

## **Vision, Values and Aims of the Education Department**

### *Our vision is to:*

- ✓ Be a school which is welcoming, joyful, supportive and safe;
- ✓ Ensure all our young people are achieving, healthy, active, safe, nurtured, included, respected, responsible and hopeful;
- ✓ Promote high expectations and raise aspirations;
- ✓ Improve attainment and achievement outcomes for all our young people;
- ✓ Strive for educational excellence.

### *Our values include:*

- ✓ Ensuring respect, wisdom, justice and integrity in all that we do;
- ✓ Putting young people first in all decisions which affect them;
- ✓ Promoting young people's rights and responsibilities;
- ✓ Working in collaboration and cooperation with young people, their families and carers, and all who offer services to young people.

### *Our aims are to:*

- ✓ Re-engage and help our young people to achieve their full potential in each aspect of their development- educational, personal, social, emotional, physical and behavioural
- ✓ Provide learning experiences which are engaging, enjoyable, motivating and challenging and ensure all our young people achieve the capacities enshrined in 'A Curriculum for Excellence';
- ✓ Seek improvements in attainment and achievement and enable all our young people to experience success and to ensure that our young people's needs with regard to their health and wellbeing are fully met;
- ✓ Foster a spirit of partnership amongst our young people, staff, other educational establishments and the local/wider community.

## **Initial Educational Assessment**

Every young person will undertake a comprehensive educational assessment to best determine their strengths and areas for development, learning styles, interests and ambitions. Prior learning is taken into account to ensure that each young person can embark on a programme of work which is suited to their individual needs

**“It has been a real positive that my young person has been able to achieve academic qualifications above and beyond what her educational placement in the community was able to provide. The educational assessment and provision has meant that an in depth observation and assessment of her abilities has been ongoing.”**

*Social Worker*

We provide a curriculum which supports each young person in the acquisition of the four capacities - to enable each young person to be a successful learner, a confident individual, a responsible citizen and an effective contributor. Our curriculum is rich and encourages each young person to achieve, develop skills for learning, life and work, gain National Qualifications and fully enjoy the educational process.

## **Subjects**

We run nine curriculum areas; Languages, Mathematics, Sciences, Technologies, Social Studies, Religious & Moral Education, Expressive Arts , Health & Wellbeing and Wider Achievement. Within these areas we offer the following subjects:

*Mathematics*

*English*

*Social Subjects*

*Business /Administration*

*Art & Design*

*Enterprise*

*PE*

*Practical Craft*

*Bicycle Maintenance*

*John Muir Award*

*ASDAN*

*Creative Digital Media*

*ICT*

*Hospitality*

*Sciences*

*Hairdressing & Beauty*

*RMPS*

*Drama*

*Design*

*Duke of Edinburgh's Award*

*Employability*

In addition to the classroom environment young people will be given the opportunity to study a range of fully accredited courses through Distance Learning in association with West College Scotland.

### **Key Strengths of the School**

- ✓ **Young people's outstanding progress in developing skills for learning life and work.**
- ✓ **The success achieved by care and education staff in establishing positive relationships with young people and helping them to engage in the life and work of the centre.**
- ✓ **Rigorous initial and ongoing assessments which help staff to identify and meet young people's needs.**
- ✓ **The wide range of innovative courses and activities in care and education which young people experience.**
- ✓ **Effective use of the centre's 'outcomes framework' to monitor and track young people's improving wellbeing.**

*Education Scotland/Care Inspectorate Joint Inspection Report March 2015*

All young people will be supported in developing skills which they will use throughout their life. These include employability skills, personal skills, cognitive skills and the opportunity to put learning into a practical context. Young people will be supported in acquiring and consolidating the skills of numeracy, literacy and health & wellbeing essential to succeed in life. Young people within the close support Unit and Cottage will be encouraged to participate in the Tenancy & citizenship Award in order to develop their skills in, and prepare them for, independent living.

## **Reporting**

The progress of all young people will be reported regularly. After undergoing the initial assessment process a comprehensive initial assessment report is presented at the assessment conference. Thereafter an Individualised Educational Programme (IEP) is created every 10 weeks in consultation with the young person. Progress within the IEP is reviewed every 10 weeks alongside measurements of a young person's engagement and successes in Education to produce an Education Report. The reports are then disseminated to all young people, parents/carers, social workers and additional stakeholders.

## **Achievement and Attainment**

Our young people regularly and consistently attain and achieve. Attainment is through recognised qualification bodies such as the Scottish Qualifications Authority, ASDAN, Velotech ,BIIAB, The John Muir Award and The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Success is regularly celebrated in order to promote the self-esteem of our young people.

**“Young people are very successful at learning, achieving and gaining qualifications in the Good Shepherd Centre.”**

*Education Scotland/Care Inspectorate Joint Inspection Report March 2015*