



P7 Transition

May 2021



Welcome Messages from Our S6 Leavers

Dear new First Years.....

“Ardrossan Academy has been a big part of our journey to become young adults and along the way we have all made lifelong friends and memories that will be cherished forever. We have connected with many teachers that have helped us throughout our time at the academy and guided us into our future careers. Good luck as you begin your journey....”

“I was really nervous when I started at Ardrossan. But I shouldn’t have worried as it has been an amazing experience. Everyone has made it a special time.”

“Some advice that I would give to you would be to take a step back and breathe now and again. School is a place to learn about yourself, for yourself, and not for other people. Be the best version of yourself. Good luck!”

“Enjoy all the new subjects you will study at Ardrossan Academy. If you really enjoy a subject you can be so successful and you will be amazed at how much you can learn. Talk to the teachers and you will realise that they are all there to support you and help you achieve your goals in life.”

“Do your best throughout the years of being present at Ardrossan Academy. If you try hard in classes and work well with others, you will have a great experience here. Make the best of every opportunity – and there will be lots – and you will go far. Be prepared and you will do well.”

“Try not to worry about coming to secondary school. You get to do amazing subjects and the staff and pupils are really friendly and welcoming. Get to know new people, try things out and have fun!”



Welcome to Ardrossan Academy

We want you to know that we have lots of information about you from your P7 teachers so we know how to help you when you do come to Ardrossan Academy. We don't want you to worry. We are always here to help you. We always look to the positive and believe that anyone at our school can be successful and do great things!

Our school values

Our school is built on our values of Ambition, Respect and Excellence. At Ardrossan Academy, we believe that working together is very important. We think about others and are kind. We are positive about ourselves and the school and we look out for each other. We always try our best and are part of a big family.

People who can help you at Ardrossan Academy

All staff will be there to help you. Here are some of the people you will get to know really well:

Senior Leadership Team

The Head Teacher is Mrs Anderson. Her job is to lead the school for all the pupils, parents and staff.

All pupils have a Year Head, responsible for the pupils in their year group. They work very closely with their year groups to make sure everyone is safe, happy and achieving their best at Ardrossan Academy. Your Year Head will be Mr Milligan.



Head Teacher, Mrs Anderson



S1 & S4 Year Head

Mr Milligan



S2 & S5 Year

Ms Reid



S3 & S6 Year Head

Miss McEvoy

Pastoral Support

There are 4 Principal Teachers of Pastoral Support. They each lead a House group. A House group has pupils from every year group. We try to keep families together in the same House Group. You will be in one of the house groups when you come to Ardrossan Academy. Your Pastoral teacher is someone you will get to know very well. They support you across the school and work with you, your teachers and your family to make sure that you are safe, happy and making good progress.



Annick House – Miss Goddard



Barra House – Mrs Colville



Lomond House – Mrs King



Nevis House – Mrs Foster (Miss Henderson)

All the Pastoral staff work together in the Pastoral Base in ground floor of B Block in the school. They teach their subject and Personal and Social Education as well as supporting pupils. They will get to know you well and will help you settle in at Ardrossan Academy. They also link with your families to support you in the best ways possible. They help you with things like your wellbeing, friendship groups, learning and any worries you might have. They will also teach you Personal and Social Education.



Pupil Support Department

The Pupil Support Department looks forward to welcoming you to Ardrossan Academy. It is their role to support all pupils in Ardrossan Academy, allowing them to achieve. This support can vary from pupil to pupil and also from one year to the next. All pupils are entitled to receive help to ensure they benefit from school. This applies whether a pupil has a well identified need which will persist over time or a more short term need. At any time during a young person's life some extra support may be required. This may be due to difficulties with learning, issues with health – either short term or long term. Or it could be an emotional issue. Any of these issues may be a barrier to a pupil achieving their full potential.

We have both teachers and classroom assistants who work with pupils, other teachers in the school and parents/carers to support learning. We have a department with three teaching areas and a quiet space. We also support pupils through interval and lunch time activities. We will offer support throughout your school year and during assessments.

