



Lochwinnoch Primary School and Nursery



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.

Mrs Julie Bell

Head Teacher



OUR SCHOOL

Lochwinnoch Primary and Nursery Class is a non denominational school and nursery which serves the village of Lochwinnoch. The school comprises a main school building which is over 100 years old and houses a gym hall which doubles as a dining hall and a separate assembly hall with removable staging. The main building accommodates 9 classes in total, 7 original classrooms and a further 2 classrooms added when the building was extended in 2012. There is an early years' annexe, housing our Nursery, P1 and P2 and an infant playbase. There are extensive school grounds with a tarmac playground, soft surface area, trim-trail, outdoor classroom, wild garden area and poly-tunnel. There is a separate enclosed nursery outdoor area.

Lochwinnoch Primary School has a roll of 244 and a nursery capacity for 60 3-5 year old places.

The school strives to be at the heart of the community and promote local events, being involved with the Rotary Club of Johnstone, the Local Energy Action Plan, the Gala Committee, the Library, the Lochwinnoch Arts Festival, the dementia friendly group, the RSPB and Clyde Muirsheil. There is an active Parent Council and a linked Fundraising Committee. The school is well regarded amongst the wider parent body and parents are very supportive both in terms of working with their children and attendance at school events as evidenced by the very high attendance at Target Planning Meetings (Parents Night.)



Our Vision, Values and Aims

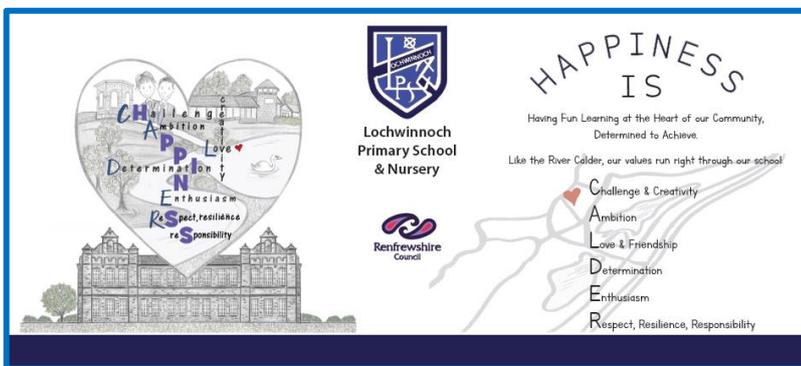
The whole school community worked together to create the school vision and re-vamped House system which was launched in February 2018 to ensure everyone is happy at school and nursery, underpinned by strong, shared values. Together, the staff team provide a warm, supportive and inclusive environment for learning.

Happiness

is

Having fun Learning at the Heart of our Community, Determined to Achieve.

Like the River Calder, our values run right through our school:



C hallenge and creativity

A mbition

L ove and Friendship

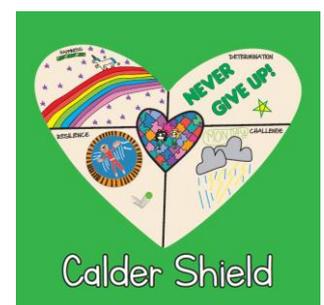
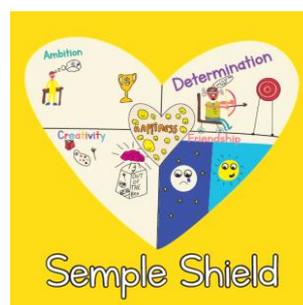
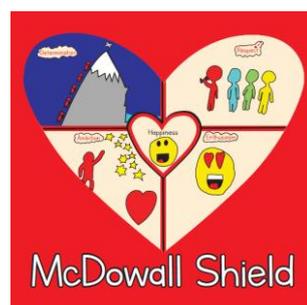
D etermination

E nthusiasm

R espect, Resilience, Responsibility

Our aim is for all pupils to be happy at school and nursery, enabling them to be **successful learners**, **effective contributors**, **confident individuals** and **responsible citizens** by:

- Ensuring the physical and mental wellbeing needs of all are at the heart of all we do, supporting **happy** and positive relationships in school and in our wider community built on an ethos of **respect**.
- Providing a broad, balanced, progressive and coherent learning experience, offering **challenge** and support within a nurturing and **friendly** environment where everyone feels welcome, secure and their views valued.
- To offer a variety of stimulating, **creative** and active learning and teaching approaches and experiences to equip all pupils with the **enthusiasm**, **determination**, **resilience** and **ambition** to achieve essential skills for life.
- To encourage all learners to explore, appreciate, learn about and **respect** the environment.
- To recognise and celebrate continuous learning and wider achievement, encouraging everyone in the school community to self-evaluate and continuously



Our Successes and Achievements

We have improved our approaches to Curriculum development this year, introducing a number of mechanisms which will help us achieve our aim of raising attainment for all:

- All pupil councils set SMART goals for the session resulting in every council achieving their aims linked to school improvement- staff report pupils were more engaged as a result.
- New tracking system established and ready for full implementation to robustly track and monitor progress in literacy, numeracy and health and well being.
- New vision and values created supporting and helping to foster a positive and nurturing school ethos.
- Nursery environment makeover underway to endorse early years pedagogy; 2nd Nursery Senior Officer appointed to drive this change in partnership with existing nursery staff.
- Several successful theme weeks and days implemented to enhance the core curriculum- Maths week, Book week. Moneysense, Outdoor classroom day, Modern languages day, Spanish café.

