

COMMERCIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL  
STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN  
SESSION 2021/2022



## PARENT SUMMARY

Session 2021 / 2022 has seen a return to near normality in school. The year started with covid restrictions in place and as the year ends we are now almost back to normal. It has been a cause of celebration in school that we can gather together, go on residential experiences, days trips, have parents and visitors in, have a school fair, compete at sporting events, have assemblies, do performances and have after school activities. All of these along with the day to day work of the school have resulted in this school session being both busy and successful.

We hope that the summary below gives you an insight into the many successes in school this session.

This year we worked on the following areas:

### LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT

All classes were observed as part of our Learning partnership with other local schools. Lessons were observed to be challenging and matched to pupils needs. All classes were observed to be rights focused and there was clear evidence of our Rights Respecting Gold work through class charters, staff/pupil relationships and a strong pupil voice. In all classes children were engaged and articulate learners and were able to confidently share their learning and views.



The quality of teaching was also observed, and it was found that the learning environments were all of a very good quality. Very good use of digital technology was observed to support teaching and learning. All pupils benefited from well structured lessons. Next steps in terms of the learning and teaching is to look at children co-creating the success criteria with their teacher to ensure they are very clear about what success looks like.

In addition, pupils told us that:

- Lessons are fun and engaging
- They have access to all the support / resources they need
- They get to learn in the way that suits them best
- School is a good place to be
- Feedback helps their learning



Parents and Carers told us the following:

- 93% of parents told us that from their experience, Commercial PS is a school where children's rights are respected and there are strong, positive relationships.
- 95% of parents told us that the school is helping their child(ren) to become engaged, motivated and resilient in their learning journey.
- 93% believe their child finds the learning experience enjoyable and appropriately challenging.
- 96% tell us that the school is helping their child to become a responsible citizen, a successful learner, a confident individual and an effective contributor to society.

## WELLBEING



A staff working group have created a rigorous overview/progression which ensures that all children experience a progression of learning from P1 – P7 in a planned way, ensuring that SHANARRI (wellbeing indicators), equality and inclusion as well as values, skills and significant events (eg Fairtrade Fortnight, Road Safety Week etc) are given primacy in our curriculum. This means that learners will now

experience all the skills, knowledge and experiences required in a full and comprehensive manner.

Almost all parents and carers felt that relationships were positive, and children's rights were respected. Almost all parents told us that their child's wellbeing was a priority for the school and they and their child knew who to turn to for support. This was underpinned by pupil voice groups led by SLT where wellbeing was highlighted as something that most children were very proud of. Almost all children spoke of very strong relationships between pupils and staff. Most children told us that they felt that they were treated individually.



Almost all pupils, parents and staff felt that there was a strong sense of community which has shared values and high expectations.

We also undertook a small exercise to take a closer look at our literacy resources to ensure that they value and celebrate diversity in all its forms. This resulted in us updating a few resources thanks to funding from the parent council as we identified a few resources as being out of date. We now need to continue the work we started in this area.



### **Attainment - Session 2021 / 2122**

Our performance in both literacy and numeracy has been **very good** this year.

This year **88%** of all learners achieved the required levels in numeracy and **82%** achieved the required levels in literacy.

Attainment over the last few years has fluctuated by 1-3%. It is interesting to note declining attendance figures over the last three years however attainment has coped remarkably well



against this backdrop. This can be attributed to strong learning and teaching, prioritisation of recovery and strong parental engagement.

In addition, it is important to note and celebrate that Commercial PS out-performs our closest national and local comparator schools in literacy and numeracy.



**Key successes in Commercial Primary School in 2021/ 2022 were:**

Our school worked in partnership with UNICEF and the Scottish Government to launch UNCRC accreditation for every state school in Scotland. This came about due to our Gold status and unwavering commitment to children's rights. This means that every child in our school is aware of their rights as a child as enshrined in law.



Almost all P7 pupils attended Ardroy OEC . The week long residential supported the learners two year programme of study related to the John Muir Award. As a result, almost all P7 pupils will leave Commercial PS with this nationally accredited award.