The staff:



Mr Smith (Principal Teacher)

Teaching Staff

Mr Smith (PT)

Mrs Houston

Mrs MacPherson

Miss McNeil

Mr Carruth

Classroom Assistants

Mrs Humphrey Mrs Mauchlen

Mrs Miller Mrs Pettigrew

Mrs Robertson Mrs Staffieri

Mrs Stewart Mrs Tomlinson



Area Inclusion Worker
Elaine Floyd



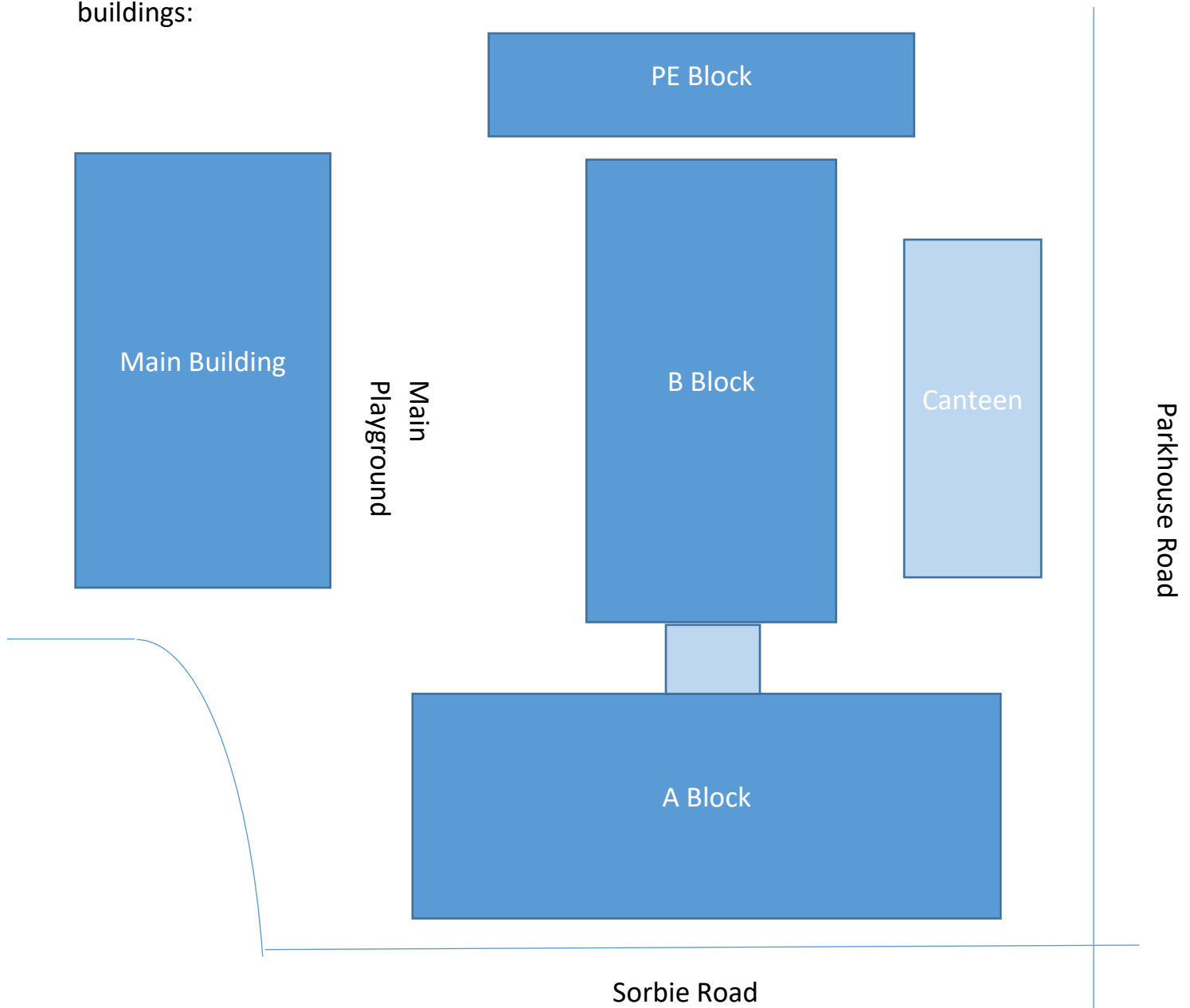
Campus Police Officer
PC Gunn



School Counsellor
Yann Cohen

The school building

The school has several buildings:



