

Abbey Primary School

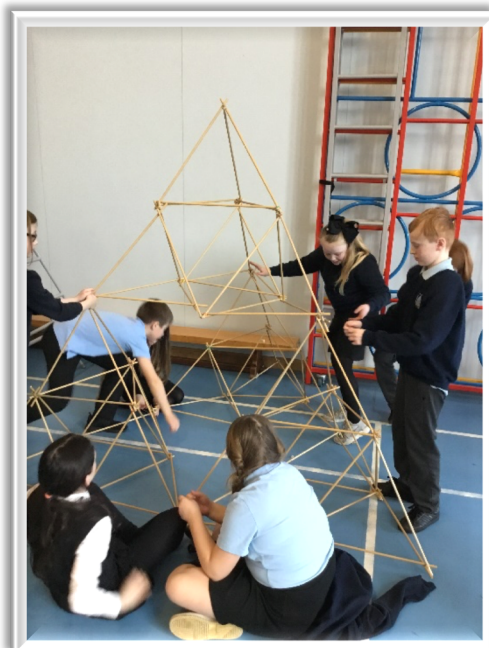
Standards and Quality Report 2018



Developing Young Workforce



Community Involvement



Enthusiasm for Learning

This booklet has been produced to give you information about our school's progress and achievements as well as our plans for 2018-19.



Susan Hamilton
Head Teacher



OUR SCHOOL

Abbey Primary is a well-established school in the heart of Kilwinning.

The main building is almost 100 years old and, with the additional extensions over the years, it now boasts some of the best facilities available in any North Ayrshire school.

Abbey is a caring, nurturing and positive learning environment, where the main focus is to support all children through their learning journey to enable them to reach their full potential – no limits! The ethos throughout the school is achieved by dedicated, hard-working staff, enthusiastic and creative children and supportive and caring parents/carers.

We recognise and appreciate, at all times, that to achieve the best for our 290 pupils and 80 early years children requires a team effort, and, through working together, we can do just that. The school community as a whole acknowledges that everyone has a part to play and staff and children take on additional roles and responsibilities to not only develop themselves as individuals but also the school and everyone within it. As a community we are proud of our school and we know this positive and committed approach will pay dividends for all our children.

We value the support and contributions of parents/carers and hope we can continue to work together to ensure our children become confident and successful in all aspects of their education and personal development.

As a school, one of our tasks last session was to update our school's vision, values and aims to reflect our ethos, community and work we do. We have spoken with staff, pupils, parents / carers and visitors to the school to ensure all views were represented.

You can now see our vision, values and aims displayed around the school.



Vision, Aims and Values

At Abbey Primary School our **vision** is:

Everyone can achieve – *no limits!*

This vision is embodied in our school's **aims**:

- To provide a nurturing environment, based on inclusion and equality, to enable all learners to achieve their full potential
- For ALL voices to be heard and respected
- To provide our learners with high quality, enriching learning experiences in which they can achieve success
- To have high expectations of involvement and achievement for our children, staff and community
- To work together to create a community that "gets it right" and provides the best possible opportunities for our children

Our **values** guide the way we work. Together we will recognise and promote:

- Respect
- Listening to one another
- Compassion and understanding
- Enthusiasm for learning
- Partnership working



Abbey Primary School...

no limits!



Our pupils have explored these elements with their teachers in class and at school assemblies.

STRENGTHS OF THE SCHOOL –

Our achievements



Last session was another busy year for us.

All classes were able to take part in a wide variety of trips and competitions and had access to visitors to extend and develop related learning. Highlights included Primary 4 who participated in workshops from the Royal Scottish National Orchestra as well as visiting Glasgow's Concert Hall to hear them play and our Primary 6 and 7 classes who worked with Scottish Opera to perform "Dragons of the Western Sea".



The school continues to offer a range of after-school clubs including football, netball, athletics, gymnastics, badminton, dance, singing and gardening.

Our football, netball, dance and athletics teams took part in local competitions and were very successful. Our Netball Team won the Kilwinning Primary School Netball League and our football team are the Kilwinning Cluster Champions. Our gymnastics team travelled to Perth to take part in "Gymfest" and had a fabulous day.



The Primary 7 Ambassadors programme encourages our P7 pupils to take on additional responsibilities across the school. This includes organising lunch time clubs for our P1-P3 pupils. Successful pupils are awarded the title of Abbey Ambassador!

Children at all stages are involved in school committees. These include the Pupil Council, the Junior Road Safety team, the Eco group and the Rights Respecting Schools group.

