

Purpose and Process of Curriculum Rationale

This Curriculum Rationale explains everything we want for our children at Crossgates Primary School and Nursery and how we plan to achieve this. This has been developed by our whole school community, involving children, parents, staff and partners. We view this as a working document and a flexible framework, which allows us to keep it under review to ensure it is meeting the needs of all our children.

Our rationale informs our Improvement Plan and is developed around our Crossgates Values. May 2020.

Updated April 2023.

What are our School and Nursery Values?

Respect

**Fulfilling
Potential**

Responsibility

Kindness

Teamwork

Honesty

"Be happy to friends
and be kind."

Evie

"You need to all
be in a team because
that's good and you'll
win."

Cody

Kindness.....

"... means to be a
nice friend."

Maya

What makes Crosssgates, Crosssgates?

The inspection team found the following strengths in April 2019

- **Confident, highly motivated and engaged children who are very proud of their school and nursery. They are enthusiastic and keen learners.**
- **The commitment, dedication and teamwork of all staff, led by the headteacher, to improving learning experiences for all children. This is resulting in high-quality teaching and very good levels of attainment in the school.**
- **The strong partnerships with the local community and businesses which enrich children's learning. This is helping children develop important skills for life, learning and work and is contributing to raising attainment and achievement.**

What the children think?

- **Our house point system and celebrating success.**
- **Our school values and badge.**
- **Responsibilities and leadership for all in Crosssgates.**
- **The teachers and pupils.**
- **Outdoor learning and extra-curricular experiences.**
- **Choices in our learning.**

What the parents think?

- **The school values.**
- **Parental involvement with active Parent Council/PTA.**
- **Wide variety of after school activities**
- **Outdoor learning and residential experiences.**
- **Positive outlook, great manners and behaviour.**
- **Excellent and committed staff.**
- **Local community involvement and spirit as a village school.**

What makes Crossgates, Crossgates?



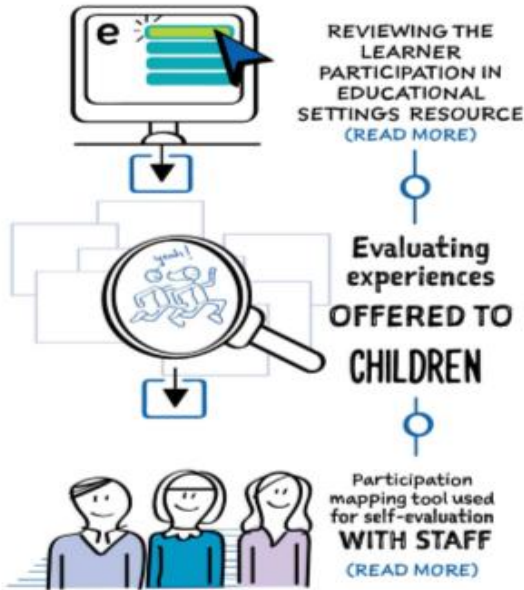
CROSSGATES

PRIMARY SCHOOL



CROSSGATES PRIMARY SCHOOL HAS EFFECTIVELY INCREASED children's participation in learning.

1 THE STEPS WE TOOK

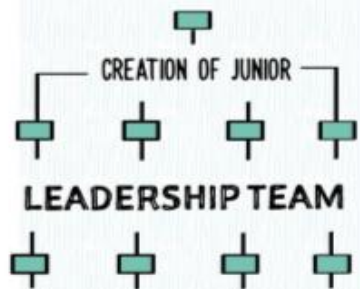


1. Learning, Teaching and ASSESSMENT

INCREASE IN PUPIL VOICE

Children use SELF EVALUATION TO IDENTIFY improvements (READ MORE)

HOW GOOD is OUR SCHOOL?



