



STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT 2025-26

AITHISG INBHEAN IS CÀILEACHD

ST JOSEPH'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL & ELC



In this report the following words are used to describe the numbers and proportions used:

All	Almost all	Most	Majority	Less than half	Few
100%	Over 91%	75% - 90%	50% - 74%	15% - 49%	Up to 15%

School Profile

Pròifil na Sgoile

The following information can be found on [Parentzone Scotland](#). It is important to remember that statistical data alone is not a measure of how well we are doing. All schools are unique. To understand how well we are doing it is important for us to look at a range of different data sources.

Use school overview dashboard to support completion: [School Overview Dashboard](#)

Attendance
92.8%

Average Class Size
23

Meeting PE Target
Target Met

Pupil Numbers (inc nursery)
163 + (23)

Teacher Numbers
8

Pupil Teacher Ratio
20.8

N3 XX%	N4 XX%	P1 11.6%	P2 11.6%	P3 13.4%	P4 14%	P5 17.1%	P6 15.3%	P7 16.5%
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SIMD Q1¹ 40%	SIMD Q2 33%	SIMD Q3 13%	SIMD Q4 16%	SIMD Q5 8%	Unknown 0.05%
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ASN² 39%	No ASN 61%	FSM³ 16.7%	No FSM 83.3%	EAL⁴ 47%	No EAL 53%
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2024/25 Proportions of pupils achieving Curriculum for Excellence Levels (P1, P4, P7 combined):

¹ SIMD – The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is a relative measure of deprivation.

² ASN – Additional Support Needs

³ FSM – Free school meal entitlement

⁴ EAL – English as an additional language

Reading

Most

Writing

Most

**Listening and
talking**

Almost all

Numeracy

Most

We have had no exclusions this year.

School vision, values and aims

Lèirsinn, luachan agus amasan na sgoile

Our Values

The following values are embedded in our ethos

Care Determination Honesty Respect

Our school values were revisited and the children expanded each Value to explain what it means to them and how they demonstrate it. We recognise pupils for demonstrating our values through our Values Champion Awards at Assembly.



CARE DETERMINATION HONESTY RESPECT

Review of progress for session

Ath-sgrùdadh air adhartas airson an t-seisein

These projects are linked to the vision and priorities for Scottish Education based on delivering excellence and equity. Parent/Carer information is available [here](#).

School Priority 1: Improving Attainment in Writing (Year 2)		
School Improvement Plan Priority 1		
Summary of progress	Next steps	Stakeholder Views
We are in the second year of this priority and have made good progress with the planned outcomes. All teaching staff and support staff had training in Wrap Around Spelling and have been using this methodology since September. There is clear evidence of pupil engagement and enjoyment. All teaching staff are using the new writing planners. There have been several opportunities for engagement with the Literacy Road Map for Writing. Our assessment criteria for each level have been refreshed to ensure assessment is robust and linked to benchmarks.	Compare June Blackwell Spelling Assessments Results to September Baseline to measure progress. Evaluate writing planners in May 2027 Staff to continue to engage with the Literacy Road Map. Assessment criteria to be used for three graded pieces of writing over the session	<u>Pupil Voice</u> <i>In Wraparound Spelling I like it when I get to discuss with my shoulder partner. When you work with someone and chat with them and help each other.</i> <i>When the teacher says the words breaking it up into the parts so we can get the parts</i> <u>Staff Voice</u> <i>Staff working together to create the assessment criteria for each level makes it easier to see the progression across the school.</i>
Impact		
Teaching and support staff have a full understanding of the methodology of Wrap Around Spelling. There is a consistent approach to teaching spelling across stages. There is consistency of planning and progression in Writing across levels. Teaching staff are more familiar with the Highland Literacy Roadmap.		

