



Prospectus **Skypoint School**

2024/2025





Skypoint School
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Welcome Message

Welcome to Skypoint School!

We're thrilled that you've decided to explore what our school has to offer for your child and family. At Skypoint, every student matters to us, and we're committed to creating a vibrant, caring, and supportive environment where each young person feels valued and inspired to achieve their best.

Our school is built on shared values, and we're dedicated to helping every student discover their potential, both in and out of the classroom. We believe that when students feel respected, encouraged, and challenged, they can exceed their own expectations and experience the true joy of learning. By developing strong, positive communication and collaboration with parents, carers, and our wider community, we aim to nurture not just academic success, but also the personal growth and confidence that will empower your child to make a positive impact in their own life and beyond.

To give you a deeper understanding of who we are, we've put together this prospectus filled with key insights into our educational philosophy, community values, and the many opportunities available at our school. We hope you find it both informative and inspiring, helping to strengthen the partnership we're eager to create with you.

Michelle McEwan

Headteacher





ABOUT SKYPOINT

The School

Skypoint School is an Independent Special School operating within Spark of Genius, a subsidiary of Care Tech Community Services Ltd., the proprietors.

We provide specialist education to young people aged from 10 to 18 years, a proportion of whom are Looked After Children, all with a range of social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs.

Pupils come to us from a number of different authorities including West Dunbartonshire, East Dunbartonshire, Edinburgh, Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Argyll and Bute, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire and more.

The school has the provision to offer a number of practical learning experiences including access to an onsite Gym, Gym Hall, Woodwork Department, we also have a music studio and hospitality kitchen and opportunities for outdoor learning.

Our Purpose

Skypoint School is a fully inclusive community that ensures participation and the highest achievement for all learners. We recognise and value diversity and work collaboratively to ensure that each learner is catered for in a supportive way and indicative of their individual needs.

All learners will thrive by working and learning in a safe, happy and friendly environment. We strive to create an inclusive and nurturing learning community. Strong, healthy relationships are at the heart of everything that we do.

“

I really appreciate the flexibility and understanding all staff show to my son as me as a parent it makes sometimes stressful situations so much easier to manage knowing you completely understand and I can trust you completely to make the right approach

”

OUR AWARDS

UNICEF RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

The Rights Respecting Schools Award by UNICEF UK promotes children's rights in UK schools, creating safe and nurturing environments. Over 1.5 million children attend Rights Respecting Schools, with nearly 5,000 schools participating in the programme. The award acknowledges schools implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Skypoint School have recently been awarded our Gold Rights Respecting Award.

ECO SCHOOL GREEN FLAG

As part of Keep Scotland Beautiful's Eco Schools programme, Skypoint School pupils are dedicated to becoming active and supportive members of their communities, to addressing the significant environmental issues that we face by enhancing nature and biodiversity, cutting energy consumption, reducing waste and much more. We are currently working towards our third biannual Green Flag accreditation.

LEAF AWARD

The LEAF award demonstrates a commitment to outdoor and nature based education, as well as knowledge and understanding of the crucial roles of forest based ecosystems. Skypoint School have been achieved the LEAF Award each of the past two years and we will be continuing to work towards this annually.

FAIRTRADE

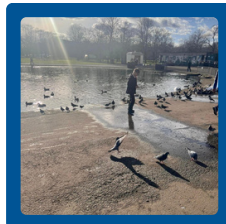
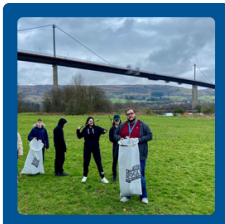
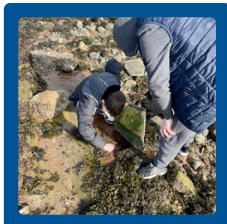
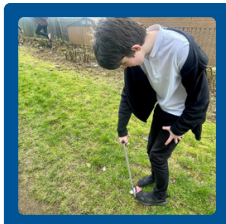
Skypoint School have achieved our FairActive award in June 2024. As a Fairtrade school, we look at global issues, such as where our food comes from and how we are connected to people around the world. Students can also learn a range of skills, from teamwork and co-operation to persuasive writing to running a stall or tuck shop.



Learning for Sustainability

Vision

Our vision is to foster a generation of learners who are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and values to contribute actively to a sustainable future. Through a curriculum that emphasizes environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic equity, we aim to empower students to make informed decisions, challenge unsustainable practices, and lead positive change within their communities. In line with Scottish standards, our commitment is to cultivate a culture of lifelong learning that promotes the principles of sustainability, ensuring that all learners can thrive while preserving the planet for future generations.



