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Education Services
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Supporting Improvement: Standards and Quality Report



The summary report is provided for parents/carers and partners to outline our achievements this session and our priorities for next session. Throughout this session we have taken forward our priorities as detailed in our school improvement plan. Through our processes of self-evaluation, we have identified how we can improve outcomes for our children and young people.

Our achievements and improvements this year.

As a school, we continue to provide a high-quality experience for our young people in an environment which is rooted in care, support and high expectations.

We would like to highlight the following improvements/achievements made during session 2017/18:

Raising Attainment and Achievement

In S4 SQA examinations,

- more young people than ever before are achieving 5 or more awards at level 4
- Increase in the number of pupils gaining 1 and 2 National 5 qualifications

In S5/6, improved tracking helped secure improvement in every key measurement;

- In S5, the number of pupils achieving at least one Higher increased by over 7%, the highest number ever in Notre Dame
- The numbers achieving 3 Highers increased by over 10%, the highest ever in Notre Dame
- The numbers achieving 5 Highers increased by 2%
- Similarly, in S6 we increased the number of pupils gaining 3 or more Highers and 5 or more Highers – this figure was 42.5%, the highest ever achieved in Notre Dame
- Many more young people in sixth year achieved at least one Advanced Higher qualification, this figure is still to be confirmed.

Pupil Equity Funding supported additional staff in literacy and numeracy, establishing groups of pupils for additional support including reading and spelling.

Young people in Notre Dame have the opportunity to gain accreditation in wider achievement opportunities;

- More young people than ever before achieved their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award
- Five S6 pupils successfully completed Open University short courses
- 23 S2 pupils gained the John Muir Explorer's award
- 32 S2 pupils achieved the John Muir Discovery award
- 22 pupils in S4 and achieved the Level 4 Religion, Beliefs and Values award
- 25 pupils in S6 and achieved the Level 5 Religion, Beliefs and Values award
- 16 S6 pupils gained their Saltire award
- All S3 pupils completed the Youth Philanthropy Initiative programme
- All S2 pupils participated in a leadership opportunity where they made a valuable contribution to their school

community

- Sports Ambassadors and Sports Leaders help deliver programmes and promote health and wellbeing
- 25 S6 pupils from all ethnic backgrounds completed their Caritas award
- Two S3 pupils participated in Mathematics Masterclasses at Glasgow University.

There are a wide range of extra-curricular activities on offer, including;

- Sports clubs
- Peer Mentoring
- Debating
- Book Club
- Homework Club.

Promoting wellbeing, equality and inclusion

- MCR Pathways now established in school, targeting the most vulnerable young people from S1 – S6. This programme is providing group support, mentors from the business world and talent tasters to support career options
- Young people are benefiting from a range of options and supports in Senior Phase which has ensured 95% progressed to a positive destination, an increase of 7%
- PEF supported Breakfast Club introduced, providing a nutritious and welcoming start to the school day
- More and more pupils in Senior Phase are choosing to pursue alternative pathways whilst remaining at school, including the one and two year Foundation Apprenticeships
- Renewed emphasis on Homework - Parents supportive of the Homework text alert system, staff developing an updated policy to reflect current practice and staff facilitating a lunchtime homework club, ensuring equity for all
- Young people have access to more mental health support through additional counselling services
- 20 vulnerable young people in S2 participated in a residential leadership programme, helping to build resilience
- Support for Learning Workers provide essential additional supports for young people both in and outside classroom – visits to primary schools (transition), nurturing friendship groups through lunch clubs, playground games. This is being supported by additional training and a high profile role in classroom support structures.

Learning, teaching and assessment

- All staff, including Support for Learning Workers are involved in a learning and teaching strategy which is supporting new ideas, discussion and sharing practice
- Parents were involved in a consultation around how we report on pupil progress and this has helped shape a more pupil-focused report to be piloted next session.

Here is what we plan to improve next year.

1: Improvement in attainment and achievement, ensuring equity for all

- Complete our tracking and monitoring tool to include robust tracking of S4 pupil progress
- Focus on lowest performing 20% of pupils in all year groups, with particular focus on 1+ Level 6 in S5 – use of PEF funding as required
- Review our BGE curriculum with a focus on meeting all entitlements
- Introduce Children's University to S1 pupils
- Continue to provide and promote achievement opportunities for young people with a particular focus on S6 experience
- Work closely with families to provide better supports which in turn, help pupils achieve

2: Ensuring highly effective learning, teaching and assessment

- All staff continue to focus on Pedagogy and Equity programme to improve learning and teaching approaches and cement skills
- Staff and pupils will engage with GCC ICT refresh to further adopt digital learning strategies, helping to enhance Learning and Teaching
- A continued focus on ensuring a shared understanding of standards with moderation of pupils work
- Enhance pupils' participation in their learning through quality feedback processes and providing more robust, pupil-centred reports in BGE, directing pupils and parents to next steps
- Literacy – Enhance staff understanding and expertise in promoting reading skills, utilising standardised assessment results and achievement of level.
- Numeracy - Utilise standardised assessment results to enhance staff understanding and expertise in improving numeracy across the curriculum
- Meeting Learning Needs – differentiation & challenge, enhance staff knowledge and engagement with particular groups & needs.

3: Enhance the Health and Wellbeing of school community

- Enhance staff, pupil and families' understanding of mental and emotional health concerns
- Identify emotional and mental health needs across the community in order to develop training and workshop opportunities
- Identify appropriate accreditation to support pupil achievement and staff development
- Engage additional resources and supports for mental/emotional health concerns.

How can you find out more information about our school?

Please contact us directly if you require further information or if you wish to comment on the report.

The contact e-mail address is: Headteacher@notredamehigh.glasgow.sch.uk

Our telephone number is: 0141 582 1090

Our school address is: 160 Observatory Road, Glasgow G12 9LN

Further information is available in:

- Newsletters
- School handbook, which can be accessed on our website:
<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/ndhs>
- school twitter account
@ndhsglasgow.