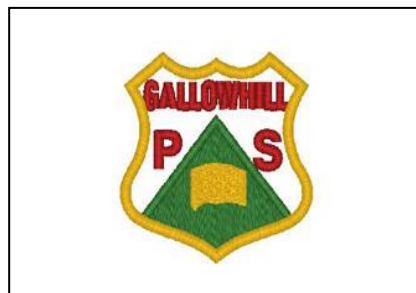


## Gallowhill Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare Class



## STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

June 2018

This report will inform you of the school's progress and achievements in the last session and let you know about our plans for 2018-2019. I hope that you find it helpful and informative.

**SHEILA HOOD**

Head Teacher

## OUR SCHOOL

Gallowhill Primary School and Early Learning and Child Care Class is a non-denominational establishment in Paisley, situated within a local authority housing estate. At present the school roll is 259 with the nursery class 30/30 and also 10/10 places for 2-3 year olds. The school is 45 years old and is on the one level comprising a main hall, 14 teaching spaces and a lunch room. We have a self-contained nursery within our building. Our staff team comprises of headteacher, depute and one principal teacher, each having clear remits to not only support the pastoral care of children and staff but to further the school's improvement agenda. We currently have 13 class teachers, 7 classroom assistants, 3 ASNAs and an Early Years' Officer. Our team is complemented by a janitor, 3 cleaners and 4 catering staff. Within the Nursery, we have a part-time Early Years' Teacher and 7 Nursery Officers, one of whom is a Senior. Together, this staff team provides a nurturing environment for learning, encouraging parental involvement to support children to reach their full potential. Gallowhill Primary benefits from having Families First based in the school and support for families can be easily accessed. The school has a high profile in the local community, enjoying regular positive press coverage. Pupils are encouraged to be involved in inter-school activities such as Euroquiz, sports' festivals and Cross Country.

**Our vision** is for everyone to have the best educational experience possible with best possible attainment.

**Our values** are **TOGETHER** : TRUST OPENNESS GENEROSITY ENCOURAGEMENT TOLERANCE HONESTY EMPATHY and RESPECT

**Our aims** are:

- 1 To provide a curriculum which enables learners to achieve their full potential.
- 2 To motivate all learners in their own learning and development and actively engage parents, carers and families in the life of the school.
- 3 To support and enable all staff from Nursery to P7 to provide a high quality experiences through improvement planning and self-evaluation.
- 4 Through careful planning and assessment, provide a range of learning and teaching approaches which meet the needs of all children from Nursery to P7 so that our whole school community has high expectations and values achievement.
- 5 To deploy our staff team effectively to meet the needs of learners and to improve provision.
- 6 To utilise additional funding appropriately to affect positive change in raising attainment for all learners.

## SUCCESSSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Every class enjoyed presenting an assembly for their families and fellow pupils on one of Children's Rights.
- Our Christmas Concert and Nursery Nativity played to full houses.
- World Book Day was a great event where everyone in the school and nursery dressed up as a character from a book and we enjoyed visits from authors.
- The HI Club spoke at the Child Protection Conference at Paisley Town Hall in April.
- P5 and P6 pupils performed their Samba Drumming at the Renfrewshire Schools' Spring Concert at Paisley Town Hall.
- Our P6 team won the Paisley Grammar Cluster heat of the K'Nex Challenge
- Over 90 pupils regularly took part in our Reading Cafes this year.
- We took part in the Community Big Spring Clean.
- During week of Work, every class undertook a job that would benefit others.
- We raised over £600 at our Sponsored Marathon in May and almost 50% of parents and carers joined in.
- The nursery children and parents took part in a very successful sponsored Dancathon
- P6 and P7 teams were successful in the Renfrewshire Schools' Cross Country event in March.

## HOW SUCCESSFUL HAVE WE BEEN IN IMPROVING OUR SCHOOL AND NURSERY?

### School Improvement

- We have a strategic approach to improving our school and nursery and have a number of key aspects for improvement under the following headings:

### School Leadership

- Headteacher has taken part in the Columba 1400 Leadership programme, developing capacity for taking the school's improvement agenda forward.
- Depute Headteacher has taken part in Aspiring DHT programme which has honed her leadership skills for taking the Nursery improvement agenda forward.
- One class teacher has taken part in the Aspiring Principal Teacher programme, bringing our total to 4, which has further enhanced their career development pathways and allowed them to develop leadership roles across the school.
- Two teachers took part in inter-authority Moderation events to check that teachers have the same standards with respect to achieving Early, First or Second Level for Writing.
- Classroom assistants have undertaken training in Literacy development and SEAL Maths which has enabled them to lead learning with groups of children.
- Almost all class teachers have taken responsibility for leading aspects of the curriculum which is supporting our improvement agenda being taken forward at a rigorous pace.
- Pupils have had opportunities to undertake roles of responsibility such as Pupil Council, House Captains, Sports Captains, Library Committee, Admin Team and Leadership Groups which is improving skills for Life, Learning and Work.
- All pupils have had the opportunity to express their views on school matters through Leadership Groups thus giving them an active role in decision-making processes.

