

Supporting Improvement: **Standards and Quality Report**



Our achievements and improvements this year. August 2019- March 2020

This summary report is provided for parents/carers and partners of **Our Lady of Peace**, to outline our achievements during session 2019-2020. Clearly, the pandemic and the effects of lockdown, in March 2020, impacted on plans and developments. However, we had many successes this session of which we can be proud!

Vision, values and aims

In August 2019 Mrs A M McDonald took up post as the new Headteacher of Our Lady of Peace Primary. The school vision: 'To create a community of faith where learners are empowered to achieve their full potential', was supported by the well understood motto *Safe, Ready and Respectful*. Almost all the children identified effectively with this guidance on promoting positive behaviour.

Planning for improvement

Staff views were increasingly taken into account. Communication was of a high standard between the Senior Leadership Team, teachers and support staff. This was evidenced through regular meetings, collegiate sessions and professional dialogue. This created a sense of teamwork. The School Improvement Plan for 2019-20 entailed fruitful, collaborative working between teachers to take forward our priorities in:

- Reading
- Outdoor Learning/Play
- Health and wellbeing

There was opportunity for Family Learning in the Infant stages through the reading developments, led by the Challenge Leader of Learning, Miss Degan, (Principal Teacher). The staff was trained on new approaches to the teaching of reading and a wide range of new resources were purchased to support raising the profile of reading across the school. A new indoor Reading Garden was established to further advance this which will be well received by the children.

The Pupil Equity Funding permitted the start to new health and wellbeing developments, including a review of the school's Health and Wellbeing curriculum. A PEF funded Principal Teacher, Mrs McPhee, took up post in January 2020. This funding also enabled us to provide supports to some children, using Creative Therapies and additional Support for Learning workers.

The children's important contributions were heard through our nurturing and restorative approaches, assemblies, questionnaires and Learners' Conversations, coordinated by the Principal Teachers.

Parent groups offered feedback in areas such as Family Learning and their views were sought at Parents' Evening. A new Parent Council was established and was supportive to the new Headteacher in providing valuable feedback on

school issues; this has helped good relationships to develop further. The children enjoyed a St Valentine's Disco and treats thanks to the PC.

We applied for grants to Partnership Funding and received a substantial £ 12,445 to develop outdoor learning areas. We worked with Sowing Seeds to create:

- A Hideaway Café
- Sensory Garden and mini meadow
- Wildlife Habits

It is very encouraging to be able to capture some of the good work completed for the benefit of the children:

- P1—7 Reading improvements and motivating resources
- Science , Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) activities becoming a stronger focus
- Digital learning progress with the introduction of pupil iPads, across the school
- Fun 31 skills development boxes for every class
- A new medical room/restroom

Implementing improvement and change

The staff trained in a range of areas for the benefit of the children's learning; Reading, STEM and Apple/ I pad training and phonics and numeracy training for Support for Learning workers, to name a few. Our teachers worked on developing accurate professional judgement, with Sandaig Primary staff. The work involved looking more closely at aspects of reading,

Learning and engagement

Our children had Pupil Voice opportunities through assemblies, they were involved as Sports Captains and Sports Leaders, Dining Hall Helpers and Club Leaders; e.g. some of our P6-7 girls led lunchtime dance club for the younger children. A group of children led Kindness Week and a range of assemblies such as World Book Day assembly. Others worked to provide savings account with Credit Union staff and Money Matters visited to give advice on managing finances. Some classes worked towards singing performances through tutoring by students from the Conservatoire. Such involvements allowed the children to lead their learning, contribute to school developments and apply skills in a variety of ways.

The children use a wide range of learning environments and new, creative teaching approaches; Children are enjoying the increased use of spaces within the school; library, private/quiet spaces, group working, and outdoors. The use of digital technologies continued to increase in all classes. Pupil-use of iPads accelerated much learning in P6-7 and all pupil digital knowledge & skills has increased from previous years. Almost all children actively engaging with Sumdog.

The school participated in the North East Dance Heat and were well supported by their parents. We partnered with Active schools, Rangers Football coaching, Determined to Dance and The Y Girls (tackling stereotypes and promoting empowerment). Our P7 children enjoyed a residential experience at Lockerbie Manor where they showed what great ambassadors they were for Our Lady of Peace. Lunchtime clubs such as Coding and a Fun Games morning club were offered. Our infant children eagerly joined an after school dance club too, New sports equipment was purchased for class and school clubs use.