We have successfully engaged with many of our community partners to begin to establish ourselves as the heart of the community and to increase opportunities for outdoor learning.

Examples:

- Gardening in the community Garden
- Clyde Muirshiel activities; bushcraft, photography, river dipping, tag and track.
- We planted 250 Aspen trees around the village
- Performance at the Christmas lights switch on
- Visit from Badger the Mystical mutt
- Participation in 3 Dementia tea dances
- Team up to clean up day
- Engagement with community police
- Participation in village arts festival
- Group visits to Mosswood care home
- Opening up playground to make full use of our grounds

Staff have participated in a number of development opportunities which will be key to achieving priorities for 18-19

- 9 staff members trained in Go for Bronze
- 2 staff members trained in SEAL training, 3 more booked
- STEM training
- 1st and 2nd Level staff trained in 'Dive into Writing'
- All staff participated in outdoor learning training resulting in greater use of outdoor resources within and outwith school grounds.

We have improved our engagement with and involvement of parents through various methods:

- Myschoolapp
- Macmillan coffee afternoon
- Scottish afternoon
- Showcase events
- Christmas Fayre
- Nativity
- School show
- Art Gallery
- Introduction of morning Parent council meetings.

We have experienced individual and team success in a number of areas, adding to a jam-packed trophy cabinet, which have been celebrated as a school community, such as:

- A varied programme of extra-curricular clubs: netball/ guitar/chess/ breakfast/reading café/minecraft/active schools
- House events: 'Trashion' show/New badges/ hike and cycle
- Road Race and Cross country success
- Netball/Football tournaments
- K'nex challenge
- Rotary quiz
- Microtyco (2nd in Scotland)
- Talent show
- Pupils work displayed in Scottish Engineering Competition
- P6 Swimming
- Sports Day

Every class has participated in school trips within and outwith the village, with upper school pupils experiencing exciting adventures to Ardentinn, Old Trafford and a 'Wicked' day to Edinburgh.

HOW SUCCESSFUL HAVE WE BEEN IN IMPROVING OUR SCHOOL?

Leadership

- A stable and consistent Senior Leadership Team has been established who have worked together to implement improvements to all areas of school life and to form a clear vision for moving forward on an exciting journey of continuous improvement. This clear, shared vision has impacted on the professional learning process for all staff, ensuring all practitioners are skilled and knowledgeable in order to implement our key priorities for 18-19.
- Some practitioners have taken on leadership roles to help shape and develop the core curriculum which has resulted in enhanced pupil experiences and more consistent approaches to teaching and learning at all levels.

Workforce Professionalism

- All practitioners have participated in training opportunities which have had a positive impact on their understanding of the development of children in areas such as in SEAL (Stages of Early Arithmetical learning) training, Dive into Writing, Go for Bronze Musicianship, Modern languages and outdoor learning. As a result, our practitioners are providing a wider range of experiences and intervening in learning to further extend children's knowledge.
- Early years practitioners have participated in professional dialogue with staff from local schools to develop a shared understanding of standards and expectations in infant pedagogy. This is supporting them to develop new approaches across the Curriculum for Excellence Early Level.

Assessment of Children's Progress

- Almost all children can discuss their own progress, achievements and next steps using new tracking profiles in literacy and numeracy linked to the most recent benchmarks.
- Almost all staff are becoming more confident in using a new tracking system which has been specifically designed to meet the needs of our school. This has enabled practitioners to robustly track the progress of all learners and to identify and implement support and challenge where necessary.

Parental Engagement

- Pupil tracking approaches have been shared with parents/carers to support meaningful parental engagement in progress. You have told us you would like more information on learner's pathways- this will form a priority for 18-19.
- We have improved parental communication using platforms such as Myschoolapp, twitter and class blogs. We have welcomed more parents into the life of the school through whole school events, soft start approaches and school excursions.