2 Staff focused on

2. Opportunities for Personal ACHIEVEMENT

ACHIEVEMENT TRACKER CREATED

CHILDREN are confident, highly motivated and engaged



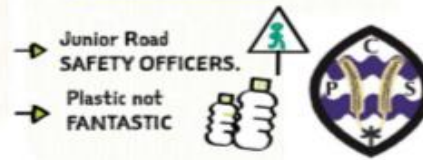
3. DECISION- MAKING Groups

Children's committees now focus on SKILLS FOR LEARNING, LIFE AND WORK

Children lead learning

CHILDREN CHOOSE TWO SKILLS for their committee to focus on and reflect on their progress in developing these

For example:



4. Connection with the WIDER COMMUNITY

DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE

staff plan a range of activities to promote this including:

P2 Enterprise ACADEMY

P5 CHARITY Morning

P6 KIT CAR Building

PROGRESSIVE RANGE of children's learning experiences with local care home

Partnerships with local and international businesses along with local community groups



What makes Crossgates, Crossgates?



Outdoor Learning



Excellence Awards

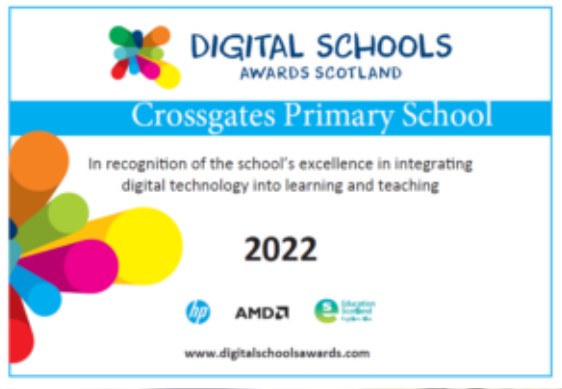


P7 Leavers – Guard of Honour



Learning Through Play

What makes Crosssgates, Crosssgates?



Digital Award



Sports Award



Village School

Community Spirit



Dedicated Staff



LEAF Outdoor Learning School



Young Carers Award



Learner Participation

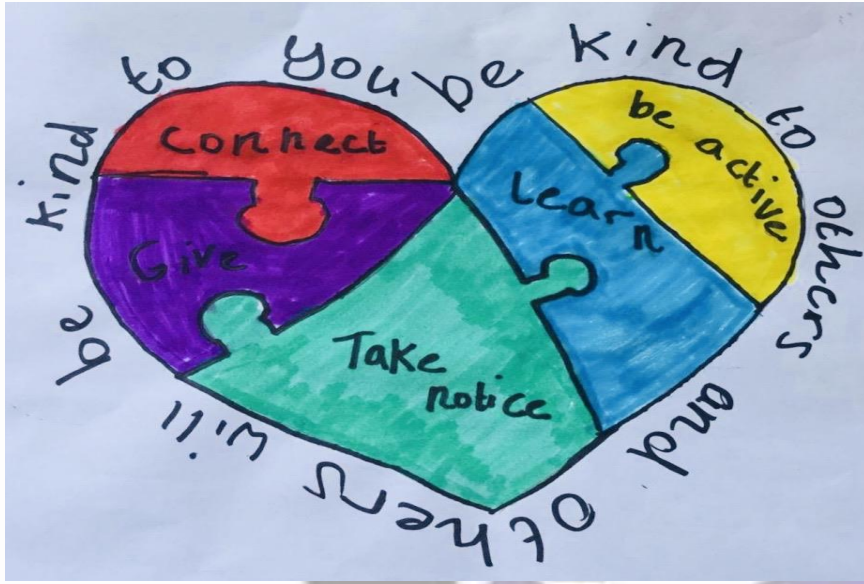
What do we do to ensure the child is at the heart of the learning at Crossgates?

- Learner participation
- Responsive planning
- Kid's leadership pathway
- Pupil voice
- Interactive/responsive learning displays
- 4 Part Model
 - ❖ Co-construct success criteria
 - ❖ Peer/self-assessment
- Planning and feedback involvement
- Junior Leadership Team (JLT)
- Action Teams
- Class charters incorporate UNICEF Rights



What do we do to promote a nurturing and caring ethos?