Our PSA team have significantly contributed to the mental wellbeing and resilience of our pupils through prioritising kitbag sessions and nurture groups. This has enabled children affected by the pandemic to, in almost all cases, return to pre-pandemic positive mental health.



All pupils from P1-5 take part in the Natural Connections programme. This means that almost all learners are developing essential skills of:

- Discovering nature
- Working together
- Adventure skills
- Finding your way
- Journeying
- Helping the environment



Our Rights Respecting Schools group, House Captains and Vice Captains led Charity work for Ukraine, Red Nose Day, Children in Need and World Book Day. In total we raised £1057. In doing so our pupils developed essential DYW skills within a real life context.



For the second year in succession the pupils in P7 were able to develop their STEM skills through their involvement in an engineering project developed by local firm Babcock International. The real-life context of shipbuilding was brought to life through a series of group mini projects for the children. They were given the chance to think like engineers when considering aspects of boat design and propulsion, and, when testing the boat for stability, they were asked to programme micro-bits to ensure accuracy. The children's enthusiasm for the project was clear throughout even although concepts were new and challenging. The proposition of developing skills needed in the workplace ensured engagement from the majority of the children and opened eyes to future career options and opportunities.



Our P3 pupils took part in the Lego League challenge which is an exciting STEM programme that develops teamwork, design, programming, and communication skills. It makes children feel proud of what they have achieved – encouraging them to continue engaging with STEM and inspiring the next generation of engineers and technicians. The pupils also developed skills related to sustainability and

environmental impact of their designs as well as developing a range of DYW skills throughout the project.



A group of 8 P6 pupils participated in City to Sea. A cycling challenge in partnership with Active Schools. This resulted in the children route planning as well as taking part in training cycles and ultimately taking part in a long and arduous cycle challenge showing great determination, resilience and team work.



All P7 pupils took part in a Dunfermline High School cluster OMM outdoor experience at Lochore Meadows. This resulted in pupils getting to know peers from other local schools and beginning to form friendships which will support their transition to S1.



30 pupils from P5-7 took part in Fife Schools Cross Country competition. A P6 pupil won her age group two years group teams placed in the top 3. Our football team restarted and have enjoyed. Our pupils developed essential skills of resilience and perseverance as well as sportsmanship.



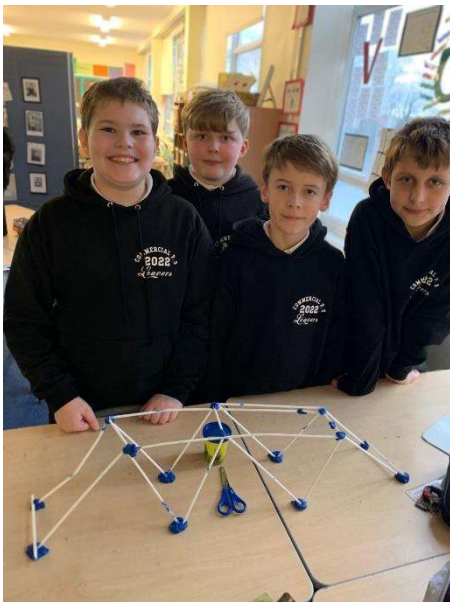
All children were involved in a playground consultation which resulted in significant changes to our practices being made. This has really demonstrated the importance of pupil voice to our learners and they can now directly see the impact of their leadership / views.



## Pupil Equity Funding

This year we spent our Pupil Equity Funding on 3 days per week additional teacher time and 40 additional PSA hours. This time has been focused on supporting learners who needed support either emotionally or academically. This has allowed us to work with many more children in small groups / 1:1 and has contributed to our very good attainment as well as closing the gap for some learners. Almost all

learners have benefited from this additionality.



## Next school year we will work on the following areas:

We will take a very close look at **learning and teaching in writing, the moderation cycle related to writing and review and refresh our Five Part Lesson Model.**

Parents and carers will be updated on our progress in the areas above through our regular newsletters and updates.

If you have any questions or comments regarding our work during this last session please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school. We'd be delighted to help.

Kind regards

Gillian Mann

HEADTEACHER