

Parent Council AGM Update
Thursday 10th September 2026

Key Strengths

A Caring and Inclusive School Community

- Children learn in a nurturing and welcoming environment where wellbeing, inclusion and positive relationships are a priority.
- Staff know children well and provide support tailored to individual needs.
- The school has a strong focus on helping every child feel valued, included and successful.

Strong Teaching and Learning

- Learning experiences are engaging and well planned.
- Children are increasingly involved in leading aspects of school life and taking responsibility for their learning.
- Staff regularly work together to share good practice and ensure high-quality learning experiences across the school.

Improvements in Writing

- The introduction of the Talk for Writing approach has increased children's engagement in writing.
- Several year groups have shown measurable improvements in writing attainment.
- Staff have worked together to create a consistent approach to teaching writing across the school.

Positive Development of Play-Based Learning

- Play-based learning has been successfully developed from Nursery into Primary 1 and is beginning to extend into older classes.
- Children report positive experiences of learning through play.
- Staff have strengthened links between Nursery and Primary 1 to support smooth transitions and consistency in learning.

Focus on Wellbeing and Equity

- Targeted literacy and wellbeing interventions are helping children who need additional support.
- Attendance remains strong and has improved from the previous session, however there is a higher than desirable number of pupils with persistent absence (where attendance is below 90%).

- Staff have undertaken extensive professional learning to support inclusion, wellbeing and positive outcomes for all learners.

Improvements Made This Year

Literacy

- Writing attainment has improved across several stages.
- Reading interventions such as Read, Write Inc. and Reading Wise have helped targeted children make measurable progress in reading and writing skills.

Nursery Development

- Nursery staff have developed a more literacy-rich environment.
- Training in Words Up and Bookbug has strengthened support for language development and early literacy.
- Planning is becoming increasingly focused on promoting curiosity, communication and early writing skills.

Staff Leadership and Professional Learning

- Staff have taken on leadership roles and participated in professional learning linked directly to school improvement priorities.
- Quality assurance activities such as observations and moderation have strengthened consistency across the school.

Areas for Further Development

Further Improve Writing Attainment

- Continue developing Talk for Writing approaches to raise attainment further, particularly in stages where progress has been slower.
- Monitor progress closely and provide additional support where needed.

Expand Play-Based Learning

- Extend effective play pedagogy into older classes to support engagement, creativity and attainment.
- Continue staff training to ensure a consistent approach across the school.

Increase Use of Digital Support Tools

- Ensure assistive technologies and digital learning tools are used consistently for children who would benefit from them.

Strengthen Pupil Voice and Family Engagement

- Provide more opportunities for children to influence decisions about their learning and wellbeing.

- Increase parental involvement and understanding of learning through platforms such as Padlet and planned Bookbug sessions.

Overall

Allanton Primary School and Nursery continues to demonstrate strong strengths in wellbeing, inclusion, play-based learning and staff collaboration. Improvements in literacy, particularly writing and targeted reading support, are beginning to show positive results. The next stage of development will focus on building on these successes, extending play-based approaches, increasing writing attainment further, and continuing to ensure that every child receives the support they need to thrive.