

"Working together to inspire learning and achievement in Highland Communities"



Standards and Quality Report - Kinbrace Primary School
The Highland Council
Education, Culture and Sport Service
East Sutherland Area

Session 2010-2011

Our school vision and values

Kinbrace Primary School serves the small village and surrounding area of Kinbrace in Sutherland.

Vision & values

On 2nd June 2011, pupils, parents and staff of Kinbrace School will be meeting to review the vision and values of the school. The themes that emerge are likely to reflect our unique situation : outdoor education, embedding the curriculum in the community and links with other schools and organisations are already defining features of teaching and learning at Kinbrace.

In 2010-2011 the school's mission statement was taken from the Curriculum for Excellence national priorities.

KINBRACE PRIMARY SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT 2010-2011:

To provide a safe, happy and caring environment, which is capable of continuous improvement, fosters an effective partnership between pupils, staff and parents and develops in all pupils, positive attitudes towards the school, education, themselves and the wider community, through stimulating and challenging learning and teaching experiences.

AIMS:

1. ATTAINMENT & ACHIEVEMENT

- To ensure a well planned, broad, balanced and flexible curriculum which takes account of relevant educational initiatives, promotes the highest levels of attainment through effective learning, teaching and assessment and provides equal opportunities for all pupils.
- To provide opportunities for pupils and staff to make and evaluate, their contribution to the achievement of school aims and objectives.
- To enable pupils to enjoy their education and develop positive attitudes towards learning

2. FRAMEWORK FOR LEARNING

- To offer a caring and secure environment within which pupils feel happy, confident and valued as individuals and enables them to mature and develop to their full potential.
- To promote, build and maintain good home, school and wider community partnerships which encourage parents and carers to involve themselves in the development of all aspects of their children's education and this school which serves them.
- To improve the quality of educational experiences for learners through a programme of continuing professional development for all staff.

3. INCLUSION & EQUALITY

- To provide effective support systems for all learners which promote personal and social development and underpin academic achievement.

4. VALUES & CITIZENSHIP

- To encourage children to contribute to society by being responsible, tolerant and respectful of others within that society.
- To encourage children to develop their individuality and self-esteem as well as the essential social skills to enable them to co-operate with others as members of a team.

5. LEARNING FOR LIFE

- To promote awareness of the value of good health and provide opportunities for children to develop their physical and mental skills through the enjoyment of leisure pursuits.
- To develop pupils' creativity and ambition through curricular and extra-curricular experiences offered by the school.
- To offer creative opportunities which encourage and motivate pupils to explore and discover beyond the usually experienced environment.

Our Key Strengths

- Children are challenged and are working to the best of their ability, especially in core curricular areas
- Pupils' wider achievements are recognised alongside their academic attainments
- the teacher uses a variety of teaching methods, and uses resources and opportunities creatively, to keep learning "fresh" for the children
- A variety of methods, resources and opportunities are offered to ensure that learning is fun and engaging
- There is close collaboration between local staff to ensure standards are met and surpassed
- Staff and parents are committed to improving the school

Our Current Priorities For Improvement

- to develop pupils' ability to work and learn independently, especially as they move 'up the school'
- to encourage pupils to develop their "voice" in decision-making
- to revise the statement of our vision and values, and to help pupils understand how this underpins the work and life of the school
- to write a curriculum development policy to define and strengthen current good practice
- to develop opportunities for pupils to work and learn with others, and thereby to develop an understanding of their own strengths and areas for development

The Core Areas of our Practice

This report summarises the strengths of our school and what needs to improve. We gather this information throughout the year in a variety of ways so we can make sure our report is as accurate as possible. We take time to compare what we do with national examples of best practice. We visit each others' classes to share standards in learning and teaching. We look at children and young people's work to see how they are progressing. We make use of factual data and information including attainment results. We gather the views of children, parents, staff and members of the local community. We use all of this information to arrive at our view of the quality of education we provide.

Improvements in performance
<p>Our key strengths are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in Maths and Language children are given individualised work that challenges them, and they work hard to meet these challenges • pupils' wider achievements are recognised and valued alongside their academic work; we take a holistic view of our children's development • Personal Learning Plans enable pupils to review their progress and targets, and to share these with parents to help them become more involved in the school work of their children • the Teacher, Head Teacher and Learning Support Teacher regularly discuss children's progress <p>Our required improvements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop opportunities for pupils to evaluate their own and each others' work • to collaborate with neighbouring schools to make sure all our children are working at an appropriate level, or above and have opportunities to compare and share standards

Learners' experiences
<p>Our key strengths are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide variety of activities and experiences, creative opportunities and resources are well used to keep learning "fresh" • Pupils receive individual, high-quality feedback on their work, and praise for achievements is prompt, relevant and identifies next steps in learning <p>Our required improvements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop pupils' independence and self-reliance, especially as they move 'up the school' • to encourage children to develop their "voice" in decision-making

Meeting learning needs
<p>Our key strengths are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Learning Support Teacher offers effective support to individual pupils as necessary • close working relationship and support between Kinbrace School staff, and colleagues at other schools <p>Our required improvements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to help parents participate in their children's learning, especially in reviewing progress and setting targets

The curriculum

Our key strengths are:

- a broad, varied, challenging curriculum, with lots of opportunity for children to develop their own interests
- we actively seek opportunities to use our environment and community in our learning
- the Teacher and Head Teacher regularly review how effectively we are covering the Curriculum for Excellence

Our required improvements are:

- to look at the values and aims of the school, and to make sure that families, staff and children shape and share the same long-term goals
- draw up of a curriculum development policy to define and strengthen current good practice
- to develop pupils understand the values and ideas that underpin what they are learning

Improvements through self-evaluation**Our key strengths are:**

- there is thorough short- and long-term planning of teaching
- the Teacher takes an active role in ensuring her knowledge and experience remain relevant to the needs of the post
- parents are highly involved in discussing and making decisions about the life and work of the school

Our required improvements are:

- to establish consistent methods of gathering evidence for school evaluation
- to help pupils and parents play a regular, active part in school development

Developing people and partnerships**Our key strengths are:**

- the school is very much at the heart of its community; there is strong local involvement in and support for the school
- continuing professional development of staff is directly related to what children are learning
- locally there is good mutual professional support

Our required improvements are:

- to formalise professional development & review for staff
- to develop links with people and organisations in the community in an organised way to support the children's learning