5 Ways to Wellbeing



Values

Respect

Fulfilling
Potential

Responsibility

Kindness

Teamwork

Honesty

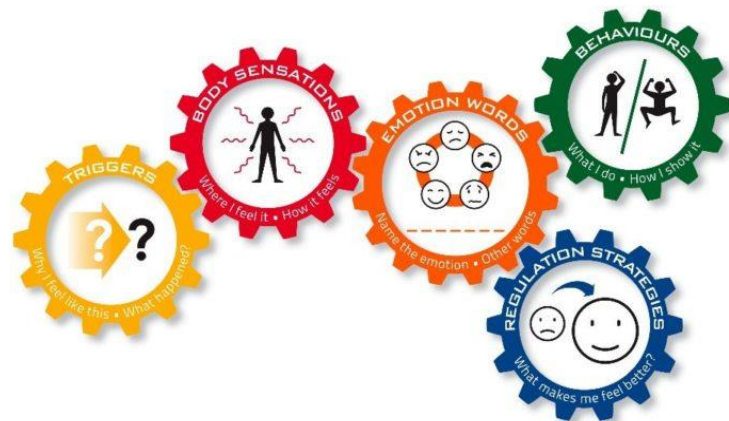
Nurture Groups



Tree of Knowledge

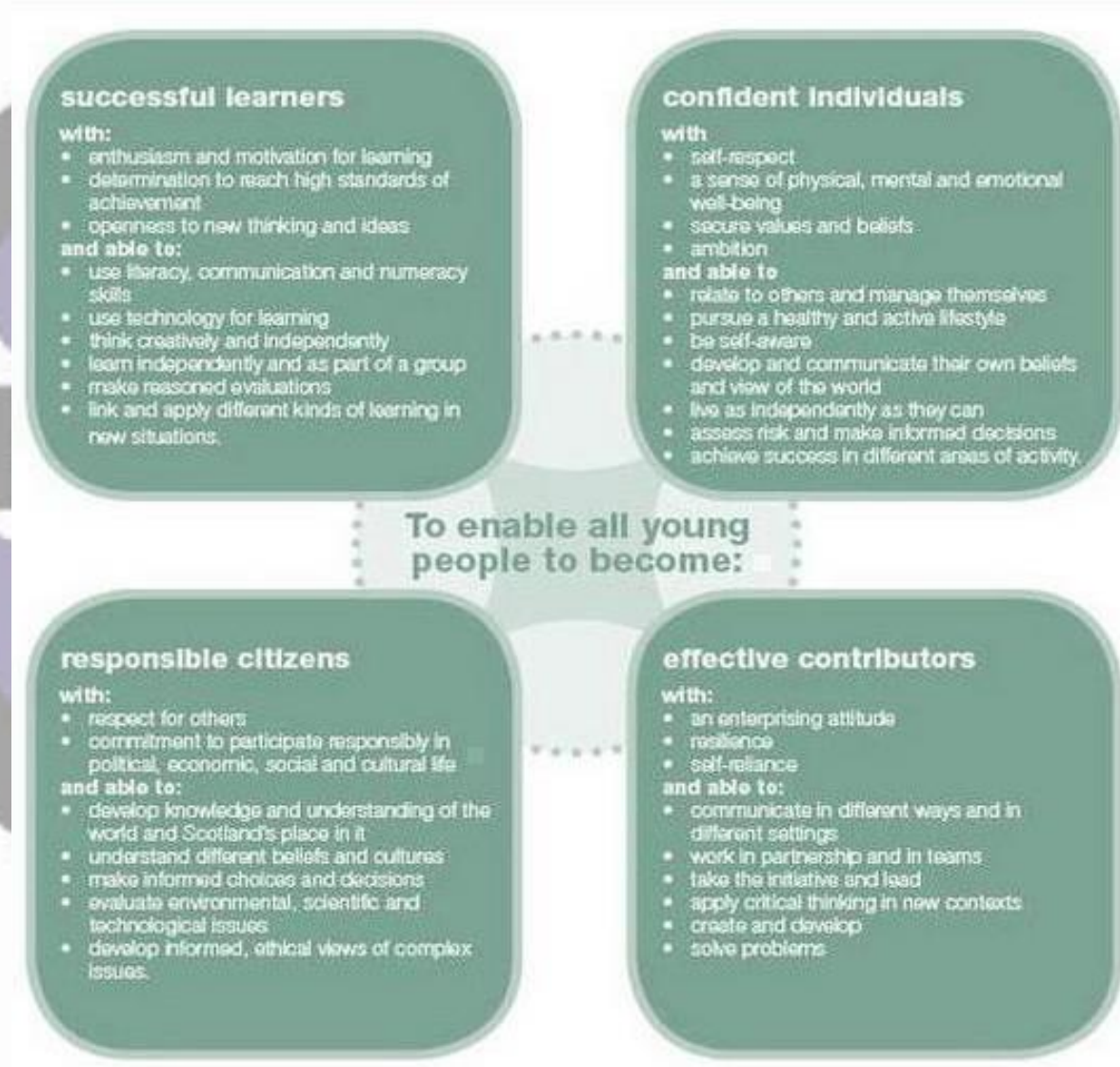


knowledge



The Purposes of the Curriculum

Our aspiration is for every child to develop the four capacities



Crossgates Successful Learners...

- Are involved in identifying how to be successful in their learning.
- Receive and use specific feedback to inform next steps.
- Use a growth mindset to overcome difficulties and achieve.
- Show enthusiasm and are motivated to learn.
- Have ownership over their own learning through Pupil Voice and involvement in planning.
- Learn through play and are therefore able to apply skills in a variety of contexts.
- Use technology across the curriculum.
- Have regular opportunities to impact on school life through Pupil Focus Groups and Junior Leadership Team.
- Identify skills for wider world of work.
- Enjoy musical opportunities such as music tuition and visits from the Youth Music Initiative.
- Open events.



Crossgates Confident Individuals...

- Show resilience in all aspects of school life.
- Use mindful strategies to ensure positive health and wellbeing.
- Have opportunities to share achievements from both in and out of school.
- Are encouraged to pursue a healthy and active lifestyle.
- Can articulate their own learning journey.
- Participate in outdoor learning sessions, building on confidence and teamwork.