In the Main Building you can find the main office, the Assembly Hall, the library, careers office and the Head Teacher and Year Head offices. Subject departments in this building are English and Drama, Mathematics and Computing with Business. The S1-S3 toilets are in this building, close to the Assembly Hall.



In A Block you can find these departments:

Ground floor – Technical

1st Floor – Science (Physics), The Haven (Nurture Room), Astra Base

2nd Floor – Science (Chemistry and Biology)

3rd Floor – Modern Languages, Music



In B Block you can find these departments:

Ground floor – Pastoral team, school counsellor, school nurse, janitors' office

1st Floor – Pupil Support Base, Home Economics

2nd Floor – Social Subjects (RE, History, Geography and Modern Studies)

3rd Floor – Art



The PE department has a games hall, gyms and fitness suite.



Canteen

The Canteen is where you can go at interval and lunchtime. We like to know our S1 pupils are safe so we ask that you stay in school at these times. You can bring a packed lunch or buy amazing food. You will be given a Personal Identification Number (PIN) which allows you to 'top up' with cash and see your balance. There are two machines in the canteen that you can use to 'top up'. Your parents can also use Parent Pay to put money on your account.

The food is very tasty! You can get hot dinners, snack style food like hotdogs and burgers and lots of healthy alternatives.



Timetable

This is an example of what a timetable looks like:

Timetable Report								
Name:		Register Group: 1A1					Stage: S1	
	REG	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Monday	Registration School Mr McMenemie BS5	Mathematics CfE Mrs Harkin MF7	CfE Modern Languages CfE Miss Martinez Pedreno AS11	Computing Science CfE Mrs MacPherson MF16	Physical Education School Mr Johnston	CfE Social studies CfE Mr Bennett BS10	Art CfE Miss Jepson BT3	English CfE Mrs Carter MG18
Tuesday	Registration School Mr McMenemie BS5	Wider achievement CfE Miss Goddard AT5	Science CfE Mrs Young AS11	CfE Modern Languages CfE Miss Martinez Pedreno AS11	Music CfE Miss Mitchell AT11	Physical Education School Mr Johnston	Business CfE Miss Thompson MF21	Mathematics CfE Mrs Harkin MF7
	REG	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Wednesday	Registration School Mr McMenemie BS5	Drama CfE Miss Walker MG1	Mathematics CfE Mrs Harkin MF7	English CfE Mrs Bruce MG18	CfE Social studies CfE Mrs Murdoch BS10	CfE Modern Languages CfE Miss Martinez Pedreno AS11	Technological Studies CfE Mrs L. Smith	
Thursday	Registration School Mr McMenemie BS5	Art CfE Miss Jepson BT3	Religious Studies School Miss Graham BS11	Science CfE Ms McKenzie AS1	Personal & Social Education School Miss Henderson BG16	English CfE Mrs Carter MG18	CfE Social studies CfE Mr Milligan BS10	
Friday	Registration School Mr McMenemie BS5	Mathematics CfE Mrs Harkin MF7	Science CfE Mrs Young AS11	English CfE Mrs Carter MG18	Music CfE Miss Mitchell AT11	Technological Studies CfE Mrs S Smith	Physical Education School Mr Johnston	

At Ardrossan Academy, Monday and Tuesday have 7 periods and Wednesday, Thursday, Friday have 6 periods.