RIGHTS RESPECTING GOLD SCHOOL

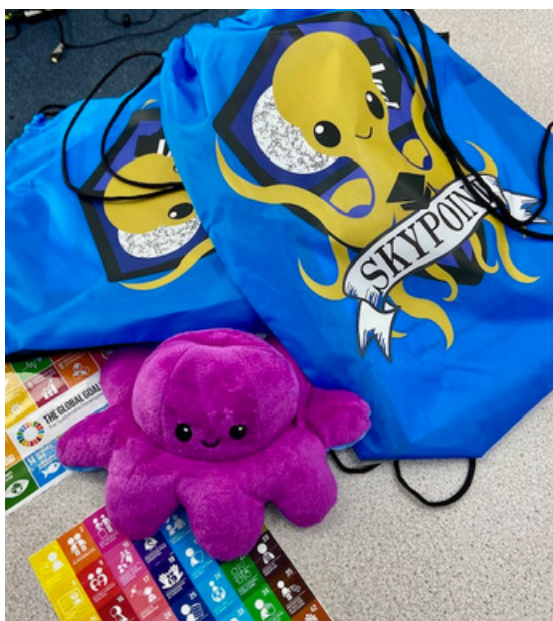
“ A caring and inclusive ethos where staff and students ensure that everyone is supported to be fully involved in their education

-UNICEF Professional Advisor

”

Skypoint School has been on a unique journey in recent years to become a Gold-level Rights Respecting School. Through our learning and action we have become an environment where children's rights are at the heart of everything we do and an understanding of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is shared between all staff and pupils.

With the **UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024** formally introduced into Scottish law, Skypoint School pupils are made aware of the children's rights that are more a part of their lives than ever before. Through community action, sharing positive practice and making links with other schools, we continue to work to ensure that the benefits of the UNCRC are recognised, understood and enjoyed by all pupils.



**WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD
RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL**



**Children's rights are learned, understood
and lived in this school.**



OUR GOALS

Ethos Statement

Skypoint School offers care, support and guidance to children and young people who require an alternative education experience. Supporting everyone's emotional wellbeing and mental health, so that they can be listened to, are happy together and ready to learn.

- **Provide a safe and supportive environment where pupils can develop learning, life and work skills**
- **Engage pupils in a curriculum based on their individual needs and learning styles**
- **Develop pupils' interests and talents**
- **Improve the self-esteem and self-efficacy of all pupils**
- **Set out high expectations for all pupils**
- **Increase the personal and social attainments of pupils**
- **Ensure equity of opportunity to all pupils regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or physical capability**
- **Promote positive interaction and appropriate relationships between pupils and staff**
- **Encourage pupils to contribute to the school as a community by participating in the student council and offering suggestions on areas for improvement**
- **Increase the life chances of pupils by assisting them at key transition stages**
- **Work in partnership with parents/carers and fellow professionals to achieve positive outcomes for all pupils**

The following poem was created by pupils to explain our values

Safe and supported at school
Knowledge is power
Your voice matters
Participation is the key to success
Our school is friendly place
Individuals feel included
No one goes unnoticed
Teachers are caring

The Vision

To provide a safe and secure environment to support young people to re-engage with learning. We deliver personalised learning programmes to support pupils to achieve at their highest potential and achieve positive future destinations.

SKYPOINT AIMS

Our **aim** at Spark of Genius is to provide a high quality educational experience for all pupils based on **inclusion** and **equity**.

We will do this by:

- providing a range of learning experiences appropriate to the needs of all pupils
- striving to raise standards of educational and social achievement and ensure attainment for every pupil
- developing learning and teaching strategies to support the needs of all pupils
- supporting all pupils in their learning and development thereby encouraging them to reach their full potential
- developing a sense of citizenship and responsibility in our pupils and in our partnership with parents and the wider community
- working collaboratively with colleagues from local authorities and other statutory services to ensure that the wider needs such as the health of our pupils are met
- ensuring effective use of all resources including accommodation, finance and staff
- providing effective leadership and line management
- paying good attention to self evaluation and planning
- providing opportunities for staff development and training
- providing a caring and positive environment within which both pupils and staff are welcomed and valued.





OUR CURRICULUM

At Skypoint School, students follow the Curriculum for Excellence, which equips each young person to thrive academically while also developing crucial social, communication, and life skills. To enhance the curriculum, we provide a comprehensive independence development program that helps students work toward positive, long-term success.

