possible. If we have made a mistake, we will apologise and put things right.

However should you not be satisfied with the way in the school has dealt with your complaint or concern or are still unhappy with the service then you have the right to take the matter further.

You can put your complaint in writing or fill in a complaint form. Send completed forms to Director of Education and Children's Services, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Sandwich Road, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, HS1 2BW.

If you are unhappy with their investigation and reply you can take the matter up with the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman. The reply will include the contact details.



Loch Eil Trip, 2023



## MEDICAL CARE FOR PUPILS

Parents should inform the school without fail of any relevant medical history of which teachers should be aware e.g. asthma, epilepsy, diabetes etc.

## ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINES IN SCHOOLS

Drugs or medication required to be taken by pupils on school premises should be handed in to the School Office or Head Teacher together with a signed letter from the Doctor or Parent/Carer stating:

- a) The name of the pupil;
- b) The name of the drug or medicine and the reason for taking it;
- c) Whether the medication has been prescribed by the parent or doctor;
- d) The correct dosage and the daily time of issue;
- e) The completion date of the course of medication.



## ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

If your child becomes unwell during the school day they should inform their class teacher or school office staff. The pupil will be directed to the School Office. The school will then contact a parent/carer or emergency contact to collect your child from school. On occasion the school may call an ambulance on the advice of a First Aider following an accident at school. We will advise parents as quickly as possible to enable you to accompany your child to hospital or to meet the emergency services at the hospital.

## IMMUNISATIONS AND EXAMINATIONS

The school is visited regularly by nurses from the local surgeries who carry out a programme of examinations and immunisations for all pupils. Parents are informed in advance of these visits and consent for participation is requested each time.

## DENTAL SERVICES

NHS strongly encourages all school pupils to receive regular dental examinations. To arrange an appointment for pupils, parents or carers should telephone the Dental Clinic in Linclate School on 01870 602178.

Parents or guardians should accompany all pupils under 16, at least for the first visit, or when emergency treatment is being carried out. At times of high demand there may be a waiting period of up to six months for routine treatment, although treatment of dental emergencies will be prioritised.

## **SPEECH THERAPY SERVICE**

The services of a speech therapist are provided for schools. The written consent of a parent/guardian is obtained before a pupil is referred to this service.



## **SCHOOL POLICIES**

Full details of all School Policies can be found on the School Website:

<http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk>

### **MOBILE DEVICE POLICY**

[http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/docs/pdr/mobile\\_device\\_policy.pdf](http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/docs/pdr/mobile_device_policy.pdf)

### **PROMOTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR POLICY**

[http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/docs/pdr/promoting\\_positive\\_behaviour.pdf](http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/docs/pdr/promoting_positive_behaviour.pdf)

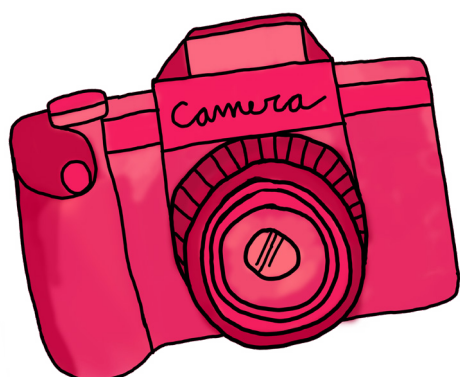
### **ANTI – BULLYING POLICY**

[http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/docs/pdr/anti\\_bullying\\_policy.pdf](http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/docs/pdr/anti_bullying_policy.pdf)

Parents should immediately inform the school of any incidents of bullying which may occur unaware to members of staff. The pupils should be encouraged to discuss any incident or worries / problems of this nature with their Guidance teacher at an early stage. Parents should keep a written record of any incidents regarding WHO, WHAT, WHERE and WHEN. This will help the school in dealing with the situation and in devising strategies which will help the child and provide them with support inside and outside the school.

