

Update on the School and Nursery Improvement Plans March 2023

Please find below a summary of the progress made on the previous School and Nursery Improvement Plans: a full copy of the Standards and Quality Audit is attached to the parental email should you wish to read it, as well as shared on ClassDojo.



Progress from last year's School and Nursery Improvement Plans

School Priority 1: Stability and Recovery following the extended phase of interrupted learning

- We welcomed parents and families back into school after such a long time. The children have been very excited to have you all back in school, and sharing their learning with you. We have tried different formats for sessions including "Come & Join Us" in class; performances and assemblies; and curriculum sessions such as the P1 parental workshop in September and the Digital Week sessions organised by the Digital Leaders.
- We have implemented ClassDojo across the school to make home-school communication easier. We are regularly sharing our learning and what we are up to in school, and children enjoy choosing what to share with parents. We love seeing all the activities going on outside school, and lots of parents have been sharing these via Dojo.
- Literacy continued as a focus, with "The Balanced Reader and Writer approach" now implemented across the school. The majority of pupils report that they like the way writing is taught now, and we can see the progress that most of the children are making.
- We have used the YARC reading assessment from P4-P7 which has allowed us to tailor the reading programme to meet the needs of the learners.
- We refreshed our wider curriculum based on the updated rationale developed by the Pupil Council, and we implemented the Year 1 learning pathways. The children and staff have really enjoyed the refreshed topics!
- P1 & P2 have continued to work with the authority Principal Teacher for Play Pedagogy, developing their outdoor learning: thank you again to all those parents who helped with this. We can see the impact of this approach on pupil engagement, independence and confidence as well as on their academic achievement.
- P3 & P4 have been working with the authority Principal Teacher for Play Pedagogy also, developing a pathway from Early Years towards Second level. We can see the impact of this on pupil resilience and social skills, as well as on their oral literacy and their academic achievement.
- Within the Learning Centre, staff have also implemented a play-based approach linking with the class curriculum where appropriate for both social stage and development stage. This approach is benefitting all the learners as they are increasingly engaged in their learning as well as building social skills and friendships with their peers.

School Priority 2: Refresh of the Digital Literacy strategy after D&G Windows 10 rollout

- There was a significant change to the range of software available for us to use in school, following the digital updates by D&G. We purchased Purple Mash and Sumdog to support digital learning across the curriculum, and these have been shared with home so that you can support your children's learning using these digital apps. Staff have undertaken training in Purple Mash so that we can make the most of the wide range of resources within it.
- Mr McIlorum has worked at both cluster and authority level on the new Digital Literacy strategy and learning programmes. We have acted as a pilot school in implementing the new programmes. We will continue to review and refine this on an ongoing basis.
- The Young Digital Leaders have expanded their remit, taking on more responsibility in supporting younger classes with their digital learning, as well as organising our Digital Week for parents and families in February.
- The Young Digital Leaders have submitted for the National Digital Wellbeing award, and the national team will visit us by the end of March, to evaluate our progress and help us to determine next steps.

Nursery Priority 1: Planning for Children's Learning Experiences

- The nursery building works have been completed. Nursery has undertaken self-evaluation to ensure we are providing Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing in all areas of play.
- Staff have undertaken training in literacy interventions to support improvement in literacy for all the children.
- The Early level team across Nursery and P1 have worked together to make sure we are supporting all the children to progress using a cohesive tracking and monitoring system. We have also worked together to develop our planning paperwork to make sure there is continuity in learning.

Nursery Priority 2: Parental Engagement

- We welcomed parents/families into school for the first time! The children have been very excited to have you in nursery, and sharing their learning with you. You are welcome in every afternoon to see what we have been up to; we have "Stay and Play" and we have also offered a Health & Wellbeing workshop. There will be more opportunities to join us during the rest of the session.
- We have worked to help individual families, linking you up to other agencies that can help, or offering advice on issues such as sleep, toileting and speech.
- We have also been using ClassDojo for home-school communication, and sharing what we have been up to in nursery. We love seeing what you have been up to at home.



We would welcome parental feedback via the survey, as we consider our plans for the coming year. Please see the link sent in the email.