

WHITEHIRST PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

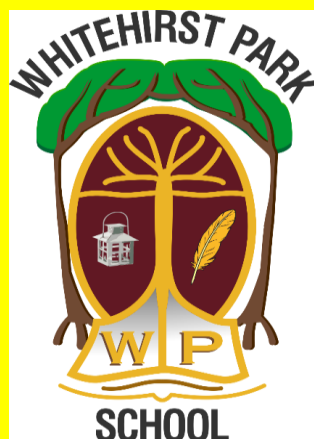


STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

October 2017

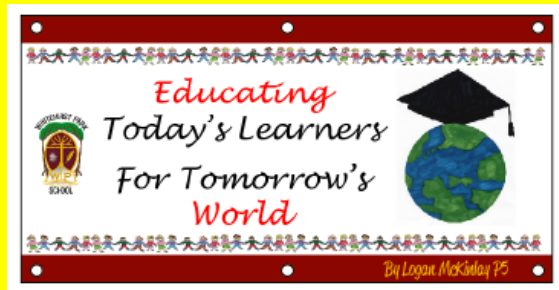
This summary guide has been prepared to give
you information about our
school's progress and achievements as
well as our plans for 2017-18.

For the full version please visit our website:
www.whitehirstpark.northayrshireschools.co.uk



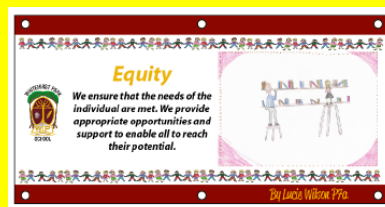
Lynn Robertson
Head Teacher

Our School



Whitehirst Park Primary School is a non-denominational school with a roll of 281 pupils in 12 classes. The school is situated in the Whitehirst Park area of Kilwinning and opened in 1975. The current staff structure consists of 1 Head Teacher, 2 Depute Head Teachers, 1 Principal Teacher, 14 Teachers (including one probationer), 4 Classroom Assistants, 0.6 Pupil Support Service Teacher, 2 Education Support Assistants and 1 Janitor. Working in partnership, within a caring and stimulating environment, we aim to provide quality learning experiences which will encourage positive attitudes, enabling pupils to achieve their potential as valued members of the community.

Our values



Our values were created in partnership with our pupils, staff and parents and underpin all that we do at Whitehirst Park.

LOOKING BACK - SESSION 2016-17

Last year we worked hard to improve our work in the following areas:



1. Numeracy
2. GIRFEC (Getting It Right for Every Child)
3. Listening and Talking
4. 1+2 agenda (French)
5. Planning, assessment and reporting
6. Self evaluation systems



Across the school children are making very good progress in Numeracy. Numeracy planners have been adapted in line with North Ayrshire's Early and First Level Numeracy framework and staff have taken part in a variety of training programmes aimed at developing childrens' numeracy skills.

We have continued to raise awareness about GIRFEC with staff, pupils and parents through stalls at Parents Nights, leaflets, schools displays and assemblies. In June 2016 82% of all staff felt they knew a lot about GIRFEC, compared with 87.5% in June 2017. 70% of a parental sample group had heard of GIRFEC compared with 54% in June 2016. We focussed on the wellbeing indicators 'Safe and Healthy' for Assemblies and work across the school.

New Listening and Talking planning documents and resources have been developed and these are being used in Session 2017-18 to ensure continuity and clear progression at all stages of learning.

The profile of French has been raised through a variety of ways: a French Display Board is now in prominent view for visitors to the school; a 1+2 school committee of pupils has been set up; we had a French Fun afternoon with games, music and art activities for all age groups; 1+2 is a focus for Assemblies when the Principal Teacher is leading whole school Assemblies and 1+2 appears regularly in newsletters highlighting some key phrases and vocabulary.

The revised Annual Written Report issued in June 2017 ensured pupils were part of the reporting process as their views were recorded and the teacher assessment was shared with them. All pupils found this to be a positive process. Almost all parents who commented on the report felt this gave them clear information about their child and their next steps in learning. Staff felt the more streamlined report enabled them to focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing. A draft assessment policy has also been created. Staff feel this gives more consistency of approach across the school and will ensure smooth transitions for pupils.



ATTAINMENT



Throughout the year we gather lots of information on how our children are progressing in their learning. To monitor their progress we watch children working through tasks, listen to what they say, ask important questions, set challenges and use some standardised assessments. We get together and look carefully at the experiences and outcomes of Curriculum for Excellence to ensure children are making progress.

North Ayrshire Council also ask us to summarise our children's progress in Reading, Writing, Listening and Talking and Numeracy. They ask us to look particularly at children who have reached the end of Early, First and Second Levels at P1, P4 and P7.

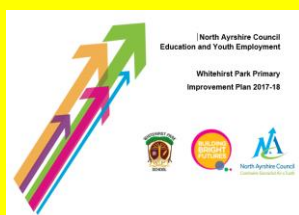
Key highlights of this year's analysis are:

- * Attainment in all areas of Literacy and Numeracy continues to be good across the school. The focus on supporting Writing has seen attainment across the school improve over the last two years in almost all stages.
- * Almost all learners made progress from prior levels in Listening and Talking and Reading and Numeracy, and most in Writing.

