

Update on the School and Nursery Improvement Plans April 2024

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 Audits and Improvement Plans for both nursery and school are shared on the school website "Calside Courier" in the section "Calside- Our School".



Progress from last year's School and Nursery Improvement Plans

School Priority 1: Achievement Across the Curriculum

- We have implemented the D&G Literacy progression frameworks, and have worked as a whole staff to ensure that the learning and teaching approaches are consistent across the school. Staff have trialled different approaches for writing and spelling, and discussed the impact of these in order to decide on a way forward.
- We trialled the D&G Numeracy and Beyond Number progression frameworks, as part of our work with Dumfries High cluster. Staff have considered the impact of these frameworks, in discussion with cluster colleagues, and continue to trial until June.
- We have fully implemented the Digital Literacy and Computing Science progression framework, and have further supplemented the digital resources in school, nursery and the learning centre. We can see increased confidence and improved attainment for both learners and teachers!
- We have continued to work to ensure that attainment levels recorded within SEEMIS Progress and Achievement are consistent and accurate across the nursery and school. Staff have worked in stages and as a whole staff to ensure our own assessments match with both Progress and Achievement levels, and the Nationalised Standardised Assessments for Scotland for P1, P4 and P7.
- We continue to identify any barriers to learning or gaps in learning promptly, and implement tailored interventions as necessary. This means that all our learners are making progress on their own learning journey, either through the core Curriculum for Excellence or through individual milestones.
- We have continued to embed our play pedagogy from Nursery to P2, and continued to develop active learning for P3 & P4. We can see that pupils have increased confidence and ownership of their learning.
- We have developed the continuous provision and outdoor area for the Learning Centre. Pupils are actively engaged with the resources, and this is having a positive impact on their learning.

School Priority 2: Development of our Rights Respecting approach

- We achieved our Bronze award on the Rights Respecting Schools award scheme. The Rights group have led our work towards Silver, leading whole-school assemblies and initiatives.
- All classes have developed class charters, and the UNCRC is being integrated into our curriculum as well as ethos. Staff have considered how the UNCRC can be threaded through our curriculum topics, and have begun to implement this.
- The loss of ClassDojo was significant. Staff have developed Class Sways to share "What We Have Been Learning" and these are being trialled during Term 4. We continue to share learning with parents via the weekly emails and maildrop as well as the school website "Calside Courier".
- We have seen a reduction in the number of parents sharing their children's achievements out of school since the loss of ClassDojo. With wider achievement so important for a child to develop as an individual, we need to rebuild this sharing of achievements.
- We continued to embed opportunities for parental engagement throughout the session. These have been well-attended, and the pupils have been very excited to share their learning!
- Staff engaged with the D&G Framework for Inclusion, engaging with training opportunities offered. We evaluated our inclusive practice using the D&G audit toolkit as well as the Education Scotland Inclusive Practice guidance. This highlighted our work with other agencies, and the range of environments and approaches we use to meet the needs of learners.

Nursery Priority 1: Planning for Children's Progression and Learning through all areas of the Curriculum

- Nursery staff have worked with the primary school staff on the D&G progression frameworks for Literacy and Numeracy, including this within weekly planning to ensure children cover the curriculum at their own level. This allows us to set challenge, but also identify any gaps in learning and support children as needed.
- Staff have engaged with a range of training opportunities, enabling us to offer a wider range of approaches and interventions to support or challenge learners.
- We have worked with the primary school staff on the implementation of the Rights Respecting Schools award scheme, and are threading the UNCRC through our continuous provision and calendar of events.
- Staff have worked across Early level within our own school and at cluster level, sharing excellent practice and building progression from Nursery through to Primary 1. Nursery staff have worked with the primary school staff to match our assessments/observations with levels within SEEMIS Progress and Achievement. This is building consistency and accuracy.

Nursery Priority 2: Parental Engagement

- We have developed close links with other agencies and families, allowing us to develop accurate individual plans for children to ensure we are getting it right for every child. We share information with parents/carers to direct them to the appropriate agency for support, such as Speech and Language or OT.
- We offer a range of opportunities for parents to engage with learning, through "Stay & Play" sessions and parental workshops. We will continue to develop these opportunities.
- To replace ClassDojo, we have developed a Nursery Sway in line with the primary Class Sways, and we will trial this during Term 4. We continue to share information with parents through transition meetings, personal learning folders, displays and notices as well as our daily interactions.

Many thanks to those parents who took the time to complete our Quick Questions via Forms. We have tried to include your feedback within the Improvement Plans for the coming year, as well as the feedback from the children and the staff. Some queries were individual: we have responded to those parents who left their name accordingly. If you did not leave your name, but have a query, please email the school office and we can direct your query to the appropriate member of staff: gw08officecalside@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

The Nursery and School Improvement Plans for the coming year are attached to this week's email for ease, but can also be found on the school website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/CalsideCourier/our-sch/>