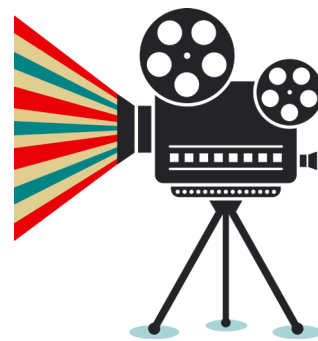
## **PHOTOGRAPHING & FILMING PUPILS ON SCHOOL PREMISES**

Pupils may be filmed or photographed on school premises for a variety of reasons including recording of curricular activities, events such as school concerts or plays, or for school publicity material e.g. school website. The photographs or film may or may not be accompanied by details about the pupil such as name, age, year group or general home location.



Where filming of pupils under Minimum School Leaving Age is taking place through a media company, that company must already obtain the permission of the pupil's parent or carer under Performance Licensing legislation.

Having regard to Data Protection, Child Protection principles and the basic principle of parental consent to activities relating to their children, it has now been agreed that any official photographing or filming of children where the images might be for public consumption (i.e. media, website or official school videos) should only take place in school premises or grounds with the prior written consent of parents.



This policy relates to official school photos or filming or official requests made to the school. You will recognize that there are certain situations which might in practice be outwith the school's control (e.g. another parent inadvertently capturing an image of your child at a school sports day). If you have specific concerns about this, you should discuss these with the Head Teacher.

To ensure that your child's school has the optimum flexibility to allow filming which you would support, we are seeking your views on such activities in advance of their taking place.

You have the options of:

- i) agreeing to photographs of your children appearing in any publication or form (i.e. on the school website) approved by the Head Teacher;
- ii) not agreeing to photographs or film of your child appearing in any form;
- iii) agreeing to photographs or film of your child being used only in certain ways (which you can specify);
- iv) advising the school whether you are happy for school-approved information about your child to accompany any photographs or film – or whether you wish to restrict it.

Once completed, your preferences will be retained in your child's school file and will remain in force (transferring between schools as appropriate) until you revoke it. If you wish to change your mind at any time, complete a new form, indicating your revised preference.



## PUPIL REPRESENTATION

The school has a Pupil Council which meets every term. Each year group nominates and elects 2 representatives for the council.

In addition S6 pupils apply for places on the S6 leadership Team. The team comprises of two School Captains and a number of Prefects. The team is responsible for promoting positive role models to younger pupils, organising fundraising events and liaising directly with Senior Management Team.



## SECTION 3 - PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL

### COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS/CARERS

The school welcomes contact with parents and carers and encourages parents and carers to become involved in the education of their child and in the broader life of the school. Parents/carers of prospective pupils or existing pupils are welcome to visit the school. Appointments to meet with the Head Teacher or Deputies can be made through the School Office.

All pupils are provided with a Planner to record Homework and other school related information.

Parents' Evenings are held for each year group to provide an opportunity for parents/carers to discuss their child's progress with teachers and a 'Choices Evening' is held annually for parents of pupils in S2 and S3 for parents to find out about courses offered to senior pupils and to discuss with teachers the most appropriate subjects for their child to pursue at qualification level. In addition appointments can be made through the School Office with the Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teachers. Appointments with members of staff should be arranged through the Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher.

A termly newsletter is sent out which highlights the achievements of the pupils and provides a glimpse into the school's activities. The School Website ([sgoillionacleit.org.uk](http://sgoillionacleit.org.uk)) provides up to date information about school events, policies, curriculum, study guides and forms as well as achievements by the School and individual pupils.



The school uses Groupcall to send text messages and emails to parents. One use of Groupcall is to alert parents / carers when their child has not registered in school. These messages are sent out every morning at 9.30am by text to parents' mobiles. To ensure that we can contact parents in the most appropriate way please make sure the school office has the correct contact numbers. Groupcall will also be used to send out other messages relating to groups of pupils involved in specific activities. The school uses e-mail to send out letters to parents in addition to paper copies that are given to pupils. Please make sure that the School Office has the correct e-mail address on our system.

### PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Across the academic year, Sgoil Lionacleit will run events designed to support family learning and consultation. Parental involvement is key to the success of these events.



## PARENT COUNCIL



The role of the Parent Council is to:

- Support the school in its work with parents
- Represent the views of all parents
- Encourage links between the school, parents, pupils and the wider community
- Report back to the Parent Forum (all parents are members of the Parent Forum).

Parents/Carers are encouraged to volunteer or put themselves forward to be chosen as representatives of the Parent Council. The Parent Council usually meets 2 times per school term. All meetings are open and parents are welcome to attend.

**Contact the Parent Council anytime via email at [sgoillionacleitparentcouncil@hotmail.com](mailto:sgoillionacleitparentcouncil@hotmail.com)**

### OFFICE BEARERS

Chair - Mrs Ann MacDonald

Vice-Chair - Mrs Joanna Peteranna

Treasurer - Ms Joanne Ferguson

Secretary - Helen Bagley

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mrs Morag Henderson

Mrs Liz MacDonald

Ms Marion Rafique

Mrs Gail Roberston

Mrs Shona MacInnes

Mrs Michelle Shepherd



S4 Skills for Work Hospitality group visited Charlie's Bistro & Bothy.

For more information about Sgoil Lionacleit's Parent Council check out the schools parent council webpage: [http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/parent\\_council.html](http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/parent_council.html)

## SECTION 4 – CURRICULUM

### CURRICULUM MODEL: OUR CURRICULUM RATIONALE

At Sgoil Lionacleit, our curriculum aims to embrace the ethos, values and principles of the Curriculum for Excellence. In doing so, we aspire to provide inclusive, broad and challenging educational experiences across the four contexts of learning for our children, both in Gaelic and in English.

As well as providing a broad education that offers depth, challenge and enjoyment, we want our curriculum to focus on:

- » Allowing access to more applied learning courses that reflect our local community.
- » Promoting Gaelic language and culture in Gaelic and English classes.
- » Using our local context as a backdrop to the learning e.g. crofting.
- » Making links with parents and other partners that are sustainable and add value to our pupils' experience.

### BROAD GENERAL EDUCATION (BGE) IS THE OVERARCHING TERM FOR S1-S3

Our BGE intended to help children and young people gain the knowledge, skills and attributes needed for life in the 21st century, including skills for learning, life and work. It can be summed up as helping young people to become:

- » Successful learners
- » Confident individuals
- » Responsible citizens
- » Effective contributors.

These are referred to as the four capacities and this learning should take place in the four contexts of learning:

- » the ethos and life of the school as a community
- » curriculum areas and subjects
- » interdisciplinary learning
- » opportunities for personal achievement.



Planting ready for the schools poly tunnel.



Pupils from the N5 Practical Woodworking course repaired three sections of the wooden walkway at the RSPB bird sanctuary, on South Uist.



## SENIOR PHASE IS THE OVERARCHING TERM FOR S4 – S6

Our Senior Phase is designed to allow learners to continue to develop the four capacities and achieve qualifications. It also meets the following aims:

- » provides specialisation, depth and rigour
- » prepares them well for achieving qualifications to the highest level of which they are capable
- » continues to develop skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work
- » continues to provide a range of activities which develop the four capacities
- » supports them to achieve a positive and sustained destination.

The senior phase is the time when our young people will build up a portfolio of qualifications. It is the stage of education at which the relationship between the curriculum and National Qualifications becomes of key significance.

The curriculum framework and the qualifications system will provide a range of opportunities to meet the needs of all learners, whether aspiring to achievements at SCQF level 1 or at SCQF level 7.