The timetable tells you what the subject is, who the teacher is and where the room is. So for example, period 1 on a Monday in the example is with Mrs Harkin in room MF7. The M stands for main building, the F stands for first floor and the 7 is the number of the room.

Main Building Ground Floor	MG
Main Building First Floor	MF
A Block Ground Floor	AG
A Block First Floor	AF
A Block Second Floor	AS
A Block Third Floor	AT
B Block Ground Floor	BG
B Block First Floor	BF
B Block Second Floor	BS
B Block Third Floor	BT

You will soon get used to finding your way around the school. The timetable will help you know where you should be. And there are always staff and pupils around who will help you and point you in the right direction.

Classes and Making Friends

You will be put in to a maximum class size of 20 for practical subjects. Other classes are a bit bigger. We try to make sure that everyone is with someone from their old primary school but this is not always possible with smaller numbers from some primaries. Some pupils are the only ones from their primary school and sometimes it is also better that people have a fresh start. Your primary teachers give us lots of advice about what would be best for you.

Going to secondary school can be different because you won't know everyone and it may take a bit of time to feel like you "belong" in your new class. The important thing to remember is that EVERYONE will feel the same way and that you're not alone. It's actually a good opportunity to make new friends and learn from different adults who are experts in their particular subject. All of the staff really help you get to know them and people in your class. Everyone is different so always give others a chance and be open-minded. Be kind and show ambition, respect and excellence in all you do. We are all part of #teamardrossan!

Uniform

The school uniform is very important to us. All pupils wear the uniform and it looks very smart and helps pupils be part of Ardrossan Academy's school community.

What should I wear?

- Black trousers or skirt (not leggings)
- White or black shirt
- School tie (we will give you a tie)
- Black footwear
- Blazer (is optional)
- Black jumper or cardigan

What about PE?

- Black or Navy shorts or tracksuit trousers
- White, black or blue t-shirts (Not vest tops)
- Suitable footwear for sports
- Sweatshirts can be worn if you are outdoors



Meet the subjects

Computing Science

Ever wondered how computers work or how to get them to do what you want? How cool would it be to run a program you have coded rather than just download an app? In Computing Science, you will create animations, make databases, understand binary (such as 11001010) and learn how to code. Could you be the future Zhang Yiming (responsible for Tik Tok)? We are looking forward to working with you and inspiring you to code!



2^4	2^3	2^2	2^1	2^0	
16	8	4	2	1	
0	0	0	0	0	00

Business

Have you ever heard of Apple, Nike, Netflix or TikTok? Did you know all these businesses started off with just an idea? Do you have an idea that could change the world? In Business, you will learn how to take that idea and turn into a business. You will find out all you need to know about planning, researching, implementing and marketing a business. Just remember us when you are a millionaire!



Faculty of

DESIGN

The Faculty of Design is REALLY looking forward to welcoming all new S1 pupils to Ardrossan Academy. The Faculty has two departments, **Art and Design** and **Design and Technology**.



Your spacious Art and Design

Department is located on the top floor of B block and it benefits from having an open plan layout with large break out areas for our pupils. We also have our own pottery room that it use when producing work using 3d modelling material such as clay.

The department also has a bank of laptop computers that we use to promote digital learning and design.

In S1 pupils will be actively engaged with a number of mixed media and folio projects.

We also really enjoy displaying pupil work on our walls and hosting exhibitions of pupil work.



Some of our Projects include,

Letter Design

Textile Design

3 D Structure

Pottery

Print and Print Making

Portraiture

Digital Learning

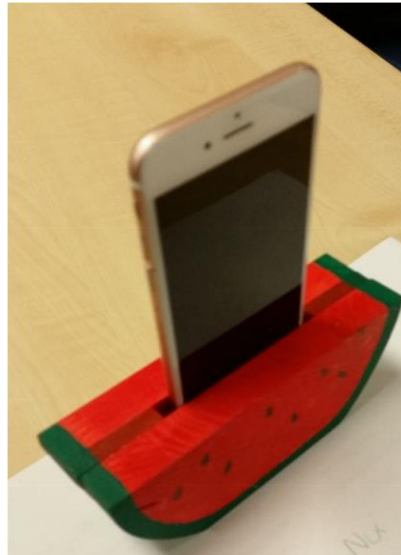
Mask Design

Outdoor Learning



We also have your Art Lunchtime Club running every week.