School Priority 2: Add title Curriculum Design and Progression		
School Improvement Plan Priority 2		
Summary of progress	Next steps	Stakeholder Views
Aspects of this project were covered including developing long term curriculum overviews and medium-term planners which were used consistently across the school. IDL Curriculum was not reviewed due to the ongoing Curriculum Improvement Cycle Developments.	Develop a progressive interdisciplinary curriculum which is engaging and equips our children with the knowledge, skills, values and attributes required for the future.	<u>Staff Views</u> <i>Time being allocated to discussing the wider curriculum has been valuable and having a clear, consistent approach to planning and delivering the curriculum aids progression.</i> <u>Parent/Carer Voice</u> <i>Being invited into a class assembly is a brilliant way of seeing how different areas of learning are covered through one topic.</i>
Impact		
New planners in place which ensure consistency and progression across all levels, improving the learners journey.		

School Priority 3: Add title		
School Improvement Plan Priority 3 Further Develop Faith Education		
Summary of progress and impact	Next steps	Stakeholder Views
Link established with the Dominican Sisters and the RE Advisor. Development work planned in partnership with RE Advisor and Parish Priest.	Education Advisor will lead staff training on the following - Education Scotland is in the process of updating its religious education curriculum. SCES has been helping to develop the Catholic	

Link with Aberdeen Diocese strengthened as a result of partnership working with the Dominican Sisters.	component, and at the same time, working to make <i>This is our Faith</i> more accessible to teachers. Undertake Training on Sacramental Preparation.	
Impact		
Dominican Sisters visited the school and met with staff and children to share information. Teaching staff had input into what training is required for next session, taking account of the expectations around the refreshed RCRE curriculum.		

Progress and impact of Pupil Equity Fund

Adhartas agus buaidh Maoin Cothromas Sgoilearan

All Primary 7 pupils attended Fairburn Activity Centre. This residential trip was made possible for all Primary 7 pupils with financial support given if required, including targeted PEF children. This promotes our ethos of inclusion for wide and varied experiences to enrich and support our curriculum for every one of our pupils. All Primary 7 pupils received some subsidy towards final cost of residential to ensure all children were able to attend.

Weekly visits to Old Allangrange Farm for identified pupils. This includes a rota of tasks to be carried out each week involving physical work, making, and cooking lunch for the group in the farm kitchen and tending to the farm animals. The group eat lunch together, have snack and learn table manners and hold conversations together across the table. Almost all pupils have shown increased attention during daily learning time, demonstrating enhanced focus and engagement across all aspects of the curriculum.

P1/P2 children will receive additional support 4 times a week with a PSA to target gaps in their phonological awareness.

Phonological Awareness implemented in September, January and May for targeted children. Progress made by all children on previous scores. NSA Literacy Scores confirm progress made.

Additional ASN teaching time of one day a week has enabled detailed diagnostic numeracy assessments to be carried out and support put in place for individuals.

Wider achievements

Coileanaidhean nas fharsainghe

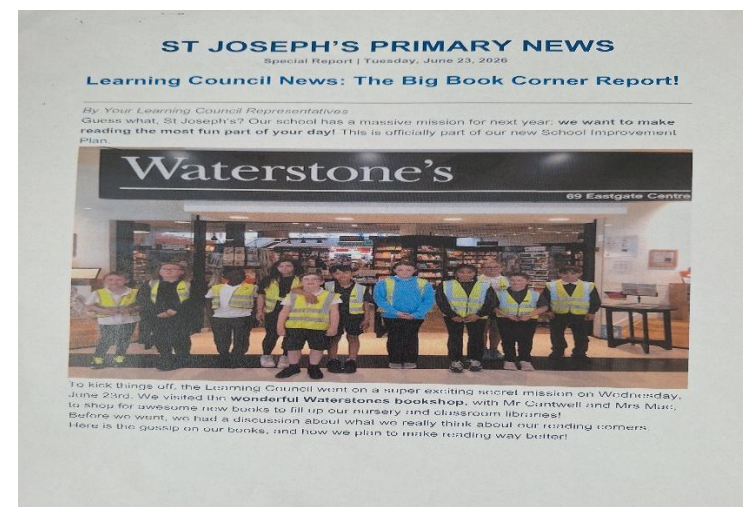
Wider achievements are shared throughout the year and we recognise achievement relevant to each individual pupil. Wider achievements are shared and celebrated with the whole school community through Assemblies, on class Achievement displays, newsletters and social media (School Facebook and Google Classroom) and within pupils' Learning Profiles. We recognise that it is important that all learners take part in wider achievements in the community so that they can develop the broad range of skills that they need for learning, life, and work.

