



My Child's Learning Journey
A Guide for Parents



Literacy: Beginning First Level



*Imagine with all your mind.
Believe with all your heart.
Achieve with all your might.*





Literacy: Beginning First Level

The aim of this guide is to help you understand your child's learning journey through the primary school curriculum.

Your child is now at the beginning of the first level of learning in the Curriculum for Excellence. They are on their way to becoming accomplished readers, writers and mathematicians and throughout the course of the year they will learn skills and build knowledge to help them in this.

It should be noted, that this is a **guide**. Your child is at the very beginning of first level, which will take them to the end of primary four to complete. Not all children will have mastered all of these skills by the end of primary four. For some children, they will continue to work through first level in primary five or perhaps even six. Some children will have started beginning "threads" of first level by the end of primary one. Each learning journey is unique and your discussion with your child's class teacher will help you understand your child's progress and next steps in learning.

How we assess your child's progress through the level

Throughout the year, your child will complete a range activities and assessments both formal and informal, along with the review of ongoing daily activities. These combined help your child's teacher to make professional judgements on your child's learning.

Your discussion with your child's teacher at parent's evening and throughout the course of the year will allow you to discuss in detail your child's progress, needs and next steps.

A summary of their progress will be given in their end of year report given home in June.

Should you have any questions about your child's learning then please contact the school for an appointment to discuss this.



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Literacy: Beginning first level

Literacy covers reading, writing as well as talking and listening. These are taught within North Lanarkshire literacy programme and across the curriculum.

Reading	Writing	Talking and Listening
In working towards first level your child is learning to:	In working towards first level your child is learning to:	In working towards first level your child is learning to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ talk about what they are reading to others in order to give a personal response ♦ retell stories using own words use pictures and words to support understanding ♦ identify conjunctions in a sentence ♦ apply word attack skills and strategies to decode familiar and unfamiliar words ♦ recognise the contents and index pages in references books ♦ recognise the differences between fiction and non-fiction texts ♦ ask relevant questions about a topic prior to reading ♦ organise information in a list or under headings ♦ find the main ideas and summarise a short text in sequence ♦ answer literal questions about a text ♦ use visual cues and headings to find the main ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ make choices about writing ♦ use vocabulary from reading in writing ♦ share ideas with others ♦ spell new and common words using learned strategies ♦ order alphabet using letter names ♦ write at least 4 sentences using capital letters and full stops ♦ use connectives to link ideas / join sentences ♦ write ideas in a logical sequence ♦ include some details which are relevant ♦ use interesting words in context ♦ use labels on a picture / diagram ♦ write using a range of genre Including personal experience ♦ describe events ♦ include opinion in writing ♦ write about character and setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ listen most of the time when others are talking ♦ understand when it is an appropriate time to speak ♦ use an appropriate volume of voice ♦ speak clearly and audibly ♦ identify and talk about key points ♦ make simple notes ♦ recall some interesting and technical vocabulary ♦ answer questions to show understanding (prediction / literal) ♦ ask a variety of simple questions ♦ give an opinion on a text he/she have listened to or watched ♦ show an awareness of the difference between fact and opinion ♦ share information, experiences ideas and opinions ♦ ask questions to show understanding ♦ plan and deliver spoken texts to a group ♦ use props to enhance / support a presentation



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Your child will continue to develop these skills as they move on to First level 2.

Some children will require support in learning and developing these skills through additional one to one teaching time, additional support through working at a different pace, different material and resources to support their learning or spending time out of the class working within small group to support learning. Children may also need additional support to challenge them to achieve their potential and this may involve working at a quicker pace, covering additional activities or working at a slightly higher level than would normally be expected.

Your child's class teacher will know the needs and abilities of your child and will prepare a range of activities to support their learning. For this purpose children work in groups within reading and writing. These groups are fluid and change throughout the course of the year as your child learns new skills, reinforces other skills or perhaps needs a little additional support or challenge. We would encourage this change in groups as it helps children to understand their own learner needs.

You can continue to support your child's learning by:

Continuing to read to and with your child.

Discussing stories, characters and main ideas.

Discussing books - authors, titles, chapters etc.

Talking about illustrations and how they relate to the story.

Asking about what may have happened in the book or how a character may feel.

Encouraging a love of books and reading by making this a fun activity

Reminding your child to bring their book to school every day.



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