Your [Design and Technology](#) Department is located on the ground floor of A Block. We have three classrooms a computer suite and three fully equipped workshops.



We work with many different types of material going through the Full Process of Design.

[Sketching](#) ideas

Add dimensions for a [Working Drawing](#)

Use Computer [3 d Modelling](#) Software

In our [Workshop using Tools and Equipment](#) Manufacture your Product

Promote your product using [Desk Top Publishing](#)



We also take part in outdoor learning trips and STEM Engineering days.

Our Workshops and Class space is also available at lunchtime and after school for pupils to work on their projects.



English

Teachers in the English Department are really looking forward to welcoming you all to Ardrossan Academy.

In S1 English, you will continue to build on what you achieved in P7, on the essential communication and literacy skills of Reading, Writing Listening and Talking. You will learn about different writing styles and produce your own creative and informative writing while continuing to improve your spelling, punctuation and grammar.

In English, we love to read for pleasure so you will make regular visits to our school library to choose from a variety of genres such as fiction, comics, manga, non-fiction and graphic novels to read in class and at home. We will also read in class to improve our ability to demonstrate our understanding of a writer's ideas and to explain how they have used language to persuade us to their point of view or to appeal to our imagination.

In English, we will keep improving our listening and talking skills every day: you will work with each other, a lot of the time, to share your opinions and ideas and to support each other's learning.



Drama

We are all looking forward to welcoming you to the Drama Department. In Drama, we enjoy being creative and using our imagination to create performances in response to a word, picture, poem or play. In S1 Drama, you will take part in group discussions to develop your listening and talking skills and your ability to solve problems. You will learn how to use movement and voice skills to communicate effectively with an audience and then demonstrate these skills in performance. You will also learn about Theatre Arts: of the importance of lighting, sound, set, costume and make-up and how they are used to create a successful performance. At the end of every unit you will be asked to evaluate your own performance and the performance of others and set targets for future learning.

Physical Education

In our S1 PE course we cover Indoor Games like Basketball, Handball and Netball, Outdoor Games like Football, Rugby and Hockey, Central Net Games like Table Tennis, Badminton and Volleyball, Aesthetic Activities such as Dance & Gymnastics. We also cover Fitness and Athletics in the summer term. Sometimes we will work together as a team, listening and cooperating with one another and other times we will work on our own developing our own individual goals and qualities. The PE Department aim to provide exciting and fun lessons that focus on practical skills and personal qualities. S1 PE is for everyone, where the focus is on taking part, enjoyment and pupil choices.



Home Economics

Within the S1 Home Economics Course students will study the following areas: Food hygiene and safety, Nutrition & Dietary Goals, Food labelling, Food choice and Food Product development. The course will cover curriculum for excellence 3rd Level outcomes and experiences and will focus on developing practical and organisational skills.



Maths



Mr Wilson



Mrs Harkin



Mr Clifford

The Ardrossan Academy Maths department are very much looking forward to supporting you in your Maths & Numeracy journey. We can't wait to meet you!

You will use:

- Teejay resources, which you will be familiar with from Primary
- numeracy workout – which you can use in school & at home
- Sumdog for competitions
- Numeracy Ninjas – to review and build your numeracy skills

We will work together to solve problems, puzzles, whodunnits and take part in maths treasure hunts. A weekly Numeracy Newspaper Challenge will show you where and how numeracy plays an everyday part in your life. We hope you grow to love Maths as much as we do!

Our Twitter feed @ardacadmaths is regularly updated with information, achievements and links to other helpful items.

Mrs Harkin & the Maths team



Mrs Hamilton



Mrs Currie



Miss Angus



Mr Hand

Modern Languages

In Modern Languages you will study Spanish throughout the year and have the chance to experience a 4-week “taster” of French.