- Have additional opportunities to build on social skills through Nurture, Kit Bag, Lego Therapy and Movement groups.
- Have 2 opportunities to attend Outdoor Learning Residentials in the Upper School.
- Participate and Perform in annual shows.
- Skills for Life



Crossgates Responsible Citizens...

- Know and show our school values in all areas of school life.
- Have an understanding and respect for difference and diversity.
- Work closely and positively with the community in and beyond Crossgates.
- Can be responsible in the playground through strategies such as Helping Hands to ensure everyone feels safe and happy.
- Take the lead in ensuring smooth transition from nursery to Primary 1 by acting as Buddies.
- Can display the 3 consistencies – Walking responsibly through the school, lining up smartly and maintaining clean and safe cloakrooms.
- Outdoor Learning embedded from P1-P7.
- Time to Talk in classes.
- RRSA Ambassadors.



Crossgates Effective Contributors...

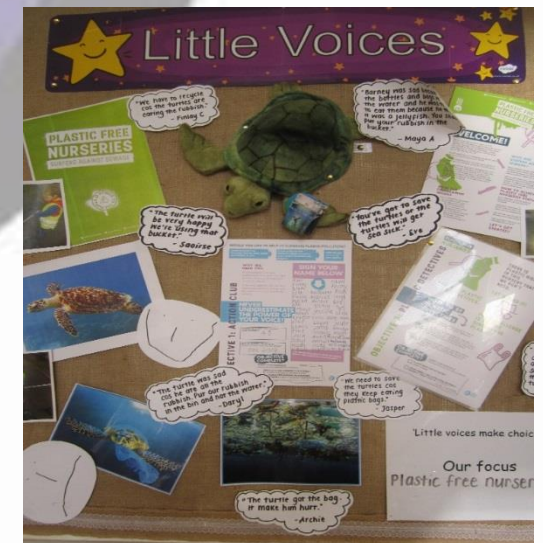
- Can adopt a leadership role through House Captains, participation in committees, Young Leadership Teams and in daily classroom experiences.
- Can take the initiative and lead.
- Show teamwork and communication skills as we work in pairs and groups, linking with other classes where appropriate.
- Display skills in Learning, Life and Work which are carefully planned for by teachers.
- Participate in enterprise activities throughout all stages of school.
- Plan and organise charity events throughout the year.
- Represent the school at cluster festivals and events.



