# **New Machar School**



# **Curriculum Rationale & Design**

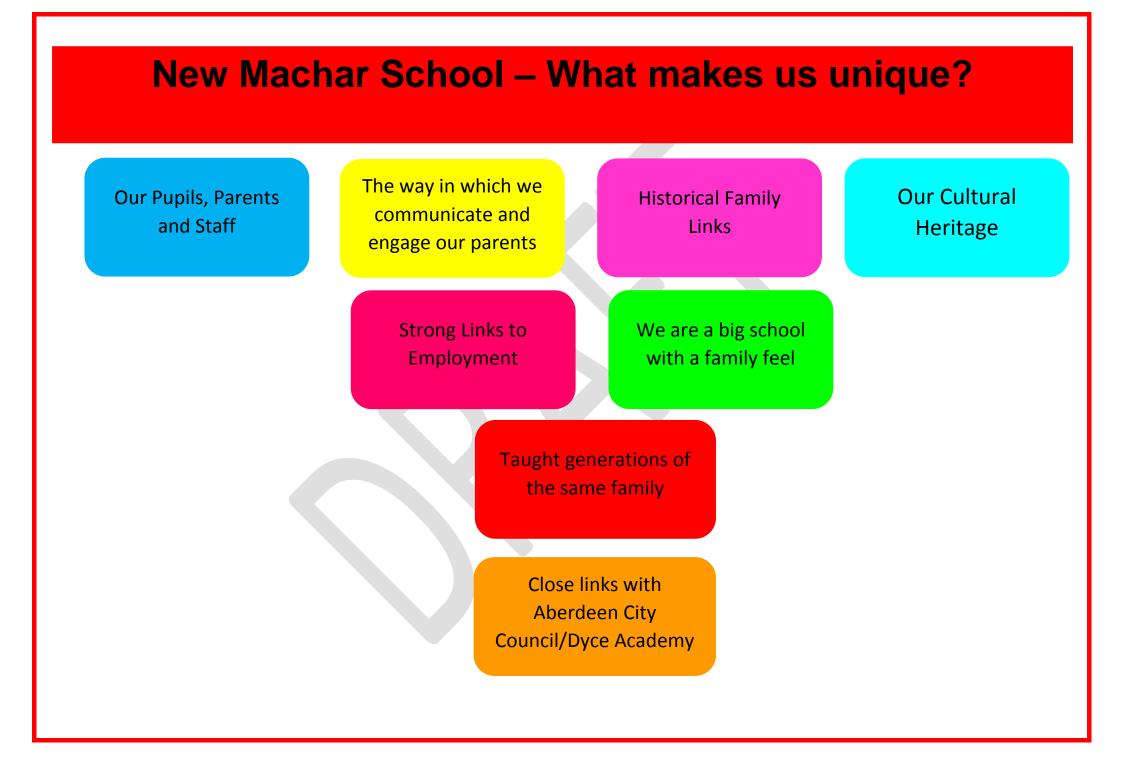
Draft November 2018

### **New Machar School – Our Vision, Values and Aims**

"Our vision is to provide the highest quality educational experiences in a happy, safe and stimulating environment where learners are supported and challenged in order to maximise their potential. We want to equip all our learners with the knowledge, skills and attributes to enable them to be the best they can be"

## **Our School Motto: #aimtobeawesome**

Commitment and Cooperation Respect and Responsibility Achievement and Ambition Friendship and Fairness Teamwork and Trust



## **The Rationale for Our Curriculum**

### **Our Core Curriculum Structure**

When designing our curriculum we took a number of key factors into consideration:

- What our staff, learners and families required
- The needs of our local area
- Promote skills for learning, life and work
- Provide a broad general education