When a student joins Skypoint, they are paired with a Key Teacher who collaborates with them, their parents, and professionals to plan and guide their progress. This teacher supports the student in adjusting to the school routine and getting to know their peers. We start with initial assessments that cover literacy, numeracy, health, wellbeing, and social skills. These assessments are shared within the school, along with tailored strategies to support each student's path to success.

Our Approach

Our approach to learning is active and experiential, with a strong emphasis on celebrating personal achievements. This commitment is evident in our classrooms, where wall displays highlight student successes, motivating them to excel and fostering a sense of ownership over their learning environment.

Across all subjects and levels, we implement a hands-on curriculum designed to maintain high levels of student engagement and motivation. Our teachers use a thematic, real-world approach to instruction, making subject content relevant and applicable to everyday life. As students enter the senior phase, they consistently achieve success in earning SQA awards, with qualifications ranging from National 3 to Higher in a wide array of subjects, including English, Maths, Sciences, Geography, History, Modern Studies, Music, IT and Administration, Business, Media, Photography, and more.

Furthermore, our strong school-college partnership program has enabled many students to obtain National Certificates in areas such as Mechanics, Computing and Hospitality.

BROAD GENERAL EDUCATION (P6 - S3)

In these years we develop and build on the work done in the later stages of primary and as students progress we prepare them for the senior phase (S4-S6) and national qualifications. The emphasis is very much on pupils as individuals – each moving at a suitable pace to master content and skills. We focus on key meta skills for Senior Phase and beyond:

Communication, Problem Solving, Organisation, Independent Working, Critical Thinking

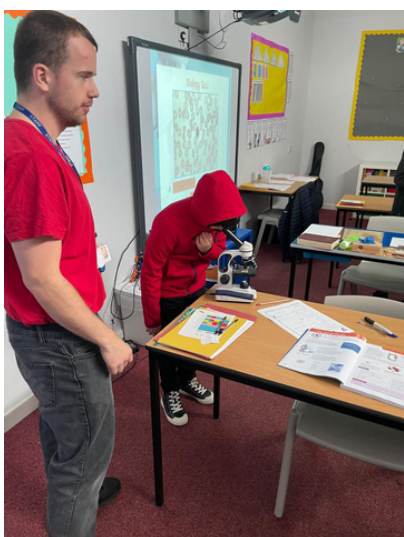
Our aim is to provide a supportive learning environment which encourages pupils to do their best and make progress.

Pupils are divided into teaching classes, which have a mix of children at similar age and stage. Throughout S1, S2 and S3 they will follow a broad general education as shown below, although the allocation of periods may vary in each year.

Subjects

- Art & Design
- Craft, Design & Technology
- Drama
- English
- Geography
- History
- Cooking
- Health and Well Being
- ICT
- Mathematics
- Modern Languages
- Modern Studies
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious & Moral Education
- Science

Religious and Moral Education (RME) is required by law to be part of the school's curriculum and national guidelines are set regarding its content and time allocation. One period a week is allocated for all pupils S1-S4. Courses cover the study of the main Religions of the World.



“

the school provides a nurturing environment in which young people who cannot manage mainstream education are able to progress in a learning environment. The school has many resources that can and have been utilised for young people having a difficult day and there is specialist support provided to them as opposed to the routine of mainstream which not every child can manage

”

Senior Phase (S4-S6)

Students will choose subjects from a Senior Phase Choice sheet. Students in S4 will study 6 subjects: English, Maths and four others. The choice process starts in April and students are supported by the teachers when choosing their courses.

STUDENTS CONSIDER

- Their own interests – what they enjoy or do best.
- Their future intentions – what is necessary for their career aspirations.
- Their abilities – what is realistic in terms of subject recommendations.
- Their educational needs – what is considered broad/balanced education?

Every year West College Scotland and other local colleges offer a Vocational Programme which includes courses such as Motor Vehicle Maintenance, Early Child Care and Education, Software Development, Psychology, Hair Dressing, Hospitality and more. The link between school and college is an excellent experience for many students, allowing them to build confidence and prepare for life beyond school.

NOTES ON COLLEGE CHOICES

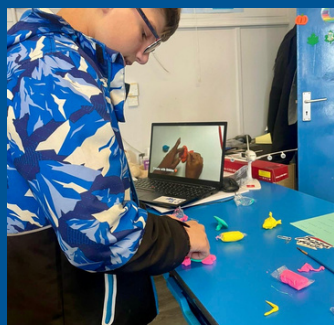
- Courses may not run if numbers selecting them are small.
- The number of places on some courses is limited.
- It is not possible to offer all combinations of options.