Highlights of our School Year

BRONZE MISSIO AWARD



VISIT TO WATERSTONES



We have –

- participated in many fund-raising events for Missio, including a whole school Easter Bunny Drive
- worked in close partnership with UHI to further develop P4 to P7 STEM Skills
- worked closely with our Active Schools Coordinator to provide a range of taster activities and out of school activities at no cost to families
- had children represent us in athletics and cross-country events
- continued to work in partnership with the Youth Music Initiative (YMI) to support children's music development with targeted year groups
- collaborated closely with Fr. Laurence and Deacon Aidan to enhance children's understanding of the Catholic Church Teaching.
- promoted pupil leadership roles through Pupil Groups, Buddies, Paired Reading and many other initiatives
- further developed children's expressive arts knowledge and skills through partnership working with Eden Court and the School Christmas Performance
- further developed children's knowledge of language through our Scots Language Week
- shared our learning with our families by performing class assemblies

Comments from learners, families, stakeholders and staff

Beachdan bho luchd-ionnsachaidh, teaghlaichean, luchd-ùidhe is luchd-obrach

Pupil Voice –

How much do you enjoy learning in school?

- *It's excellent.*
- *Some lessons I am really intrigued by*
- *I enjoy outdoor learning and would love for our school to have an outdoor classroom*

How do you know you are doing well?

- *The teacher marks our work*
- *Peer assessment- we check with each other*
- *I can see progress from Term 1 to now*
- *Your learning gets harder and harder*

What makes our school special?

- *We are a Laudato Si' School*
- *We have beautiful voices and sing at different events*
- *We are very welcoming and we work hard*
- *We have the church next to our school and we go to Mass.*

How could we make reading for enjoyment better at school?

- *We need more books in our library as part of the way through the year we have read them all*
- *We need more magazines and comics*

Parent/Carer/Partner Voice

- *As a parent there is no greater gift than knowing your child is in good hands. Thank you for all that you do.*
- *Thank you for your time at the Carol Service. The children were simply wonderful: well-prepared and assured, and with a depth of talent. A number of people remarked on their excellent behaviour as well as their singing ability. They are a real credit to you, to your staff, and to St. Joseph's. (Fr. Domenico)*

Capacity for continuous improvement

Comas airson leasachadh leantainneach

Using indicators from 'How Good is our School 4' together with learner, parent, carer, partner and community feedback we believe we have made the following progress this session:

	ELC	PRIMARY
QI 1.3 Leadership of change	Good	Good
QI 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
QI 3.1 Wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Good	Good
QI 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement/Securing children's progress	Good	Good
Other QIs reviewed		
QI 2.5	Good	Good

Our overall evaluation of our capacity for continuous improvement is:

We are confident in our capacity for continuous improvement.

Key priorities for improvement planning

Prìomhachasan airson planadh airson leasachadh

Planning ahead

A' planadh air adhart

Improving Reading Enjoyment and Attainment		Last session funding was secured as part of a National Library Project to improve Reading for Pleasure through creating a new school library. There is also a need to continue engagement with Curriculum Improvement Cycle developments through exploring the draft technical framework. This links to the ASG Action Plan on Reading Moderation and Raising Attainment.
Curriculum Design and Progression Year 2		There is a need to continue the school curriculum refresh, building on the work undertaken last year on developing whole school long term and medium-term planners to ensure consistency for all learners, including our high percentage of EAL learners. There is a need to ensure there is a robust tracking system in place across the school.
Further Develop Faith Education Year 2		There is a need across Aberdeen Diocese to develop links with the RE advisor and further strengthen links with the other Catholic schools in the Diocese. The planned input for a refresh on the teaching of Sacramental Preparation needed to be carried over to this school session. Input is required on Curriculum Improvement Cycle RE in RC Schools.
ASG Improvement Priorities		
ASG ~ Reading Moderation Year 2		

Full details of the school's 2025/26 improvement priorities and actions are detailed on the school improvement plan, which can be accessed on our website [ADD LINK](#) or by contacting the school office.