Nursery Curriculum



- All children have an entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum based on the experiences and outcomes set out in the Curriculum for Excellence Early level.
- Free-flow provision between Under 3s and 3-5yrs with open ended resources which promote curiosity.
- Principles of Curriculum Design – Challenge and Enjoyment, Breadth, Progression, Depth, Personalisation and Choice, Coherence, Relevance.



Outdoor Learning at Crossgates

Opportunities for outdoor learning at Crossgates

- Nursery forest kindergarten
- Residentials at P5 and P7
- P3 & P5 piloting LEAF project
- P1-P3 RSPB Awards
- Links with Crossgates Greenfingers
- John Muir Award P4-P7
- P1-P3 Outdoor Learning afternoons
- Outdoor learning committee
- Taft on our doorsteps
- Class experiences
- Upper outdoor learning groups
- Groups for children to build on resilience and life skills
- Loose part play



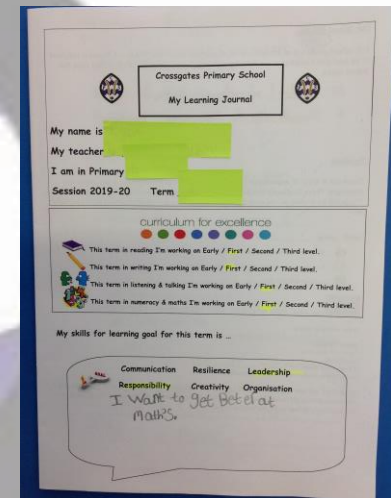
Nursery Outdoor Learning

- Developing a learning environment which motivates children to achieve success.
- Meaningful links between life, nursery and community.
- Providing meaningful learning experiences which will enable children to develop independent living skills.



What does high quality teaching and learning look like at Crossgates?

- Clear LI (linked to benchmarks) and SC (co-constructed with learners)
- Flexibility
- Learners involved in all stages of planning
- Professional learning lined to assessment and planning
- Clear links to prior learning
- High quality questions
- Differentiation by pace, challenge, resources, time and support
- All learners included – curriculum adapted to meet learners needs
- Child led targets and involvement
- Opportunities to apply knowledge and skills in a variety of different contexts
- Quality play experiences (TAPP/TIDE)
- Interactive learning experiences
- High level of pupil engagement and participation
- Family learning
- Positive relationships
- Range of teaching and learning experiences (classroom and middle room)
- High expectations for all



