

Wallace Hall Academy Broad General Education Rationale

Transitions 2 -18: Building on prior learning

Pupils at Wallace Hall Academy benefit from our close working relationship with Wallace Hall Primary and our cluster primary schools. This means that it is easier for us to work towards a seamless, coherent transition from stage to stage. Primary staff in all six schools link closely with staff in the secondary to ensure effective pastoral and curricular transitions.

Key features include:

- The PT PS responsible for transitions and our PT ASfL work closely with all cluster primaries to share pupil information.
- Transition visits are planned where secondary specialists work with P5 to P7 pupils encompassing many areas of the curriculum.
- We hold a P7 Information Evening in the autumn for all prospective pupils and parents.
- All P7 pupils attend WHA for three full induction days where they follow their S1 timetable. Prior to this, pupils from outwith the cluster attend two non-cluster transition days in May.
- All new S1 pupils are encouraged to take part in residential visits, such as the Belmont trip, as part of the induction process.
- Pupils take part in activities which relate to the outdoor classroom and employability such as the P7/S1 Literacy activity.
- Working groups within Wallace Hall Academy have planned coherent approaches to learning and teaching. We are looking at how to further develop Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing.
- A primary-secondary working group is looking at plans to improve Health and Wellbeing transitions.
- Pupils at Wallace Hall Primary benefit from peer support and mentoring in a variety of experiences with senior pupils.
- Regular cluster meetings and cluster CPD events take place to ensure consistency across the cluster and that good practice is shared.
- Secondary/primary staff have opportunities to observe or team teach with colleagues.
- Enhanced transitions for those pupils requiring extra support at this time.

Purpose of the Broad General Education

As each young person develops the four capacities, he or she will:

- Experience learning across a broad curriculum covering languages, mathematics, science, social studies, expressive arts, technology, health and wellbeing, and religious and moral education.
- Achieve high levels of literacy and numeracy with opportunities to develop these across the curriculum.
- Develop skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.
- Experience opportunities for personal development and achievement.
- Experience success.
- Improve their learning and ensure they are appropriately challenged and supported.

Personal support

The school works hard to meet the personal, social, emotional and intellectual needs of every pupil, in order that each pupil can participate fully and gain maximum benefit from everything the school has to offer. Health and Wellbeing interviews are organised for all pupils. There are three Principal Teachers of Pupil Support who are supported by registration teachers. Registration teachers see pupils every morning in a pastoral capacity and Principal Teachers meet with pupils in their House twice a year. Pupils are supported by the PSE programme and our House System structure which aims to recognise success, identify next steps in learning, identify areas for improvement and produce plans to support improvements. Further support is made available to pupils through our behaviour support staff, classroom assistants and by senior pupils who assist in classes, are paired readers and who take on the role as buddies to younger students.

Skills for Life, Learning and Work

There has been steady progress at developing skills for life, learning and work at Wallace Hall Academy. In almost all courses, pupils are given support in developing their learning skills. These are reinforced in topic work in PSE, with many outside agencies, partners, local businesses and parents. We are also using an employability score card to track our 11 key employability skills.



National Improvement Framework

The vision for Scottish education is that we have:

- Excellence
- Equity

Our priority areas to develop this are:

- Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- Closing the attainment gap
- Improvements in Health and Wellbeing
- Improvement in employability skills and positive destinations

We will achieve these by supporting and improving:

- School leadership
- Teacher professionalism
- Parental engagement
- Assessment of children's progress
- School improvement
- Performance information

Together we grow, learn and achieve with...

Pupils, Parents, staff,
carers and the wider
community
Glasgow University
Queensberry Estates

Employability Team
Gates (UK) Ltd
Parent Council
Local Artists
Halo Trust

Business Mentors
Experience of Work
University of Cumbria
Solway Credit Union
Thornhill Rotarians

University of West of Scotland
Dumfries & Galloway College
Community Learning & Development
Partner Farmers
Cample Line



**Wallace Hall Academy,
Primary & ELC**

"Together we grow, learn and achieve"