



My Child's Learning Journey  
A Guide for Parents



**Literacy:**  
**Achieving Second Level**



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





## Literacy: Achieving Second 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 working to the end of the second level of learning in the Curriculum for Excellence. They are now becoming independent and competent readers, writers and mathematicians and deepening skills and building on firm foundations in their knowledge to help them in this. Your child will be very familiar with skills in self assessing their own work and supporting others in peer assessment activities, building on earlier experiences.

It should be noted, that this is a **guide**. Your child is still continuing to learn new skills and consolidate prior learning covered in early level and first level. Primary seven will further develop their learning and mastery of skills which will take them to the end of primary seven and to the completion the second level. Not all children will have mastered all of these skills by the end of primary seven. For some children, they will continue to work through first level experiences and outcomes in to the first or second year at secondary school. Very few children, if any, will complete second level before the end of primary seven. 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. It is important that we allow children the time they need to master skills and understanding before building new 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.




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





## Literacy: achieving Second 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 second level your child is learning to:	In working towards second level your child is learning to:	In working towards second level your child is learning to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ select and read increasingly challenging material for a sustained period</li> <li>♦ use contextual cues to read and understand unfamiliar words and expressions</li> <li>♦ read aloud with expression using the right pace and tone to enhance meaning</li> <li>♦ recognise, understand, use and evaluate the effect of similes, metaphors and alliteration</li> <li>♦ identify the main character relationships and themes within a text</li> <li>♦ summarise the main points of the text</li> <li>♦ appropriately reference where information has been selected</li> <li>♦ discuss literature with reference to theme, author's purpose, style, and author's craft</li> <li>♦ use quotes to support/justify opinion</li> <li>♦ compare and contrast points of view that are openly stated or inferred</li> <li>♦ discuss feelings, moods and attitudes and make deductions</li> <li>♦ discuss, answer and create more complex literal, inferential and evaluative questions</li> <li>♦ assess sources and use them to support point of view</li> <li>♦ discuss structure, opening, ending, atmosphere, tension, characterisation and actions using examples from text/film</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ consistently act on feedback</li> <li>♦ understand the convention of adding suffixes</li> <li>♦ use paragraphs of different lengths in extended pieces of writing</li> <li>♦ accurately use punctuation for direct speech</li> <li>♦ use first, second and third person appropriately</li> <li>♦ organise different kinds of notes including mind maps</li> <li>♦ use notes to create a range of texts</li> <li>♦ reference sources appropriately</li> <li>♦ express thoughts and opinions using supporting detail and evidence to persuade the reader</li> <li>♦ use turning points and cliff hangers effectively</li> <li>♦ use opening paragraph / introduction to make purpose clear</li> <li>♦ use formal and informal language appropriately</li> </ul> <p><i>Imagine with all your mind. Believe with all your heart. Achieve with all your might.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ confidently and with increasing independence access a wider range of texts</li> <li>♦ regularly create different types texts on subjects of their choice for different purposes</li> <li>♦ listen when others are talking throughout the discussion</li> <li>♦ make relevant contributions throughout most of the discussion</li> <li>♦ show they value others' contributions almost all the time</li> <li>♦ frequently use a range of verbal and non-verbal skills when engaging with others</li> <li>♦ give appropriate feedback to speakers based on the techniques and strategies they have used</li> <li>♦ justify with evidence the purpose and main ideas of a text</li> <li>♦ make detailed notes and use them appropriately</li> <li>♦ organise information gathered in a range of ways</li> <li>♦ assess the reliability and relevance of different sources with increasing independence</li> <li>♦ identify issues and draw conclusions</li> <li>♦ challenge the ideas of others</li> </ul> 





### Literacy : Achieving Second Level

Your child will continue to develop these skills as they move on to secondary school and begin work on the third level.

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:**

Discussing books - authors, titles, chapters etc.

Sequencing or predicting events or discussing character reactions.

Reading news articles and retelling main events.

Beginning to talk to your child about the authors choice of word.

Talking about meaning that can be inferred in a text.

Discussing alternative endings, or themes within a text.

Encouraging your child to research information for homework.

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

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



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