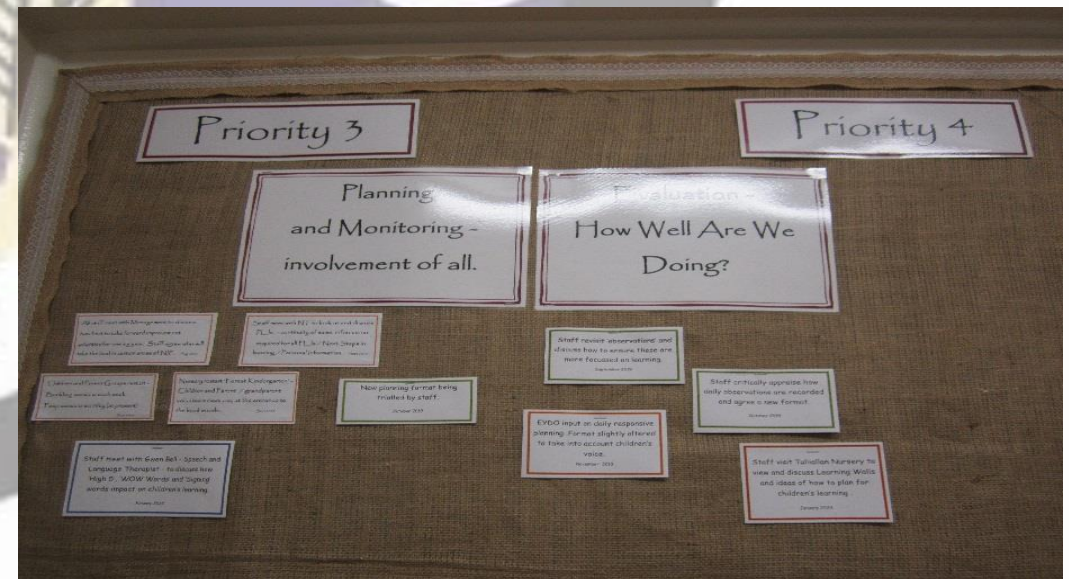
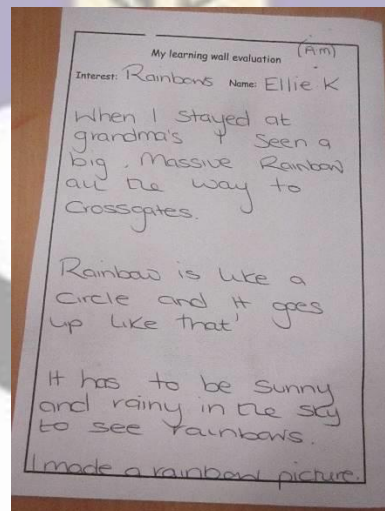
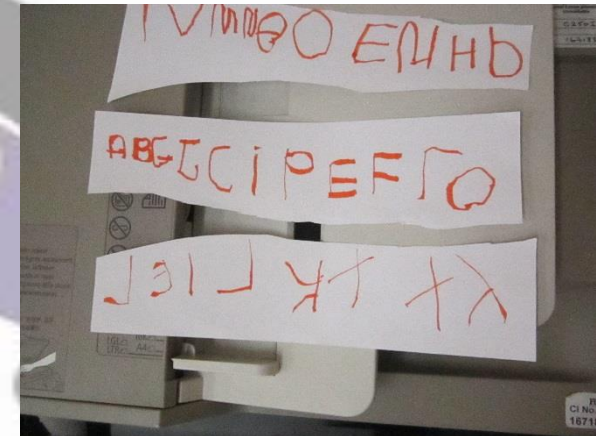
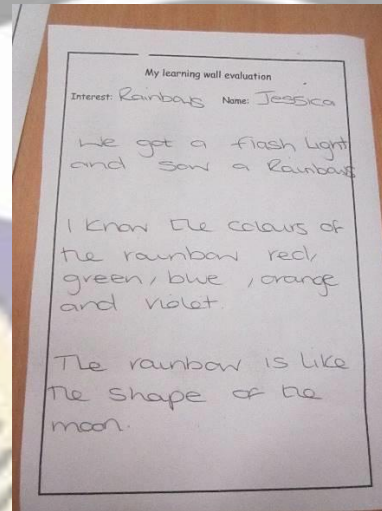
Assessment Framework

We use a variety of assessment strategies to identify children's current level of understanding and plan appropriate next steps.

<p><u>Purposes of assessment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to identify current levels of understanding• to plan appropriate next steps that meet learners specific needs• to ensure children are receiving appropriate support• to ensure progression within and across levels• to inform future improvements in our teaching and learning	<p><u>How we assess at Crossgates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• link to Benchmarks and Records of Understanding• Diagnostic assessments (formal and informal) to identify current understanding• Continual formative assessment (AfFL)<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ effective questioning → observation → plenary→ clear LI & SC co-constructed wherever possible• opportunities for self and peer assessment• formal standardised assessments such as SNSA, SWST• end of topic assessment to see how much children have learned and inform next steps
<p><u>Pupil involvement in assessment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• children co-construct success criteria• share examples of work with children and discuss• self-assessment → children assess work against SC and are aware of own next steps• peer-assessment → children assess each others' work and discuss this - collaborative learning• children aware of where they are in their learning journey and aware of next steps• opportunities to reflect on/respond to feedback	<p><u>Moderation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shared understanding of standards/expectations• ensures children are meeting the benchmarks required to progress through a level• teachers from different classes/schools meet to ensure consistency among standards/expectations• Crossgates staff working collegiately to improve outcomes for learners