The curriculum in the senior phase comprises of more than just programmes which lead to qualifications. There is a continuing emphasis, for example, on health and wellbeing appropriate to this phase, including physical activity and opportunities for personal achievement, service to others and practical experience of the world of work.

## ACTIVE SCHOOLS

Active Schools is a national network of staff working across Scotland to provide more and higher quality opportunities for children and young people to participate in sport before, during and after school.

The fundamental aim is to offer children and young people the opportunities and motivation to adopt active, healthy lifestyles, now and into adulthood. Our Active Schools Co-ordinator works with the school to develop an action plan of work they can support through the school year. Here are some examples of the activities which took place in the last year: Active Schools has developed a good working relationship with the PE staff at Sgoil Lionacleit which has enabled us to establish a PE Group which includes all PE Staff, Head of Faculty, Active Schools and Sports Development. The PE Group meets in August and January of each school year to determine dates for inter school competitions and to discuss sports development opportunities.



Pupils attend the Scottish School Indoor Track Championships at the Emirates Arena in January. Thomas Brennan reached the semi-finals for the 60m sprint.

## SECTION 5 – SUPPORT FOR PUPILS

### SUPPORT FOR PUPILS

We aim as far as is possible to educate pupils who have additional support needs alongside their peer group. When necessary, extra help is provided. This help is delivered in a flexible manner and the pupils can be seen individually, in a group or class. Pupils who face barriers to their learning and need additional support to make progress are said to have 'Additional Support Needs'.

The Additional Support Needs of the Children are identified through a process of Staged Assessment and Intervention. The process of Staged Assessment and Intervention provides a structured system for identification, assessment, planning, review and record keeping for individual children who receive additional support of any kind. The Getting it Right Approach for Children and Young People (GIRFEC) in the Western Isles puts in place a network to promote wellbeing so that children and young people get the right help at the right time.



STEM Club at the National celebration of Engineering held in Glasgow Science Centre.

All Looked After Children and Young People are considered to have additional support needs. This is the case unless the school establishes they do not have additional support needs. The Local Authority must consider whether each looked after child requires a Co-ordinated Support Plan (CSP). The CSP is used to ensure a co-ordinated approach to providing support for children. The CSP will summarise assessments carried out for the child, explain the nature of the child's difficulties and outline the difficulties the Authority will take to support the pupil's needs. An assessment service is also provided by the teacher of children with visual and hearing impairment. The Speech Therapist also visits the schools to help any pupils who require support. Children who have the greatest difficulties may also require a CSP setting out their needs.



Preloved Shop - save the environment by saving money in aid of the Christmas Dance.



In addition, an Educational Psychologist advises on the varied behavioural and learning difficulties which all pupils can experience. He can work directly with pupils and families if required.

Where any additional support is deemed necessary, individual education plans (IEPs) are drawn up for each pupil and progress is reviewed regularly. Decisions are made about the resources, targets and actions that are most appropriate to the needs of the child. The views of parents, pupils and subject teachers are invited and highly valued as a contribution to such reviews.



Bronze Duke of Edinburgh group at a school overnight training camp. Learning map reading and camp crafts.

Under the Equality Act 2010, the Education Authority is not allowed to discriminate against disabled pupils.

Mediation is provided by Resolve in the Western Isles. It is a non-judgemental voluntary process which seems to resolve misunderstandings in the early stages to prevent them escalating. Parents also have the right to have an advocate present at Mediation and this is available through Advocacy Western Isles.



Parents should also be aware of the following organisations which provide advice and further information.



S2 pupils participated in a workshop with Guerilla Archaeology. They talked about tools, techniques and ancient antler technologies.

Children in Scotland: Working for Children and their Families, trading as Enquire – a charitable body registered in Scotland under registration number SC003527.

Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance, a charitable body registered in Scotland under registration number SC033576.

Scottish Child Law Centre, a charitable body registered in Scotland under registration number SC012741.

Further information locally can be obtained from Deputy Head Teacher (Pupil Support) Mrs Heather Young at 01870 603690.