Our rigorous analysis of our attainment data for Session 2016-17 means we are very aware of where we need to improve and we are fully committed to improving attainment for all in all areas of the curriculum.

Excellence is doing ordinary
things extraordinarily well.
John W. Gardner

OUR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN



The School Improvement Plan is a document which sets out the activities we will be undertaking as a school over the coming session. When writing this document we take into account a number of factors:

- * National Priorities and directives as set out by the Scottish Government.
- * Local Priorities and directives as set out by North Ayrshire Council.
- * Our self evaluation procedures and development needs of our own school.

DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES 2017-18

These documents are continually reviewed and evaluated by school staff and the Senior Leadership Team. We focus on evidence based evaluations from all stakeholders and use these to inform our next steps. At Authority Level we are supported by the Head of Schools and our Senior Manager.

1. Cultivate a 'nurturing schools' approach to meet the needs of all young people.
2. Align Numeracy planning and assessment with experiences and outcomes and benchmarks to enrich the quality of learners' experiences and raise attainment in Numeracy.
3. Align Literacy planning and assessment with experiences and outcomes and benchmarks to enrich the quality of learners' experiences and raise attainment in Literacy.
4. Use whole school self evaluation systems and processes to support quality improvement.
5. Increase Parental Engagement through effective reporting to parents and Family Learning.



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



Just a few of our achievements in 2016-17 include:

- * Our P7 Football team took part in the Kilwinning Champions League and made it through to the Champions of Champions event!
- * Our P6 and 7 Netball teams were winners in the Kilwinning League, demonstrating ambition and resilience.
- * Session 2016-17 saw a huge increase in P4-7s taking part in the Ayrshire Chess Club competitions, winning many medals.
- * P6 and 7 Digital Leaders delivered training on coding and Glow Blogs to North Ayrshire and Kilwinning Cluster teachers
- * A number of our young musicians took part in the Ayrshire Music Festival winning many 1sts and our String Orchestra gave a strong performance in their class!
- * Our Charities Committee organised a number of successful collections for Poppy Scotland, Action Aid, NA Foodbank and Red Nose Day! The generosity of our school community is to be commended.
- * We all took part in an amazing STEM fortnight, learning lots of Science and Technology skills!
- * We saw a 100% increase in P5, 6 and 7 pupils participating in the North Ayrshire Cross Country events, winning individual and team events.
- * We hosted a Fair Trade Break with delicious Fair Trade snacks in partnership with the school catering team.
- * Our Athletics Team got through to the final of the North Ayrshire Schools Competition at the Portal. Year on year the team goes from strength to strength.
- * Almost all P6 pupils successfully completed their i-cycle training.
- * Our P7 team won the Kilwinning Schools Rotary Quiz and came fourth in the West of Scotland Quiz.
- * Our P6 Euro Quiz team were runners up in the North Ayrshire Contest, being pipped at the post by 1 point!
- * Our Eco Committee successfully secured a pollination grant enabling us to further develop our Eco Garden.
- * We have excelled in Sumdog Competitions, winning the first National Contest and the North Ayrshire contest three times!
- * We were the third school in North Ayrshire to be awarded Digital School status and attended a presentation at Cunningham House.
- * Our wonderful Parent Council Fundraising Sub Committee helped us to raise over £15 000 in Session 2016-17! They have transformed our playground with the addition of a playtrail, bark path and outdoor seating area. They also paid for the Pantomime buses, our P7 Leavers' party, Sumdog subscription and much, much more! We plan to spend lots on our outdoor environment in the coming session!

For more of our achievements follow us on Twitter @WhitehirstPS

Overall Capacity For Improvement – Strengths and Next steps

The capacity for improvement at Whitehirst Park Primary is very good. The commitment of staff, support from parents and the confident pupils, ensures there is capacity for continuous growth and development. The school community has a clear vision. Our purpose is to ensure that every child is given the opportunity and support to be the best that they can be and develop the four capacities, supported by the nurturing ethos of the Whitehirst Park Primary School community. This will continue to be improved through cultivating positive relationships with all stakeholders, collegiate working and developing effective leadership at all levels.

In Session 2017-18 we will continue to develop effective approaches to moderation, assessment, self-evaluation and improvement by developing staff skills, knowledge and understanding. We will continue to have high expectations of the performance of all staff and thoroughly plan Career-Long Professional Learning opportunities linked to the Professional Review and Development process and the School Improvement Plan.

We will continue to review and develop our procedures for formal and informal approaches to monitoring the quality of learning and teaching as part of the schools quality assurance procedures. This will ensure consistent, quality learning experiences for pupils. We will continue to rigorously track pupils' progress through analysing all available data. This process will include regular meetings involving teaching staff, support staff and the leadership team so that prompt action can be taken and we can continue to celebrate areas where improvements have been made. The improvement plan for 2017 - 2018 will focus directly on the curriculum, self-evaluation, meeting learners needs and reporting to ensure pace and challenge for all pupils.