### **Our Curriculum Design**

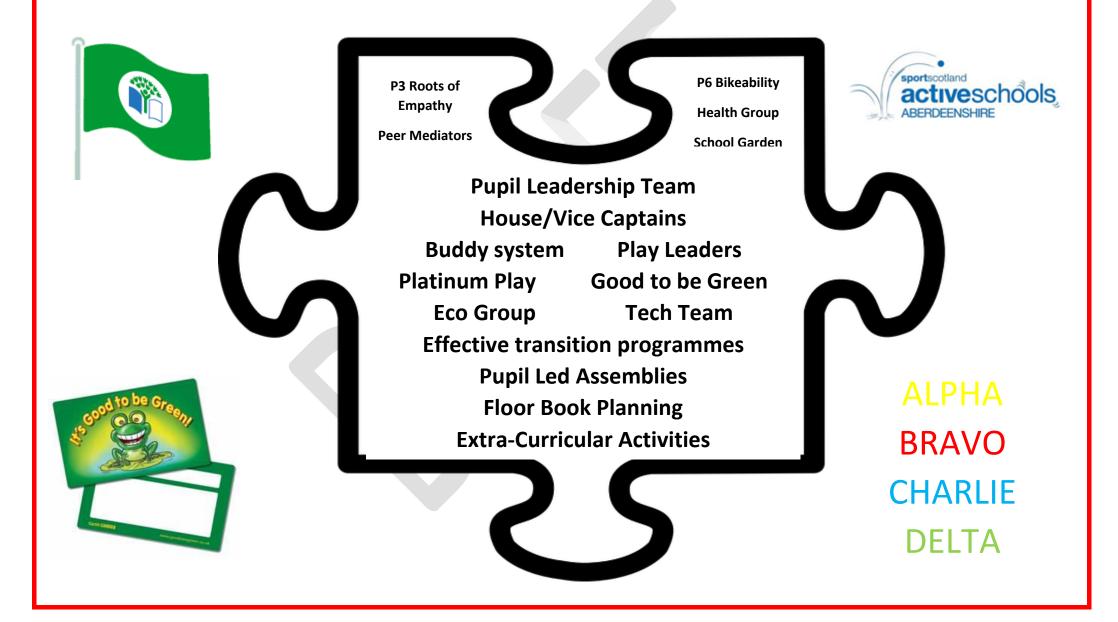
At New Machar School we have worked collaboratively to design our curriculum rationale which is underpinned by our Vision, Values and Aims for our school community. This helps us to create a positive, nurturing ethos in which we can all learn together.

We have organised our curriculum experiences under the 4 contexts for learning, as highlighted by Education Scotland:

- Ethos and Life of the School
- Opportunities for Personal Achievement
- Learning and Teaching/Curriculum areas and subjects ¬
- Inter Disciplinary Learning (IDL)

### **Ethos and Life of the School**

**Effective Contributors/Responsible Citizens** 

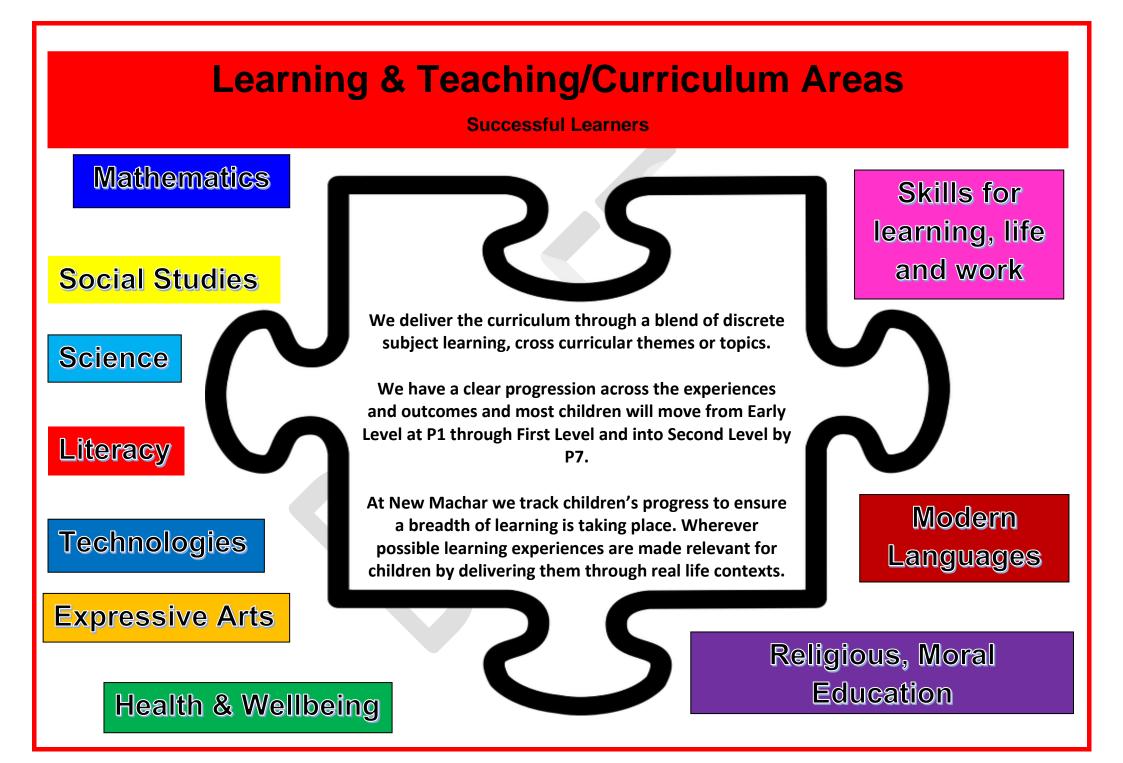


### **Opportunities for Personal Achievement**

### **Confident Individuals**







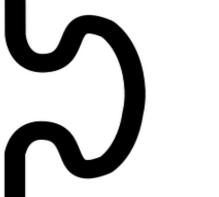
## Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL)

