



# Giffnock Primary School



## Standards and Quality Report

Session: 2020 - 2021

***Information for Parents***

Working hard having fun, that's the way we get things done

## The Standards and Quality Report

Our Standards and Quality Report highlights and celebrates the wide range of achievements at Giffnock Primary School and the progress made in the implementation of our School Improvement Plan 2020-21. This leaflet summarises our full Standards and Quality Report and key aspects of our progress, highlighting the impact that this has had on our children and our learning community.

## Key Achievements for Session 2020-21

- ✓ Across the school community and throughout this extremely challenging school year, our community has acted especially successfully together to support the wellbeing of all in a wide range of highly effective ways
- ✓ Working across the school community, we have been able to adapt, amend and indeed implement new Health & Safety measures to support, care for and protect one another throughout the pandemic
- ✓ Almost all children are making very good progress across the Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) levels with many achieving beyond the expected level for their age group
- ✓ In East Renfrewshire's Standardised Tests and in the Scottish National Standardised Assessments we have again achieved well above ERC and national averages in both Maths and English
- ✓ We received our Gold Rights Respecting Schools Award for outstanding experiences across all areas of school life at Giffnock
- ✓ Our whole school community has begun further development around our 'Vision for our Children', aiming to create a shared foundation and rationale for all learning at our school

## Raising Attainment

### Numeracy and Maths

- ✓ Our skills-based approach to learning and teaching is providing greater consistency and supporting more effective learning
- ✓ Whole school development of mental maths strategies, including Number Talks, has supported increased levels of attainment
- ✓ In East Renfrewshire's standardised tests (Maths), our P3, 5 and 7 school average for all 3 stages was 106, well above the authority average of 100
- ✓ Over the last four years, our average for P3, P5 and P7 in Maths is 107
- ✓ Over the last four school years, in Maths for Primary 1, 4 and 7 combined, 91% of all children have achieved or exceeded expected national Curriculum for Excellence levels, well above ERC authority averages
- ✓ A number of our Primary 7 children achieved commendation in nationally recognised maths awards

### Literacy and English

- ✓ Effective and high quality learning and teaching activities have been enhanced in the areas of Reading and Spelling, with greater consistency in delivering high standards of experiences for all our children
- ✓ In East Renfrewshire's standardised tests (English/ Reading) for P3, 5 and 7 our school average was 106, well above the ERC average of 100
- ✓ Over the last four years, our school average across P3, P5 and P7 in English/ Reading is 105
- ✓ Over the last four years, in all areas of Literacy for Primary 1, 4 and 7 combined, 93% of all children have achieved or exceeded expected national Curriculum for Excellence levels, significantly above national and well above East Renfrewshire authority averages

## Self-Evaluation and Leadership

- Our self-evaluation and quality improvement processes are very well established and whole staff self-evaluation activities are robust and consistent
- Our whole school Leadership Framework is embedded, promoting an effective culture of distributive leadership across all stakeholders
- The range of ways in which our children can lead and develop their own learning has been significantly enhanced over the last three sessions, including through 'Big Picture Planning' where our children lead the themes through which they learn, an extension of the Pupil Groups at Giffnock Primary, and our School Parliament
- Across the school, all children are especially well engaged in their learning. Whole school teaching practices and strategies for collaborative learning, problem-solving and the use of higher-order questioning are further enhancing consistently high quality learning experiences
- Enhanced use of data analysis in our evaluations is leading to more successful targeting of strengths and areas for improvement. We are better able to target specific cohorts of learners and their needs and we are more robust and progressive in our analysis as a whole staff
- Our follow through ERC Review during January 2020, led by a team of external Quality Improvement Officers and Head Teachers, evaluated Very Good progress in all areas of Learning & Teaching and evidenced significant development in the consistency of high standards across our school
- The Care Inspectorate inspection of our Nursery Class during January 2020 evaluated Very Good and Excellent findings for all areas, evidencing very high standards of practice

