



# Calside News

27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## Update on progress with the School and Nursery Improvement Plans

Since the School and Nursery Improvement Plans were written in March, we have had our HMiE inspection which has given us action points that we need to work on. On the whole, these action points align with the priorities we had already set.



## **Excellence in Learning and Teaching across the curriculum at all stages**

Staff have been working in their stage teams and across the whole school to build a shared understanding of what excellence in learning and teaching looks like. We have revisited the D&G Learning and Teaching policy, and are in the process of drafting our own policy within the D&G and national guidance. This will then be shared with the Parent Council and Pupil Council for their input, and then shared with the wider parental community.

Staff from Nursery through to P7 have reviewed the D&G progression framework for Literacy, adapting this to include a progression for spelling and handwriting. We have also reviewed the D&G progression framework for Numeracy, amending as needed to ensure no loss of learning. These amendments have been implemented and we will review the impact later in the session.

Staff from Nursery through to P7 have worked with Skills Development Scotland to plan and develop a progression for the development of meta-skills. We have shared a Sway on meta-skills with parents, and you will see meta-skills in practice when you Come and Join Us this year. We continue to develop our play-based approach: we are evaluating our practice within the D&G Play Toolkit and the D&G policy for Play Pedagogy, and will be drafting our own policy within these guidelines. This will follow in due course.

## **Tracking Progress and Achievement**

We continue to use the national tracking system within SEEMIS Progress and Achievement, with all staff working together to ensure that the attainment levels for each child are accurate. HMiE concurred that our results are accurate, and that we use our interventions programme to tailor support as needed. They recommended that we start to track these levels over time: staff have started to engage with this process.

## **Rights Respecting Schools**

We achieved our Silver award for the Rights Respecting Schools Award scheme in June last session. The Rights Steering Group, assisted by Mrs Kearney and Mr Templeton, have started to work on our action plan for the Gold Award. Our assembly and Time for Reflection calendars continue to prioritise the Rights Respecting approach, and the teachers have developed their yearly plans to include this within their learning programmes.

## **Parental Involvement and Engagement Strategy**

We originally planned to develop our own strategy within the D&G template last term, but the inspection schedule slowed down our progress! The draft strategy has now been shared with the Parent and Pupil Councils for their perusal, and will be published in due course.

The Class Sways have been updated for this session: all parents/carers should have access to these. The QR codes can be found in the class newsletters, on the school website and in the school foyer. The Wider Achievement guide has been updated to include the development of meta-skills, and we will send out reply slips for wider achievements on a termly basis. We will track each child's individual wider achievements linking to the profiles used in P7 and through high school. We would be grateful if you could let us know of your child's wider achievements so we can celebrate these in school.

We have reviewed our Home Learning guidance in line with national guidelines and research, and this was sent to parents in the maildrop as well as via the Friday email. It is also on the school website for ease. If you wish to discuss additional homework for your child/ren, please contact the class teacher to discuss.

**If you have any queries, you can email the school on [gw08officecalside@ea.dumgal.sch.uk](mailto:gw08officecalside@ea.dumgal.sch.uk) and we will direct your query to the appropriate member of staff.**