Performance Information

- We have incorporated the national Benchmarks into our children's progress trackers for Literacy and Numeracy. This is helping practitioners to monitor children's progress and plan appropriately for individual children's learning and helping children to set their own targets and next steps.
- All members of our school staff know our children and families very well. We use all available information to provide appropriate support to our most vulnerable children, applying particular attention to mental health and well being, and measure the impact of this support to ensure improved outcomes

Establishment Improvement

- We have created a new Vision and Values for our establishment through effective engagement and consultation with our children, parents and practitioners. These clearly articulate the ethos of our setting and fully reflect the nurturing approach taken by all practitioners to ensure that our children and families feel welcomed and included.
- To further support all parents to understand and share the same aims around improvement, we have created a

KEY STRENGTHS OF THE SCHOOL

We have involved pupils, staff, pupils, parents/carers and partners in identifying the key highlights and strengths of our school in striving to achieve our 2017-18 priorities.

Staff:

- Under the Senior Leadership Team the whole school team work together to meet the needs of all learners in our school community. Every single member of the team plays their part in finding creative and stimulating ways to ensure the learning, teaching, social and emotional needs of all learners are achieved through building strong and positive relationships.
- All staff members have formed effective relationships with parents, partners and the wider community to provide rich learning opportunities and experiences for learners.

Pupils:

- 'I love my class and everyone in it- our teachers know how to help us learn new things'
- 'We have lots of people in our school who listen to us and care about us'
- 'We get to learn outside lots- and we love the whole playground being opened up!'
- 'We can go on the Rainbow Rug when we do something great out of school'
- Micro-tyco- 'It was good when we raised the money, we helped people start up businesses if they didn't have the money in countries like Africa and Nigeria'
- We get to go on great trips now- the Manchester trip was amazing. We got to train with professional footballers. It was a good experience.

Parents:

- "This has been a great year for the school with a transformation in engagement with parents, the community and the amazing environment around our school. Parents have been speaking about their ease in raising issues and talking with teachers about problems at school and a number of new strategies in place to deal with them. New links have been built with community groups from the Old People's home and Riverbrae School to the active participation in the Arts Festival and making great use of the Clyde Muirshiel park and the RSPB to give our children a richer experience. There has also been demonstrable progress in reporting on how children are doing and the expectations at each year which has been a longstanding concern of parents. New parents are coming along to Parent Council and the current members have enjoyed the more active and positive dialogue between parents and the school." **Allan Watt, Chair of Lochwinnoch PS Parent Council**
- 'My child loves coming to school and is thriving in the nurturing environment you are providing for her.'
- 'The new school app has been excellent in helping me to keep on top of events, meetings, forms to be filled in, etc.'

Partners:

- 'It has been noticeable that Lochwinnoch Primary have been very active in the community this year. They have taken part in many activities including community litter picks, workshops with several local organisations such as Eadha, Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park, Tag n Track, the community garden and ourselves, Starling Learning, a Lochwinnoch based company. The school has also been very proactive at involving parents and volunteers and we often see classes out and about in the village. It has been noted by locals and organisations that the school is really keen to involve and be involved and it feels very much a part of our community.'
Liz Parsons, Starling learning
- Over the school calendar year, Lochwinnoch has improved the Health and Wellbeing opportunities to all pupils compared to the previous year. Evidence of this would be health days, sponsored cycles, playmakers award and an increase in extra-curricular clubs available. It has been great to see the school engage much more with any opportunities that have been made available to them to improve health and wellbeing such as local club delivery of Strathgryffe Tennis Club and visits to observe the Netball Sirens Team. The engagement outdoor learning has improved with an example of the team building sessions that were incorporated during curriculum. There remains even more opportunities for the school get involved in which would enhance the pupils experience furthermore. **Danny Johnston, Active Schools Coordinator**
- Lochwinnoch Primary school have been marvellous at joining in with the community. The school have been a great part of the very successful 17 th annual Arts festival. In addition, they have been involved with the Dementia Friendly Lochwinnoch projects, supporting all the initiatives. It has been such a pleasure to have the students and teachers involved with many events and projects in the village. Well done!
Dr Morag Thow MCSP,BSc,Dip PE. MBE
- We, **McNicol & Jackson as authors**, along with our character, Badger the Mystical Mutt, felt the warmth as soon as we walked in to Lochwinnoch Primary School. Everyone was welcoming and friendly and the pupils were happy and polite. Having visited over 1000 schools, we get an immediate sense of this, whenever we arrive at a school. Well done Lochwinnoch PS, you rock!"

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:

- Deliver high quality learning, teaching and assessment leading to improved levels of attainment in Literacy and Numeracy from Nursery through to Primary 7.
- Fully implement a new tracking model and cycle to ensure support and challenge for all learners across all levels.
- Close the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged pupils.
- Provide parents/carers with the tools required to support and challenge their own children through parental engagement workshops in key approaches which support the learner's journey.
- Embed a nurturing approach to improve children's health and wellbeing with a focus on mental health and wellbeing.

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.



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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.