## High Quality Learning Experiences and Outcomes

- Throughout this school session and in partnership with our families, we have created and adapted learning and teaching methods to deliver effective experiences throughout the pandemic. Within the context of fast-changing health & safety and related guidance, this has included within a school context and through Remote Learning
- Our school community's ability to collaborate effectively through digital platforms and mechanisms has increased greatly. High quality professional development and collaboration with colleagues across the authority, and at a national level, has enabled the systems and practices which were required to implement effective learning experiences for our children
- At both a school and local authority level, we have been able to respond rapidly to the pandemic's associated restrictions and fast-changing guidance. This agility enabled the provision of comprehensive and especially high-quality learning activities within a narrow curriculum (Health & Wellbeing, Literacy and Numeracy)
- Significant development of a more sophisticated network of digital technologies prior to the pandemic was effectively utilised and supported enhanced learning experiences across the curriculum
- Across our school, our children are more regularly learning through active, playful and creative ways. Skills for Learning, Life and Work (such as Leadership, Evaluating and Resilience) are being enhanced through whole school focuses
- Across the school, we have enhanced the ways in which our staff team learn, collaborate and share best practice, leading to improvements in consistency of outcomes for our children

## Health & Wellbeing

- ✓ Our School Values and Aims are embedded and well understood across the entire learning community. Our six School Values, Growth Mindset developments and our Positive Behaviour Management Guidelines are all also embedded as a foundation for all other learning
- ✓ We have begun to develop an aspirational vision for our children's learning entitled 'A Vision for our Children'. This overarching and foundational vision for our children will be further developed next session and involve the collaboration of all school stakeholders
- ✓ We utilise a nurturing, relationship based approach across our school, both in whole class situations and also with targeted cohorts. Our Learning Centre and Nurture Groups have developed innovative approaches to targeting individual needs within an inclusive and nurturing environment
- ✓ We have further implemented a shared 'language' for our children to better articulate their feelings, emotions and actions using the Emotion Works programme. This will continue to be developed next session as a shared language for all of our stakeholders
- ✓ We continue to enhance and develop the ways in which we work with families, partners and other agencies to meet a broad range of learning and support needs for all of our children. Our Intergenerational partnerships in particular have been highlighted by external agencies including Education Scotland
- ✓ Whole school themes, contexts for learning and events support a strong ethos of inclusion and diversity
- ✓ Outdoor spaces are utilised with increasing effectiveness in order to promote wellbeing and positive relationships, e.g. Bikeability, Muddy Movers and Forest Schools strategies for our nursery class

## Recognising Achievement

- ✓ Our Awesome Achievers whole school system supports our children's progressive, regular and routine evaluations and celebrations. These are shared between home and school and are routinely revisited and built upon through our focus upon self-evaluation, Growth Mindset and the targeting of personal next steps
- ✓ Rights Respecting School Gold Award
- ✓ Sports Scotland Gold Award status
- ✓ Eco-School Green Flag status
- ✓ Cycle-Friendly School status renewed during this session
- ✓ Recognition for some of our senior pupils in national mathematics prizes
- ✓ Enhanced school community communication and sharing through: electronic newsletters, School Twitter feeds and re-organised school website including a breadth of Home Learning areas, links and information

## Key Next Steps

- ✓ Continue to support the Health & Wellbeing of children, staff and families throughout the pandemic
- ✓ To continue to develop the highest quality of learning experiences for all our children, based upon professional development, collaboration and the successful sharing of best practice across all of our staff team
- ✓ To further develop our 'Vision for our Children' through collaboration across our whole school community
- ✓ To further develop creativity, exploration and challenge through play-based approaches to learning, Collaborative Learning techniques, Problem-Solving and Higher-Order Questioning strategies
- ✓ To enhance the ways in which we implement successful and engaging experiences through Outdoor Learning
- ✓ To enhance our planning and implementation of engaging and effective Modern Foreign Language learning experiences



## Read the whole report

We hope that this summary document gives you a clear overview of our school's achievements and progress during session 2020-21. The detailed Standards and Quality Report can also be viewed on our school website:

[Standards and Quality Report 2020-21](#)

As always, we thank you for your ongoing support and welcome your evaluations and feedback.







<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Giffnock/>  
<https://twitter.com/giffnockprimary> <https://twitter.com/GiffnockNursery>

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