A number of our children (and families) have been supported through Place2Be, helping them to develop their ability to cope with life's challenges as they grow. Children can request an appointment to speak to someone at playtime or lunchtime through Place2Talk; identified children receive 1-1 counselling in our Place2Be room; staff can ask for advice and help through Place2Think. All of these services have had a very positive impact within the school.



Our children have been successful in national and local competitions. These included: The Primary Engineer Challenge – where our P6 team were runners up; The Scottish Engineering Leaders Award – where two of our P7 children had their work displayed at the Barony Hall, Glasgow. Teams participated in the Rotary Quiz and the Euro Quiz and selected children took part in the Kilwinning Burns Competition.



We have provided opportunities to develop our young workforce during our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) Week, Health Week and Careers' Day.

Several children from across the school attend instrumental tuition and one of our pupils won first place in the Ayrshire Music Festival Classical Competition.



We continue to support selected charities including the local Food Bank, Poppy Scotland and Sports Relief.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT –

Looking Back at 2017-18

Our improvement plan for 2017-18 comprised of 4 key areas for development.



1. Nurture

This session all staff have been trained in Restorative Practice and Nurture Principles resulting in a consistent approach when talking and listening to children, reinforcing high expectations of conduct and behaviour linked to Abbey's Behaviour Code. Our updated Vision, Values and Aims, take account of views from children, parents, staff and visitors and reflect the school's ethos. We are regularly complimented on our polite, respectful pupils and the welcoming ethos within the school.

2. Numeracy and Mathematics

Staff have worked together to explore effective features of learning and teaching in numeracy and mathematics, sharing good practice and expertise. Our assessment data shows that resulting improvements in learning and teaching is having a positive impact on the number of children who are achieving or exceeding the expected levels.

3. Reporting to Parents

This session we evaluated our new reporting system and made some changes to improve the process further. Children are now fully involved when setting and evaluating their targets and can give examples of how they know they have made progress and what they need to do next to improve further. Most children attended their Parents' meeting which resulted in quality learning conversations. The three Parents' meetings were better spaced through the session resulting in over 90% of parents attending each meeting.

4. Literacy

Our focus to improve the learning and teaching of reading was in two stages. Staff from Early Years – P3 working to create a clear pathway for the teaching and assessment of reading and phonics. Staff from P4-7 focused on teaching reading comprehension strategies, explicitly and consistently. Our assessment data shows that this work has had a very positive impact on attainment in reading.

Comparing our assessment results from 2017 to 2018 there is an improving trend across the school in reading, and numeracy and mathematics. The results show a 'dip' at Primary 4 in writing although our P7 results have improved. As a result, writing across the school will be a key focus in next session's improvement plan.

Priorities for 2018 – 19

Our School Improvement Plan sets out our priorities and the activities we will be undertaking as a school over the current session.

This session our priorities will be:

Raising attainment in writing across the school

Introducing Reading Recovery for identified children

Raising attainment in numeracy and mathematics, building on the work from last session, as well as focusing on teacher and pupil confidence

Enhancing the health and wellbeing of the whole school community

Extending our Early Years Provision to 1140 hours



SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

We are very fortunate to work with a variety of partners from across our community.



Kilwinning Cluster

As one of five primary schools in Kilwinning we are delighted to have close relationships with the other cluster schools, Early Years Centres and Kilwinning Academy, to further support and develop our children's education. As a cluster we regularly work together to share best practice and to plan cluster events to benefit all of our children.

Kilwinning Sports Club

We work closely with the staff at KSC to offer and provide opportunities for our pupils to take part in a wide variety of physical activities. KSC provide professional tutors, use of their grounds and resources and help within school at sports.



Kilwinning Ministers

Throughout the year the school has regular visits from ministers or representatives associated with churches from across the town. Their visits to assemblies can provide a religious element through a bible story but more often engage the children in fun and active stories with a positive moral and ethical message.

Kilwinning Aces

This local community group are very supportive of the school, providing fun resources and activities at Fun days. More importantly, they provide engaging sessions for upper primary children in keeping safe. These positive interventions are supporting our children to make good decisions and choices to impact on their future.



Family Learning Team

We are delighted that Jenny from the Family Learning Team is now working within the school every Wednesday to help support parents to engage with their child in their learning.

Parent Council

Our active Parent Council has worked tirelessly to support the school, represent the views of parents and fundraise and organise treats for all our pupils.