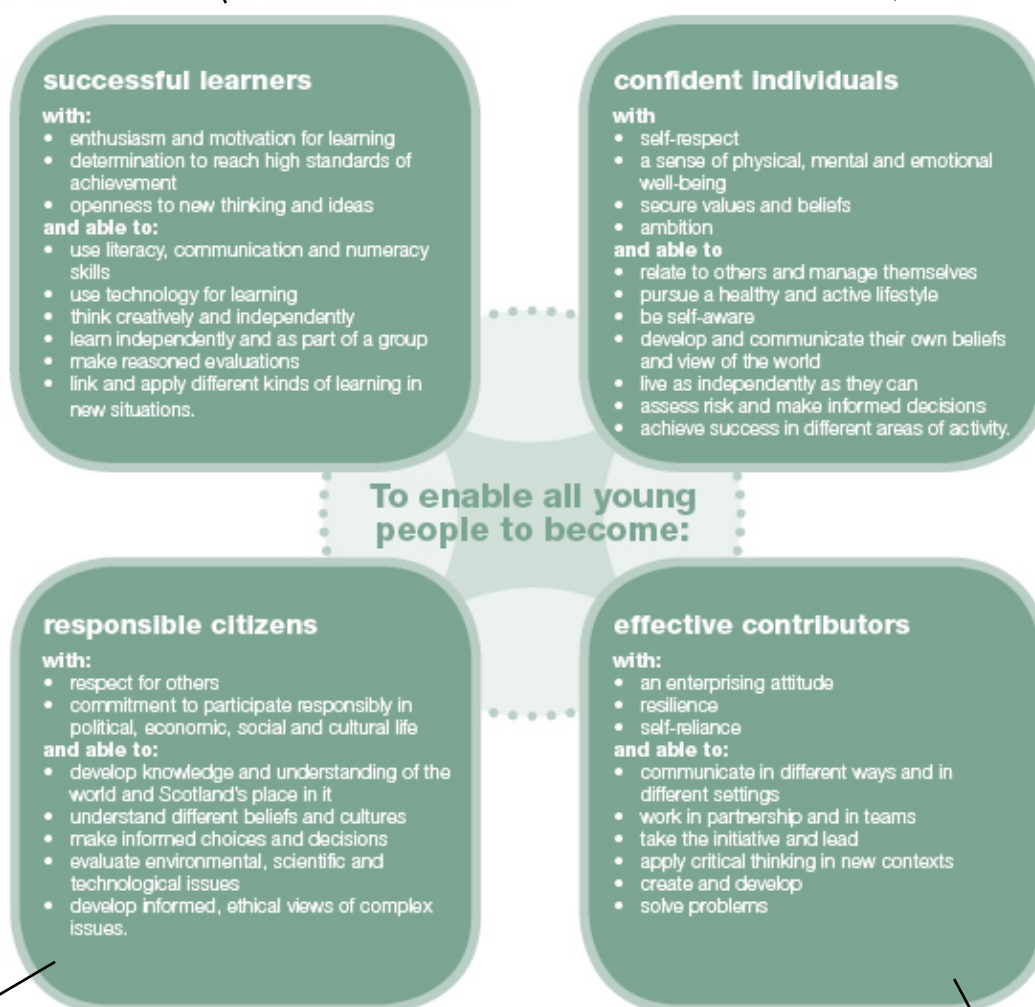


Glachbeg and the “ Four Capacities.” Some thoughts !

From the time children arrive they see the magic of this special building with its smiley end and turf roof. Staff greet them with enthusiasm and anticipation for an exciting day. Most children are excited by animals and we can use that excitement to feed into many curriculum aspects. The fully equipped classroom-close to any point on the croft means that we can combine the use of indoor and outdoor spaces to best effect. Activities normally involve individual work and group work. Children are not given the answers , but are provided with the opportunity to find out the answers- and they will! Programmes are designed to interface with programmes at school.

Children will all be able to achieve whilst they are at Glachbeg. Those that are less motivated to learn , do so without knowing that they are. Moving around the farm, close contact with animals and the outdoors help with a sense of well being. Their ability to stay healthy and safe whilst they are here contributes to confidence in dealing with risk. Children will learn something about where their food comes from even if it is not an explicit part of the programme. Programmes may be designed to ask children to consider values and beliefs on things such as sustainability, food etc.

Purposes of the curriculum 3-18



Working together, co-operation, helping each other, all happen in a day at Glachbeg. They will also have direct experience of food production, and of aspects of the environment around them. They will take part in structured sensory activities that put them in direct contact with the planet they live on. Programmes may be designed to address aspects of the sustainability agenda- which encompasses people and environment. They will probably meet other people on the farm and we encourage interaction.

Glachbeg can't pretend to allow children to achieve everything in a few hours. What we can do is help form knowledge, views and opinions that can take shape as children develop. Programmes can be aimed at particular aspects of this capacity.