## PASTORAL SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS

All teachers are concerned for the welfare of the pupils in their care and will try to help pupils, not only in the area of formal instruction in specific subjects, but also in the wider aspects of their development. However, there are a number of teachers who have a particular pastoral responsibility for pupils.

This includes:

- » Personal Guidance - helping a pupil at a time of personal difficulty or lending a sympathetic ear to a pupil who needs to talk to an understanding adult.
- » Curricular Guidance - assisting a pupil towards making a realistic choice of subjects, monitoring that choice and seeking to ensure that the pupil attains full potential.
- » Parents can request to see any of our course materials such as the materials on Sexual Health. If you would like to inspect any of the materials that we use to teach sensitive aspects of the curriculum such as relationships, sexual health or drugs awareness then please contact one of the Depute Head Teachers.
- » Vocational Guidance - promoting a programme of careers education and offering individual careers guidance.



Congrats to Dòmhnall Bàn, one of our piping tutors, for winning the Music Tutor of the Year at the Scots Trad Music Awards. Well done!

## PASTORAL SUPPORT FRAMEWORK

**Deputy Head Teacher Pupil Support and Child Protection Officer:** Mrs Heather Young

**Guidance Teachers:** Mrs Fiona Campbell, PT Guidance

Mrs Jessie Ann MacSween, PT Guidance



If you have a question about any pastoral or guidance matter please telephone the school 01870 603690 and ask to speak to your child's Guidance Teacher in the first instance.



Duke of Edinburgh Camping Trip at Clachan Sands in North Uist.

## PRIMARY TO SECONDARY TRANSFER

Visits to Sgoil Lionacleit are organised throughout the year with a final Induction Week in June. Children from our associated Primary Schools will have the opportunity to meet and get to know each other and their teachers. The children will know some of the teachers already through visits to their school by some Sgoil Lionacleit staff. There are various transition projects running between Sgoil Lionacleit and the Primary schools. Staff who support pupils also visit our associated Primary schools to ensure all pupils are confident about moving to Sgoil Lionacleit. For pupils with additional support needs meetings are held during P6 well in advance of their transition to Sgoil Lionacleit.

## SECONDARY TO COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY TRANSFER

Skills Development Scotland (SDS) organise a Careers Convention every two years for pupils in Uist and Benbecula. Delegates from University and College are represented at this event. SDS offer careers interviews to pupils, especially pupils who are unsure about what they wish to do after leaving school.



Parents can request a careers interview at any time by contacting Gordon Macdonald from SDS at their Benbecula Offices in Kinloch House. The telephone number is 01870 604927.

## SCHOOL TO EMPLOYMENT

Pupils who reach the age of sixteen between 1st October and 28th February may leave school at Christmas holidays. Pupils who are 16 between 1st March and 30th September may leave school on 31 May.

Young Person's Guarantee is a Scottish Government initiative which commits to bringing employers, partners and young people together. The programme aims to connect every 16-24 year old to an opportunity such as a job, training, volunteering, further education or an apprenticeship. For further information please contact Sharon MacRury at Sharon.MacRury@cne-siar.gov.uk.

Check out our school's collection of School Newsletters, We publish one at the end of every term. You can find them at [sgoillionacleit.org.uk/newsletters.html](http://sgoillionacleit.org.uk/newsletters.html).



## SECTION 6 – ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

### REPORTING

Parents' evenings are held each session when parents can discuss their child's progress with the subject teachers. Further meetings may be held to discuss any matters of concern to parents or to give information about curricular development or change. In addition to these scheduled evenings, parents are welcome to make appointments to meet with staff.

Further meetings may be held by appointment to discuss any matters of concern to parents or to give information about curricular development. Parents are welcome to make an appointment to meet the appropriate Class Teacher or Principal Teachers, if there are any matters which are of concern at any point throughout the session.

