

WHITEHIRST PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL



STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

September 2022

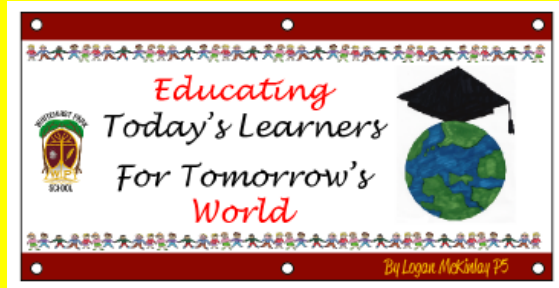
This guide has been prepared to give you information about our school's progress and achievements as well as our plans for 2022-23.



Lynn Robertson

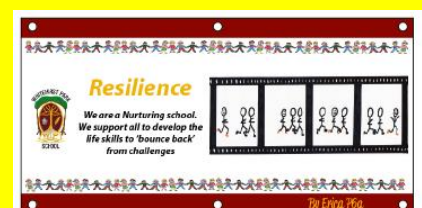
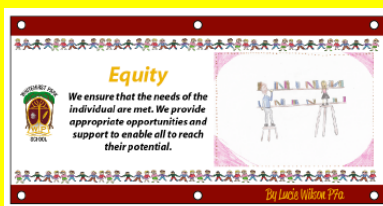
Head Teacher

Our School



Whitehirst Park Primary School is a non-denominational school with a roll of 271 pupils in 13 classes, including a P1/2 and a P3/4 composite class in our Gaelic provision. The school is situated in the Whitehirst Park area of Kilwinning and opened in 1975. The current staff structure consists of 1 Head Teacher, 1 Depute Head Teacher, 2 Principal Teachers, 18 Teachers (including one Music Teacher and one newly qualified teacher), 11 Classroom Assistants, 0.6 Pupil Support Teacher, 1 Full time Education Support Assistant, 2 Part time 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 2021-22

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

- ❖ Focus on school recovery through approaches to assessing and supporting wellbeing and attainment
 - ❖ Develop Gaelic Medium Education for Primary 1, 2 and 3 pupils
 - ❖ Develop a culture of leadership at all levels
 - ❖ Maximise Parental Engagement in the life and work of the school
- ❖ Focus on ensuring high quality learning experiences for all children, incorporating the effective use of assessment by staff and learners

Staff undertook a variety of professional learning and collegiate activities to develop the identified priorities:

- ❖ All teaching staff have taken part in professional learning around PM Writing approaches. A working party has created resources and is working on updating planners to support learning and teaching. The approach is improving attainment and consistency across the school.
- ❖ One class teacher participated in a pilot with the Professional Learning Academy to develop Oracy skills in pupils. They led professional learning for teaching staff and presented our school approaches to North Ayrshire colleagues.
- ❖ The Head Teacher and Sustainability Lead Teacher took part in professional learning at Dumfries House on planting and school gardens. Our gardens and planting spaces are being developed.
- ❖ Our Sustainability Working Party applied for a grant to develop Learning for Sustainability and were successful! They delivered professional learning for staff and continue to work on developing planters for each class as well as erecting our poly tunnel. They have just received confirmation of further funding through the 'Food for Thought' programme.
- ❖ Early, First and Second level staff have taken part in Outdoor Learning professional learning in partnership with North Ayrshire Professional Learning Academy.
- ❖ Our Principal Teacher reviewed and updated our Health and Wellbeing planners and worked with the Pupil Council to review our Anti-Bullying approaches. They plan to consult the Parent Council and launch this in Anti- Bullying Week.
- ❖ Our Pupil Equity Funded Pupil Support Teacher developed a process for supporting pupil wellbeing. Following positive feedback from pupils this strategy will continue in Session 2022-23.



Self Evaluation



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 as a staff and look carefully at the experiences and outcomes of Curriculum for Excellence to ensure children are making progress.

Each session all schools use a six point scale from the 'How Good Is Our School?' document to evaluate the life and work of the school. The grades are excellent, very good, good, satisfactory, unsatisfactory and weak.

The box below illustrates how we have graded our school for 2021-22.

Leadership of Change: Good
Learning, Teaching and Assessment: Good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion : Good
Raising Attainment and Achievement : Good

Our focus on education recovery, assessment and rigorous analysis of our attainment data 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.

We have a strong commitment to attendance and inclusion. We track attendance monthly and track pupil participation in extra-curricular activities in school and outwith school.

- * Our attendance has been above the North Ayrshire average for the past five years.
- * In Term 1 86.7 % took part in extra-curricular activity in or outwith school. By Term 4 we had increased this to 96.6%. 56% of pupils took part in some type of extra-curricular activity across the school.

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.

This document is 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.

In Session 2022-23 we have identified the following priorities:

- ❖ Focus on ensuring high quality learning experiences for all children, incorporating the effective use of assessment by staff and learners
 - ❖ Develop Gaelic Medium Education for Primary 1, 2, 3 and 4 pupils
 - ❖ Focus on school recovery through approaches to assessing and supporting wellbeing, Curriculum Design and Meeting Needs
 - ❖ Develop a culture of leadership at all levels
 - ❖ Maximise Parental Engagement in the life and work of the school
- ❖ We are looking forward to working with North Ayrshire Professional Learning Academy on the following interventions in Session 2022-23:
- ❖ Primary 1 Play Pedagogy
 - ❖ Supporting Phonological Awareness



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



Just a few of our achievements in 2021-22 include:

- * Our Gaelic Medium Provision expanded as we welcomed new Primary 1 pupils, giving us a 1/2/3 composite class.
- * Miss MacNeil and Mrs Robertson presented at the Scottish Learning Festival about how the Gaelic Medium Provision was established.
- * P7 took part in an exciting residential at Inverclyde National Sports Centre. They had a blast trying out lots of indoor and outdoor active experiences.
- * Despite the challenges COVID 19 presented we took part in Cross Country, Dancing, Football and Netball tournaments across North Ayrshire, winning the Dance Competition for the third year in a row!
- * Working in partnership with parents and community groups we held successful World of Work, STEM and Health weeks.
- * Our Parent Council worked hard with us to establish a Uniform bank to combat the cost of the school day. They also organised a Sponsored Walk to fund the buses for a whole school trip to the Panto!
- * Two class teachers took part in the Olevi Programme for Outstanding teachers. They have shared practice with North Ayrshire and school colleagues.
- * Miss Dobson and our Eco Committee achieved our 5th Eco Schools Green Flag in June with excellent feedback!

For more of our achievements follow us on Twitter @WhitehirstPs



ATTAINMENT



Throughout the year we gather lots of information on how our children are progressing in their learning. We watch children working through tasks, listen to what they say, set challenges and use some standardised assessments. We 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 has improved in all areas last session, following the decrease after periods of school closure.
- * Our attainment at Primary 7 is above the North Ayrshire average in all areas of Literacy and Numeracy.
- * Almost all learners made progress from prior levels in Listening and Talking, Reading and Numeracy, with most in Writing. Some pupils are working beyond the expected level for their age and stage. This has improved from Session 2020-21 in Writing.

Analysis of our attainment data for Session 2021-22 means we are very aware of where we need to improve and we are fully committed to improving attainment for all.

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.

The improvement plan for 2022 – 2023 continues to focus on school recovery, nurturing relationships, supporting pupil wellbeing and progress, and ensuring high quality learning experiences for all pupils.

Our clear focus on school recovery will enable us to 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.