Nursery Assessment

- Staff discuss progression with all stakeholders.
- Staff professional development is used to make a difference to learners.
- Staff collaborate with other services and parents/carers about children's learning.



How do we raise attainment at Crossgates?

Resources

- Clicker 7
- Board Maker
- Dedicated Raising Attainment Teacher
- Pupil support staff
- IDL
- Nurture groups
- Learning support staff
- Visual aids

Strategies

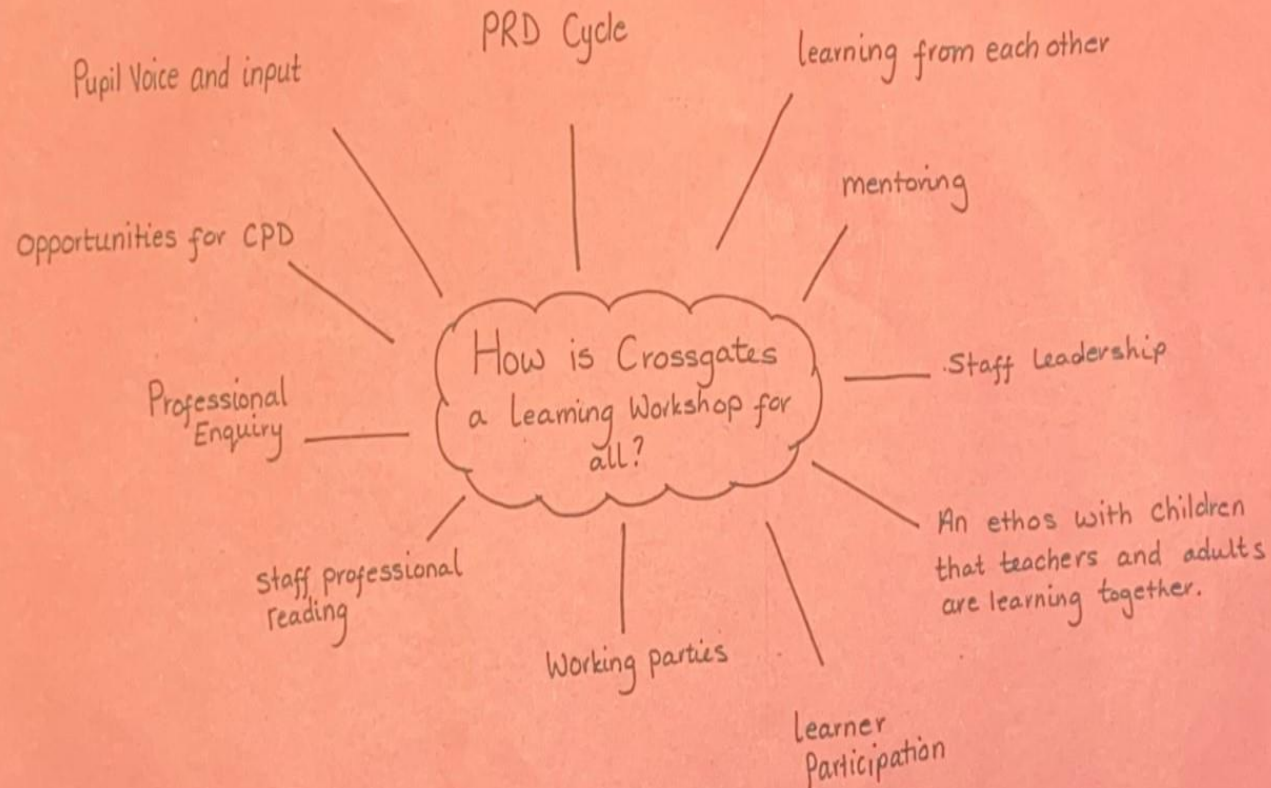
- Differentiation
- Continual formative assessment
- Targeted interventions
- Focused skills in group work
- Circle Toolkit

How are we measuring the impact?