### Teacher Professionalism

- P1-3 teachers and all classroom assistants have undertaken SEAL Maths training which supports our learners' numeracy skills acquisition.
- The Dive Into Reading programme has been shared by teachers who undertook the training course and this has allowed more classes to benefit from this approach and support raising attainment in Reading and Writing.
- Teachers have evaluated the Dive Into Writing approach and are planning how best to use it for maximum impact on improving pupils' writing.

### Assessment of Children's Progress

- There has been collaboration of our Early Years' Team with the staff at St Catherine's which has facilitated professional dialogue and a sharing of standards and expectations
- New Standardised assessments(SNSA) are being used to support Teacher Judgement of the levels pupils are achieving in Reading, Writing and Numeracy at Primaries 1,4 and 7.
- Two teachers and our Depute Headteacher have taken part in Moderation of Writing across several Local Authorities which has allowed us to look outwards to learn from other schools and Local Authorities and develop a shared understanding of achieving an expected level.
- We are implementing a new calendar of assessing pupil progress to ensure that there is a consistent approach across the school.
- Pupils are involved in assessing their own work and setting targets for themselves, giving them a greater understanding of their own strengths and how they can make further progress.
- Pupils are involved in assessing their own well-being linked to SHANARRI indicators, giving them a greater understanding of what support they might need or steps they can take to feel as positive as they can. This will then impact positively on their relationships with others and on their learning experiences.

### Parental Engagement

- Parents and carers have attended class assemblies, classroom visits, school shows and events enabling them to better support their child's learning at home.
- Parental support in running our weekly Credit Union to support children to develop good saving habits.
- Parents are interested and supportive of their child's learning and this is reflected in a high attendance at Parents' Night.
- Our recent audit of parent/carer views showed that there is a high regard for our school within the parent body.
- Pizza Reading has been successful at P1,2 and 3 in involving families in supporting children with reading and Stay and Play and Book Bug sessions have been well-received by nursery parents and grandparents

### Performance Information

- We are making good progress in raising attainment across Reading, Writing and Numeracy at P1, P4 and P7 compared to last year. The information is displayed in the chart below to exemplify this:

		Reading	Writing	Talking and Listening	Numeracy
P1	2016/17	59%	49%	74%	44%
P1	2017/18	72%	72%	77%	74%
P4	2016/17	62%	46%	68%	32%
P4	2017/18	85%	82%	82%	58%
P7	2016/17	55%	32%	58%	29%
P7	2017/18	84%	58%	87%	55%

## KEY STRENGTHS OF THE SCHOOL AND NURSERY

- Committed staff team
- Enthusiastic learners who are keen to be involved in all aspects of school life.
- Supportive parents and carers.
- Strong partnership working with other agencies and partners.

Here are a few of the comments made by our parents and carers:

- Friendly and approachable, caring staff with a welcoming atmosphere
- Positive behaviour incentives, encouraging children to behave well
- Children's achievements are regularly celebrated.

## OUR NEXT STEPS – PRIORITIES FOR 2018-19

We believe that we have made good progress during session 2017-18 and we will use the improvement priorities listed below to build on this progress moving forward.

- continue to use additional funding (PEF) to raise attainment in Literacy and Numeracy.
- continue to ensure staff are trained to the highest standard to deliver SEAL Maths, Reading and Writing approaches and be able to effectively moderate pupil work.
- support nursery staff to widen their skill base by undertaking SEAL training and training in Emergent Writing and Outdoor Learning.
- have a Nursery Officer seconded to take part in Early Years' Transition pilot in enhancing curricular transitions from nursery to P1
- continue to refresh our curriculum to ensure rich learning experiences for all learners.
- embrace the Renfrewshire Nurturing Relationships Approach and facilitate training in order to support all learners.
- promote Growth Mindset to encourage learners to have a "can do" attitude.
- continue to address persistent late-coming to ensure learners maximise learning time: our recently appointed Pupil Inclusion Support Officer will support families with timekeeping.
- revisit our anti-bullying policy, working in partnership with parents and carers and supported by an outside agency to get best results.

Full details of the school's improvement priorities and actions are detailed on the school improvement plan which can be accessed on our website or by contacting the school office.

**Gallowhill Primary and Nursery Class**

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**<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/gallowhill/>**

### HAVE YOUR SAY!

Please take the opportunity to share your thoughts with us as we use feedback to help us make improvements to the school. You can do this by speaking to staff, participating in Parent Council meetings, responding to questionnaires/surveys and by completing evaluations at school events.