

Progress Report - based on last year's plan

<p>1. Raising Attainment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have started using a booklet where pupils reflect on their own learning in S4. Some of this has been very useful and helpful for pupils, parents and staff. We want this to be more consistent and will use an improved version this year with S4 and S5. We are looking at how parents can see this online and make it easier for everyone. • The above and other discussions have led us to whole school consultation, involving Parents, Pupils and Staff to re-design Senior Phase Reports. There will be surveys to find out how well the new reports work and to learn how to make them better. • Headline figures show that the main message is that our results are as good or better than ever. Some main measures are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 National 5 – 43.9% (last year 28.3%) ○ 5 Higher - 14.4% (last year 14.96%) ○ 1+ Advanced Higher – 22.05% (22.6%) <p>Pupils, parents and staff are to be congratulated on continuing this excellent trend – out of my 4 years of exam results, I have reported three times that we have had our best ever results – long may it continue!!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised attainment in Literacy and Numeracy as a whole school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Numeracy level 4 up by 16.39% ○ Numeracy level 5 up by 6.97% ○ Literacy level 4 up by 4.29% ○ Literacy level 5 up by 3.03%
<p>2. Closing the Attainment Gap</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All practical subjects are free to all pupils - no family is charged for H.E., Art, Technical • Families have been well supported to apply for their entitlements. There has been an increase in families registering for FSM • Breakfast Club is in place every day, free to all pupils
<p>3. Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most staff are more familiar with Girfec (Getting It Right For Every Child) and Wellbeing principles. In a staff Girfec survey: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 90% of staff say they are aware of Wellbeing indicators ○ 62% of staff say they are embedding language associated with wellbeing ○ 64% agree they can demonstrate what wellbeing looks like
<p>4. Improvement in employability skills and sustained, positive school leaver destinations for all young people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are working on a clear plan for the delivery of Employability Skills within and across the curriculum. • An increased number of our leavers are in sustained, positive destinations. 95.45% of our leavers in 2015/16 were in positive, sustained destinations. This is above Virtual, Regional and National Comparators and is the highest figure we have recorded in Insight as a school. In addition, 41.4% of S6 leavers from last year are attending University • As of May 2017, 100% 2016-17 leavers are in a positive destination (data from SDS) • We work with a wide range of partners to deliver skills and experiences which prepare pupils to be employable
<p>5. Self - Evaluation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil/parent/staff feedback is now a key driver in policy development and school improvement • Draft policy and procedure with respect to Self-Evaluation is written but not yet in place
<p>6. Rationale and design of the curriculum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the end of May, the new S1 will be fully delivered. A working group will now evaluate it and implement the S2 plan • Our Senior Phase continues to develop and adapt to pupil need, aiming to be more inclusive than ever before

Summary of Strengths / Areas for Improvement – how are we doing?