- Child being able to articulate learning (metacognition)
 - Attainment
 - Assessing against the benchmarks
 - National Improvement Framework
 - Child reviews and child plans
 - Transferring skills to different contexts
 - SNSA

Leadership & Learning at Crossgates

There are a wide variety of leadership and learning opportunities at Crossgates which involve staff and pupils.



P7 Sports Leaders

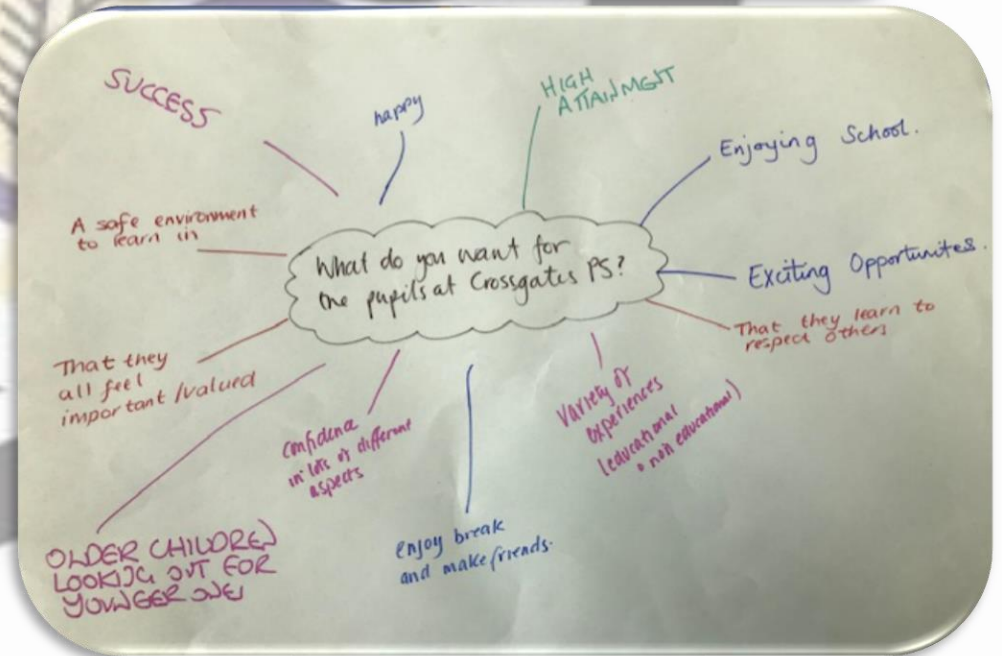


Junior Leadership Team

P4-P7 Action Groups and LEAF Pilot Committee

How are parents involved at Crossgates?

- P.T.A
- Parent Council
- Sharing learning assemblies
- Facebook
- Parent helpers
- School website
- SeeSaw
- Surveys
- Family learning
- Emails
- Open door policy
- Learning journals



Nursery Parental Involvement

- Ensuring learning opportunities promote self-confidence and raise self-esteem.
- Co-operative working
- Developing effective communication skills.
- Opportunities for inclusion.



Reducing the Cost of the School Day

Nursery

- Voluntary Nursery Fund contribution
- Free school meals and fruit
- Outdoor clothing provided free of charge

School

- All extracurricular clubs are free
- PTA fund P1 & P7 ties
- Separate PE kit no longer required
- Christmas food and toy hampers provided by the community
- Targeted holiday club referrals
- ScotGov free bus passes used for trips to reduce cost
- Pre-loved uniform packs
- Hardship/PEF/Young Carers funding for residentials
- Christmas jumpers/halloween costume stalls
- Fundraising for class trips

