

**Shetland Islands Council
CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

Anderson High School
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Dear AHS Parents and Carers

AHS News: September 2019

I hope that your children and you have had a fine start to the new school year. There are 910 pupils on the school roll at the moment and it was good to begin the term with no teaching vacancies at the school.

AHS Hustings

As parents and carers of young people in S5 and S6 will know, thanks to our Modern Studies Department we held a senior school Hustings on Monday 26 August, with 9 of the 10 by-election candidates represented. A group of 8 senior pupils attended the Count at Clickimin on Thursday night, and were treated to a behind-the-scenes look at the counting officers in action. It has been good to see so many young people take an interest in local and national politics.

Family Learning Event – S1/2

Many thanks to those of you who completed Mrs Scollay's questionnaire regarding what you would like the school to offer by way of family learning opportunities. Mrs Scollay is now taking on board your suggestions and planning for a family learning event for **Tuesday 24 September**. I do hope you will be able to come along. More information to follow.

AHS School Improvement Plan and Standards & Quality Report

As you know, every year schools across Scotland compile an improvement plan and write about their progress over the previous school session. Parental comments have very much influenced our plan this year, as we try to improve our work by listening to your ideas. Our plan is summarised overleaf, and you can get a full copy of the document from the School Office.

Anderson High School

School Improvement Plan

Our Priorities 2019-20



Pupil Engagement	Parent/Carer Engagement	Partner/Community Engagement
<p>Learning and Teaching: What makes a great lesson?</p> <p>Promoting Positive Behaviour</p> <p>Tracking and Monitoring Pupil Progress in S1 – 3</p> <p>Pupil version of the Improvement Plan (promoting/explaining the Student Representative Council, pupil leadership roles)</p> <p>Promoting Vision, Values and Aims</p> <p>Pupil Equity Fund supporting attainment</p> <p>Literacy and Numeracy</p> <p>New Advanced Highers</p>	<p>Promoting how we respond to parental suggestions “You said, we did”</p> <p>Promoting the work of the Parent Council</p> <p>Developing Family Learning opportunities</p> <p>Reviewing how we communicate, trying to be consistent across classes</p> <p>Promoting great attendance and punctuality with families</p> <p>Providing time to consider the Education Scotland Toolkit: Engaging Families and Parents</p>	<p>Launching our four new Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) partnerships</p> <p>Planning together with Skills Development Scotland and DYW Shetland</p> <p>Promoting community partnerships across the school curriculum, in subject departments</p> <p>Strengthening our partnership with SIC Youth Services</p> <p>Building upon our links with Kirkwall Grammar School and Nicolson Institute as part of the Northern Alliance</p>

Maths Study Support

If your child would like some support with Maths, the department welcomes pupils at 1250 to 1315 every day. Pupils should report to the Maths Department Base. In addition, Higher Maths revision sessions have started on Tuesdays (Room 2.05) and Thursdays (Room 2.37) from 1545 to 1700. As these revision classes are after school, pupils can be reimbursed for any bus tickets – just ask at the School Office.

AHS School Aims

When I wrote to you last term, I explained how our pupils have chosen four Values to represent our school community and have now written aims we are trying to live by in school. These are displayed in classrooms and around the school building.



Perseverance: We need to have grit and determination, and never give up, so that we can be the best we can be.

Ambition: Each of us must believe in ourselves, always striving to improve, achieve and succeed.

Respect: Each of us must look after ourselves, be considerate to others, and have good manners.

Responsibility: We will take responsibility for our learning, our community and our local environment.

Our Website

If you have not recently clicked on our website, www.anderson.shetland.sch.uk, please have a look. You can save it to your homepage and it appears as an App on tablets and phones.

AHS Parent Council

Our AGM and first meeting of the season is on Tuesday 17 September at 1800. If you would like to attend the AGM, or join the Council itself, you will be made very welcome by our Chair Ayesha Huda and Vice Chair Kenny Pottinger. Just come to the front door of the school and the meeting will be in the conference room.

Shetland Careers Event

Please try to come along to the Shetland Careers Event being held in Anderson High School on Monday 09 September. The poster is attached. This will be a splendid opportunity to consider the wide range of opportunities available to our young people.

Annual Data Check

Please complete and return the enclosed Annual Data Check sheet for your child and return to the School Office as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Valerie M L Nicolson
Head Teacher

Shetland
**Careers
Event**



 Monday 9 September, 5pm–8pm

 Anderson High School, Lerwick

Come along and find out more about the range of industries and opportunities available across Shetland.

-  Meet with **over 60 employers** including **12 universities**
-  Try out **hands-on exhibits**
-  Hear from **professionals** across a **range of industries**
-  Discover **vacancies**
-  Get **expert advice** from Skills Development Scotland advisers