In Spanish, you will study new vocabulary about topics such as family, where you live and school. Alongside this new vocabulary, you will learn about what life is like in Spanish-speaking countries around the world and study their fascinating customs and traditions. You will study the film “Coco” and learn all about the “Day of the Dead” traditions in Mexico.

In French, you will learn about the history of the world-famous Tour de France race and its most famous participants.

In Modern Languages, you will improve your communication skills and your knowledge of other cultures while having fun at the same time!



Music

We are very excited to meet you all in August and we have lots of exciting things that you can get involved in.

There is a short video we have made for you, showing you what you will be doing in S1 Music and also things that go on in and around the Music Department. You can find it on your glow blog. Listen out for our Senior Choir who recorded ‘How Far I’ll Go’ during lockdown. Do some of you remember singing it at the Next Generation Concert?? Enjoy the video!

We also have a department blog that gives you lots of links to different websites and musical apps: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/ardacadmusic/>



Science

You will have great fun in science!

You will learn how to become a scientist, able to identify and use science equipment safely.

You will plan and carry out lots of experiments in Biology, chemistry and Physics in S1.

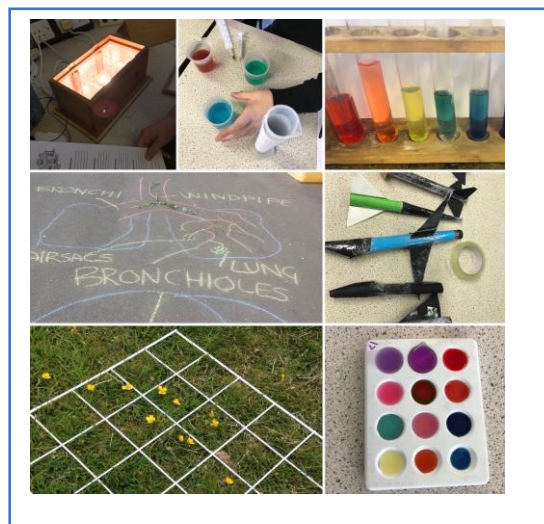
In Biology you will learn about cells and the microscope, digestion, biodiversity and photosynthesis.

In Chemistry you will learn about batteries, rocks, chemical reactions and the periodic table.

In Physics you will learn about forces and friction, vibration and waves, light and sound.

You will also learn how to draw tables and graphs, come to conclusions and evaluate your results to see what worked well or what would give better results next time.

We can't wait to see you!



Social Subjects

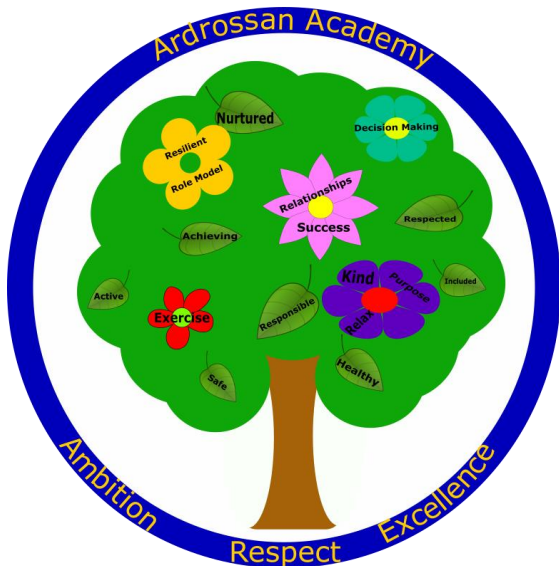
Welcome to the Social Subjects and RMPS faculty!