Showbie became a key learning platform for the whole school after Lockdown started in March and the majority of children engaged with the set activities. Learning packs were provided for all stages at the beginning of the school closure period and were well received; Our P7 and P6 children took I Pads home to support online learning.

Quality of teaching

Almost all teachers engaged with twilight courses for subjects such as reading, writing and STEM. One Principal Teacher undertook the role of Literacy Challenge Leader of Learning. Another teacher continued the role of Digital Leader of Learning. We also had a Stem coordinator. The school improvement plan provided for every staff member's professional development, in key curricular areas. There was a wide range of partnership work across the school developing staff skills and enhancing the children's learning experiences. The quality of teaching was monitored by Classroom Support Visits by the Senior Leadership Team and a range of Quality Assurance procedures.

Effective Assessment

Assessment continued to be increasingly linked to forward planning processes. The teacher's professional judgement was key to assessment conclusions. A variety of assessments were considered to inform this judgment such as NGRT Reading, NGST spelling and Malt maths. Children's assessments were used to support progress decisions. We continued to place justified importance on a holistic view of the child's progress.

Planning, tracking and monitoring

The teachers continued to plan daily, weekly and termly using the school's planning formats. There was a strong focus on Inter Disciplinary Learning and using the outdoors for learning. A wide variety of new resources were purchased to support the literacy and numeracy. The children's progress was tracked during meetings between the Headteacher and staff. We continued to work on effective Additional Support Needs practices in order to track progress and wellbeing. Wellbeing and Assessment Plans (WaAPs), with clearly identified targets, were in place for those children requiring supports

Wellbeing

The school continued to promote a Catholic, nurturing ethos where all children are fully respected and nurtured. Our Rainbow Room provided a specialist nurturing space for some P1-3 pupils in the morning and some older pupils in the afternoons through Draw Talk sessions and opportunities for play. The infant classes enjoyed Soft Start to school. With the appointment of a new Principal Teacher in January, the school started to look closely at the very important health and wellbeing agenda.

Fulfilment of statutory duties

The school identified with the requirements to fully protect children from harm, and worked within a guiding framework and family engagement for the wellbeing of all. The school adheres to Glasgow City Council's education guidance to ensure the health and safety of the children when in the school environment. Implementation of Child Protection is practised.

Inclusion and equality

We are a fully inclusive school and through our ethos, dedicated staff and engagement of parents/carers, we provided a welcoming school for all. We resolved conflict through a restorative approach. Our school population encompasses a wide variety of needs need. We received a Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) allocation to support closing/addressing poverty related attainment gaps.

The Challenge Leader of Learning targeted specific groups for support in Reading. Other groups received support in phonics and spelling from the DHT. Our assemblies and class activities highlighted the importance of anti-racism, anti-bullying and the importance of accepting differences and being tolerant.

Attainment in literacy and numeracy

The school has been establishing reliable tracking procedures to identify clear pictures of children's progress and attainment. Information from teachers' judgements and assessments, indicate most children are progressing from prior levels of attainment.

Overall quality of learners' achievements

We focussed on children's achievements through Assemblies and class teachers' recognition of the children's achievements. A core group of our P7 children received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Others prepared for Reconciliation and a start was made prior to Lockdown, for First Holy Communion. Our partnership work with health and fitness agencies such as Active Schools, Rangers football coaches, Swimming lessons, etc. all promoted health and sporting achievements.

Christmas and Nativity events showcased our children's talents. We won the silver Sports Scotland award too. Litter Pickers, Digital leaders, PE leaders, P7 Buddies for P1 pupils, Money mentors and working alongside the following agencies, helped promote achievement:

Debt aware; Credit union; Jump 2 it; Y Girls; Rugby coaches; Create music; Determined to dance

Here is what we plan to improve next year.

Equality for all learners:

The school's original Pupil Equity Fund plan will be revised in the session of 2020-2021. It will focus on Health and wellbeing. Our improvement plan for August 2020- June 2021 will need to take into account Covid-19 developments. We aim to develop:

Writing

Health and wellbeing

Our Curriculum

How can you find out more information about our school?

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