Quality Indicator	How well are you doing? What's working well for your learners? <i>(Include evidence of impact.)</i>	Areas for Improvement	Rating
1.3 Leadership of Change	Shared vision, values and aims are in place. A good start has been made with a policy statement on Self-Evaluation	Clearer, better focus on Self-Evaluation	4
2.3 Learning, Teaching and Assessment	We have a positive and improving ethos in the school A significant number of students contribute to the wider life of the school Teaching and learning across the school is good Attainment is improving.	Encourage pupils to become more independent in and responsible for their own learning Wider achievement needs to be recorded and celebrated more clearly Use the new reporting system to make improvements	3
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	All Young People have access to high quality support to help ensure they are happy, safe and achieving Pupils can access a wide range of opportunities Strong relationships exist with partners and statutory bodies, ensuring we meet pupil needs	Use the Government Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) to support those who are disadvantaged Broader use of existing school systems to identify barriers early with pupils in order that they can be overcome	5
3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	Raised attainment in Literacy and Numeracy as a whole school Year on year since 2014, S5 and S6 measures have shown increased attainment. S4 attainment is now improved as well A significant number of learners achieve very widely within and beyond school.	Targeted use of PEF funding with our identified, target group of pupils to raise levels of literacy and numeracy Tracking and Monitoring & Self-Evaluation will help us improve the quality of education we provide	5
2.2 Curriculum: Theme 3 Learning Pathways	Good links are in place across four Secondary Schools in the East of the region, as well as engaging Dumfries and Galloway College more than ever before as a school Our BGE (curriculum up to the end of S3) is well-designed and is under constant review to ensure it is fit for purpose and meets learners needs	Continue our work to improve our timetabling systems and procedures. The working group will soon finalise the structure for our S3 next year. They will evaluate and re-design the e-portfolio, skills and profiling content of S1-S3	
2.7 Partnerships – Theme 3: Impact on Learners The impact of parental involvement on improving children and young people's learning.	The school is now attracting a high number of placing requests as pupils from elsewhere wish to study in our school. Excellent and growing relationships exist with local business, small, medium and large, in our local area. Parent Council is an excellent, supportive forum for parents to raise and discuss any issues they wish with the school The Parent Council raises funds for the school to provide a sustainable funding stream for the minibus, which makes transport so much more affordable for many excursions	We will introduce an employability award across S3 and S4, such that every pupil will achieve the award, regardless of their point of exit from school We will arrange our bi-annual careers fair this November We must look long and hard at parental engagement. It is the interested and motivated parents who engage with us most at present. We must now go beyond this and work with our parents who are not so forthcoming to ensure we hear all views and help parents become more involved in the life, work and direction of our school	
School selected QI 1.5 Management of resources to promote equity	We have very sound and transparent financial systems which aim to ensure best value at all times We allocate significant spending each year to reducing barriers in education. SMT oversee major expenditure	We need to show impact on outcomes for learners PEF Funding is a major asset to us and a unique opportunity to promote equity in a way that would not otherwise be possible.	5

School Improvement Plan 2017-18 – what do we want to do next?

Improvement Area	Outcomes for Learners / School Community
<p>School Priority 1 Sustain and increase the improvements in Children's progress</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: yellow;">How are you using pupil equity funding to improve outcomes for learners?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy levels will remain above the aim of 85% achieved level 3 by the end of S3 • Numeracy levels will reach the aim of 85% achieved level 3 by the end of S3 (current year figure 80%) • All three attainment cohorts (our bottom 20%, our middle 60% and our top 20%) will achieve outcomes greater than their comparators, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Level 5 results will improve @ 5 or more to over 40% ○ Level 6 results will improve @ 5 (to over 16%) • Re-develop Health and Wellbeing programme (PSE) <p>Whole school initiatives LGBT Charter, MVP, Fairtrade, Eco-Schools & Rights Respecting Schools to improve outcomes for pupils</p> <p style="background-color: yellow;">PEF Funding will recruit a new member of staff, on a bespoke remit to provide targeted and individualised support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our post-school participation will continue to be above our comparators, aiming ultimately for 100% • Quality Assurance, Assessment and Moderation Framework will be in place across the school, to ensure confidence in teacher professional judgements of levels achieved
<p>School Priority 2 Further develop Parental Engagement to raise attainment</p>	<p style="background-color: yellow;">Using Pupil Equity Funding to recruit a member of staff to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work directly with identified young people • to support individuals and groups with literacy and numeracy • support young people through positive engagement with families including home visits • one to one consultation and counselling with young people to support positive outcomes <p>Parental Engagement means that parents are more closely involved in the life and work of the school; able to influence policy and decision, for the benefit of learners</p> <p>Increased engagement leads to improved attendance at parental events and ultimately increased attainment of learners</p>
<p>School Priority 3 Embed Self-Evaluation for School Improvement across the school in a consistent, rigorous way</p>	<p>Clear evidence of learners' improvement based on actions taken as a result of self-evaluation</p> <p>Good practice is shared in faculties to help improve learning and teaching for all learners</p> <p>Courses are reviewed to make sure that they are relevant to learners</p>