Hi everyone! We are really looking forward to meeting you all and welcoming you to Ardrossan Academy. In our faculty, you will have the opportunity to attend classes in Geography, History, Modern Studies and RME. Over the course of S1, you will learn about lots of interesting and exciting topics, such as the Wars of Independence, Climate and the Environment, Myths and Mysteries, and Democracy vs Dictatorship – to name but a few! This will help you see just how important these subjects are in the real world, as you will be able to see their links in many different aspects of your life. You will have the opportunity to learn in many different ways, including group activities, active learning, presentations, and debates, which will give you the chance to develop lots of important skills as you progress throughout the year.

Have a great summer and we can't wait to meet you all!



Wellbeing



What is wellbeing?

Wellbeing is defined by the Oxford English Dictionary as “[the state of being comfortable, healthy, or happy.](#)”

However, it is important to realise that wellbeing is a much more than moment-to-moment happiness. While it does include happiness, it also includes other things, **such as how satisfied people are with their life as a whole, their sense of purpose, and how in control they feel.**

Our wellbeing is affected by everything we do



Look at the 5 headings below, think about the things you do to care about your wellbeing. Use the headings below to help you work on your wellbeing.



At Ardrossan Academy we have lots of ways we work on our wellbeing:

- Active Days
- Wellbeing Week
- S1 Wellbeing Day
- Kindness Notes
- School Wellbeing Ambassadors
- Regular competitions and activities to get involved in
- A variety of extra-curricular clubs
- Mental Health Awareness Week

Go to our school wellbeing website to find out more about the activities and events we do at Ardrossan Academy to look after our wellbeing. <https://ardacadwellbeing.weebly.com/>

Careers

Welcome to Ardrossan Academy! Here you will begin your secondary school career journey and learn career skills which will help you through school and beyond!

You will have the opportunity to sign up to My World of Work and become a My World of Work Ambassador. This will give you an opportunity to develop your leadership skills through helping with school career events and helping next years' primary sevens when they come to visit!

Check out www.myworldofwork.co.uk to get you started on your journey!





Ardrossan Academy Library

The Learning Community Librarian at Ardrossan Academy is Mrs Vaughan. The School Library is in the main building and has a variety of print resources – books, past papers and magazines – electronic resources, talking books, DVDs and audio CDs. There are 20 PCs available for use and helpsheets you can use to develop your study skills.

There are events, competitions, activities and clubs in the Library throughout the year, but especially around national events such as Book Week Scotland, world Book Day and National libraries Week.

All pupils are encouraged to use the Library and especially to develop their love of reading. Mrs Vaughan will help find you the book that gets you reading!

More information can be found on:

Library website <https://ardacadlibrary.weebly.com/>

Library Twitter page @ArdAcadLibrar

Library Facebook account @ardacadlibrary

NA School Libraries Instagram @nacschoollibs



School Counsellor



My name is Yann and I am the school counsellor at Ardrossan Academy.

A counsellor is a person people can talk to, privately, about anything they want. Often, people come to speak to me when they are struggling with a difficulty and they want to talk it through with someone who doesn't already know them, because it's not always easy to talk to a friend or a family member.

As a counsellor, I offer a confidential (private) service at Ardrossan Academy, where I work with young people who are often struggling with different issues (anxiety, low mood, anger, loss, relationship issues, etc.). Together, we usually start by talking about what the difficulty is, before exploring healthy ways to cope. I also raise awareness to mental health and well-being issues at school assemblies or through displays in the corridors.

To access counselling, there are two ways. You can talk to your guidance teacher or another trusted adult, who can refer you to me, and, once I get the referral, you and I will take it from there. You can also refer yourself by coming to me directly. If you are not sure whether counselling is right for you or not, you can always drop-in for a chat. My room is in the same corridor as the Guidance Base, in the B block, on the ground floor (BG10). You are very welcome to come in at any time when the door is opened.

Supporting positive mental wellbeing is an important priority in our school and I strongly believe that looking after our mental health is as important as looking after our physical health, possibly even more.

I am looking forward to seeing you soon.

Just remember: asking for help is really a sign of strength, not a weakness!



We hope this booklet has given you a flavour of Ardrossan Academy. There's lots to find out and lots of people to get to know. We can't wait! See you in August!