### ASSESSMENT

Personalisation and choice is one of the seven principles of curriculum design and children and young people throughout their education will have the opportunity to discuss with their teacher the context in which they learn and how they will approach the learning. Staff will discuss new learning with the children at the beginning of a new topic and plan together the areas of specific focus.

Assessment is crucial to tracking progress, planning next steps, reporting and involving parents and learners in learning. Evidence of progress can be gathered by learners themselves, and by fellow pupils (peers), parents, teachers and other professionals.

A number of approaches are employed including the following:

Self-assessment - learners will be encouraged and supported to look at and revisit their own work, to develop a better understanding of what they have learned, and what they need to work on;

Peer assessment - learners will be encouraged and supported to work together to help others assess what is good about their work and what needs to be worked on;

Personal learning planning - children, teachers and parents will work together to develop planning for next steps in learning;

A folder of achievements both within and outwith school follows the pupil from early Primary to S3. In Sgoil Lionacleit we record achievements on SEEMiS.



S1-S4 pupils taking part in fitness during their PE lessons.



Your child's progress is not only based on 'tests' but on the learning that takes place within the classroom and in different settings outwith the classroom. Assessment takes place as part of ongoing learning and teaching, periodically and at key transitions.

Evidence of children and young people's progress and achievements will come from day to day learning and through the things they may write, say, make or do. For example evidence may emerge as a result of children and young people taking part in a presentation, discussion, performance, or practical investigation. Evidence may be captured as a photograph, video or audio clip as part of a particular learning experience.

The Education Authority have decided to implement a programme of standardised tests throughout the Western Isles. These tests will allow the school to monitor progress against national standards and pinpoint areas of difficulty. The CAT tests will provide predicted results for every pupil in S4 and will enable teachers to identify under-performance and support pupils to get back on track.

From sports to academic competitions, pupils approach every event with a positive attitude and a willingness to learn. Their eagerness to participate in these activities not only helps them to build a strong foundation of knowledge and skills but also teaches them valuable life lessons such as teamwork, leadership, and sportsmanship.



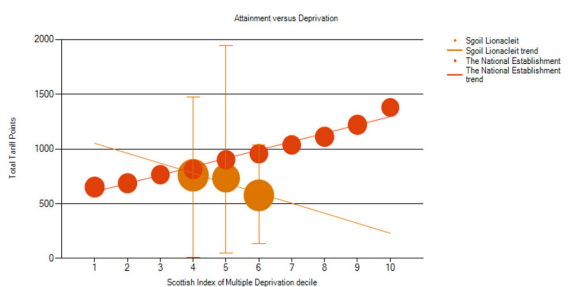
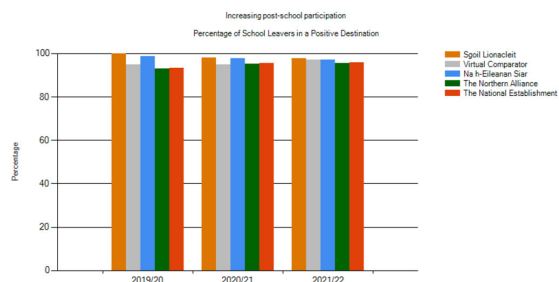
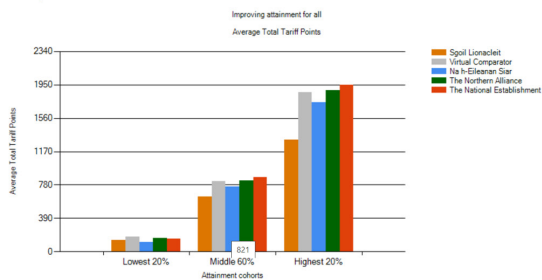
## SECTION 7 – SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

[http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/improvement\\_plan.html](http://www.sgoillionacleit.org.uk/improvement_plan.html)

### PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The selected year is 2022







COMHAIRLE NAN  
EILEAN SIAR