**Successful Learners** 



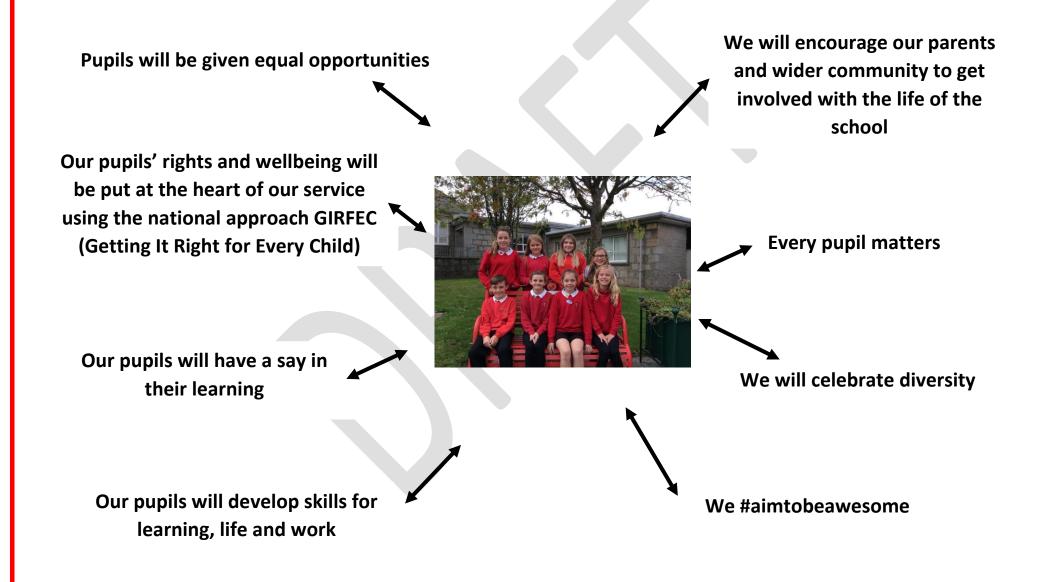
At New Machar we aim to take advantage of those naturally occurring 'big questions' which children will often ask to engage in Interdisciplinary learning. Interdisciplinary Learning adds depth and challenge and enjoyment to children's learning by allowing them to apply the skills and knowledge they have learned in a child led and stimulating context. IDL, which is planned with the children, takes account of children's needs and interests adding personalisation and choice to our curriculum. At New Machar we will aim for all children to be involved in an Interdisciplinary Study at least once a term.







### **At New Machar School:**



### **The Principles of our Curriculum Design**

#### **Challenge and Enjoyment**

- Well differentiated lessons and activities
- Extension Activities
- Use of KWL at beginning of cross curricular topics (what we know, what we want to know and what we learned)
- Activities are motivating and active
- We have high expectations of all

#### <u>Breadth</u>

- Opportunities to apply learning in different situations and curricular areas
- Flexible timetables
- Bundled outcomes ensure all E's and O's covered and revisited
- Previous learning and knowledge taken account of

#### **Progression**

- Use of school Literacy and Numeracy Progressions and Programmes with flexibility to ensure all learners follow appropriate pathways
- Use of National Frameworks and Benchmarks provide reference to ensure progression

#### <u>Depth</u>

- Pupils teach others to show understanding
- IDL will be developed throughout school
- Play based learning is a focus in Early Years
- Higher Order Thinking Skills are encouraged
- Opportunities for pupils to transfer skills in other areas

#### **Personalisation and Choice**

- Pupils set personal targets which are shared with parents through Learning Profiles
- Pupils involved in the planning process for cross curricular themes
- Personal Projects / ILD inputs
- Responsive Planning

#### **Relevance**

- Real life experiences are supported
- Outdoor learning is encouraged
- Use of real life contexts
- Flexible cross curricular themes which take account of current themes (community based or wider world)
- IEPs for children who require targeted support

#### **Coherence**

- Links are made to support transference of skills
- Promote the learning of skills for learning, life and work

#### Our Curriculum Will:

- Encourage learners to contribute to the ethos and life of the school community
- Provide a broad general education
- Recognise and deliver curriculum for excellence experiences and outcomes
- Support active learning
- Support progression for all