WORK EXPERIENCE

It is hoped that every pupil in S4 will have the opportunity of Work Experience. Pupils are able to experience a continuous spell in a working atmosphere and can gain first-hand knowledge of what any particular job entails. Work Experience can therefore assist in personal development, as well as being an aid in the choice of a suitable career.

Extended placements are occasionally available for senior students to allow them to use their timetabled study time for work experience. All placements must be Health and Safety checked by the Local Council.

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Geography
- History
- Business Management
- Art & Design
- Music
- Computing
- Physical Education
- Practical Cookery
- Practical Woodworking
- Administration and IT
- Photography
- PSHE
- Computer Games Development
- Media



“

The interaction between teachers in pupils is really good and you can see what great bonds are there which makes the kids feel comfortable and safe at school which must be hard for the staff to maintain because I know how difficult the children can be at times. Communication between the school and parents is really good so it's put a lot of my worries at ease.

”

Wider Achievement

These qualifications provide opportunities for learners to:

- develop self-confidence and self-belief in what they can achieve
- improve the 'soft skills' involved in communication and team working
- gain transferable employability skills



ASDAN offers a wide choice of activity-based programmes for learners working at a range of levels. More flexible than qualifications, our courses offer imaginative ways of developing, assessing and certificating young people's knowledge and skills development.

ASDAN offers a range of nationally approved qualifications based around the development of personal, social and employability skills. Our qualifications are offered to learners working from Entry 1 up to Level 3.



The Duke of Edinburgh's award is designed to challenge young people between the ages of 14-24 to attain standards of achievement and endeavour in a wide variety of active interests – to serve their communities, experience adventure and to develop and learn outside the classroom.

At Skypoint School we currently offer S3-S6 pupils the opportunity to complete sections or the full Bronze award. The DofE Bronze gives pupils a range of different skills, along with increased confidence and an edge over others when applying for college, university or a job. Participants will develop communication, leadership and teamwork skills as well making a difference to other people's lives and the community as a whole. The DofE website – www.dofe.org - is very informative and gives comprehensive advice and information on the requirements for the Bronze award



Skills Development Scotland

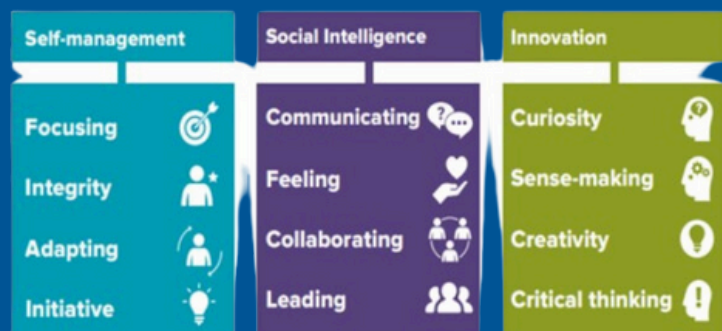
CAREERS

My name is Lisa Dunn, and I am the Careers Adviser at Skypoint School. My role is to support your child throughout their school journey, helping them to develop their aspirations and achieve their goals.

As part of Skills Development Scotland (SDS), our standard provision includes the following:

- S1-S2: We conduct group sessions with all pupils, focusing on exploring options, self-awareness, identifying strengths, and building support networks. Additionally, the school ensures that your child is registered on My World of Work to further support their career exploration.
- S3-S6: During these years, pupils participate in career-focused group activities and workshops. I also offer one-on-one coaching for students who need help developing a career plan, overcoming obstacles, or making decisions about their future.

To prepare students for life after Skypoint School, we implement a comprehensive pathways plan. This plan, which focuses on Further Education, Training, or Employment, is overseen by our Principal Teachers and supported by our Skills Development Scotland adviser. The process begins in S3 when Skills Development Scotland initiates contact, and students engage in various activities, including My World of Work, to explore post-school options. These activities help students understand their strengths, interests, and aptitudes, paving the way for future learning and employment opportunities.



As your child approaches their leaving date, SDS collaborates closely with school staff and partners to ensure every student has a solid plan in place for their future. Our support doesn't end when your child leaves school—we continue to offer assistance through our Careers Centres in Clydebank and surrounding areas.



CareTech Children's
Services

LET'S WORK TOGETHER

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