



St Margaret's Primary School

Standards & Quality Report 2022/23



The purpose of the annual Standards and Quality Report (SQR) is to record the successes and achievements in delivering improvement relating to the identified priorities in the improvement plan 2022/23.

This report provides a helpful summary for parents/carers and other stakeholders, of successes and achievements in academic session from August 2022 - June 2023, and outlines priorities for session 2023/24.



St Margaret's Primary School Standards and Quality Report 2022/23

Head Teacher's message:

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is a summary of our extended Standards and Quality report (the full version is also published on our website) for session 2022 – 2023. This leaflet aims to give you information about how the school is doing, what our recent achievements have been and what our main priorities for improvement will be in session 2022/2023.

This has been a very successful year for us as a school community in many ways. We are reconnecting with our wider community and been able to have family events again, which has been wonderful. We have parent and wider community volunteers helping support learning in the school again and lunch/after school clubs are back up and running.

Staff absences and work load have been an issue for us to manage, however, I am so proud of the team ethos in the school and we have all worked hard to provide the children with meaningful, challenging, active learning experiences which motivate and engage them. Feedback from our learners about school life is incredibly positive.

We are a school where pupil voice is strong and we have a very inclusive, nurturing ethos. Our neurodiversity week, celebrated in April '23 had a significant impact in informing our children about the challenges faced by some learners and gave them a better insight into the behaviours and mannerisms of different people. Our evaluative film, made by the children, can be found on our website and is testimony to the hard work of staff and children in learning about neurodiversity.

Mental health and wellbeing of staff and pupils has been a key focus for us this session and will continue to be, moving forward. We are now seeing the potential impact that COVID has had on some of our younger learners; on their developing social skills, resilience levels, their independence as a learner and emotional well-being and staff workload has been significant. It is time for us to be gentle, patient and work together to support the wellbeing of all. This includes parents, carers and our wider community.

As always the key to success is partnership working and communication. We sometimes '*don't know, what we don't know until we know it*', so it is important that we communicate with each other through respectful, positive communication to assist us in supporting all children.

It takes a village to raise a child!

My best wishes to you all and I look forward working with you all throughout another successful and exciting year in 2023 – 2024. Have a wonderful Summer!



Head Teacher

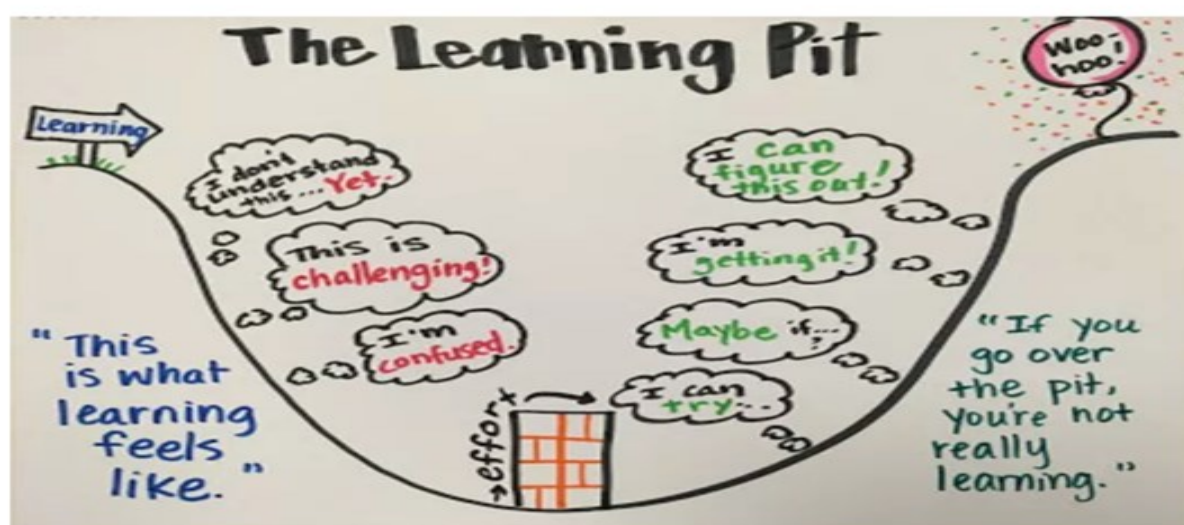


Our Priorities for Session 2022-23

- **Literacy:** developing our approaches to learning and teaching of writing skills through Talk 4 Writing methodology.
- **Health and wellbeing:** supporting the emotional and mental well-being of all members of our school community, reaccreditation as a Gold Award winning Rights, Respecting School and celebrating neurodiversity and inclusion.
- **Digital Schools:** developing our digital curriculum to enhance the learning of all children and achieve our Digital Schools Award.
- **STEM, Food Technology and Maths Mastery:** To continue to develop our STEM and maths & numeracy curriculum to ensure raised confidence of all learners and high levels of engagement in learning.

These were all significant priorities and will continue to be a focus for our developments in session **2023 – 2024**, with increased depth, along with:

- Increasing pupil voice in learning
- Making learning visible, including introducing the learning pit to our learners to assist them in understanding the process of learning and embedding our learning powers (our aims).





Some of our STEM scientists experimenting



Learning to cook and prepare food in our food hub



STEM



PIC-COLLAGE



Chess club; problem solving and strategic thinking for fun!

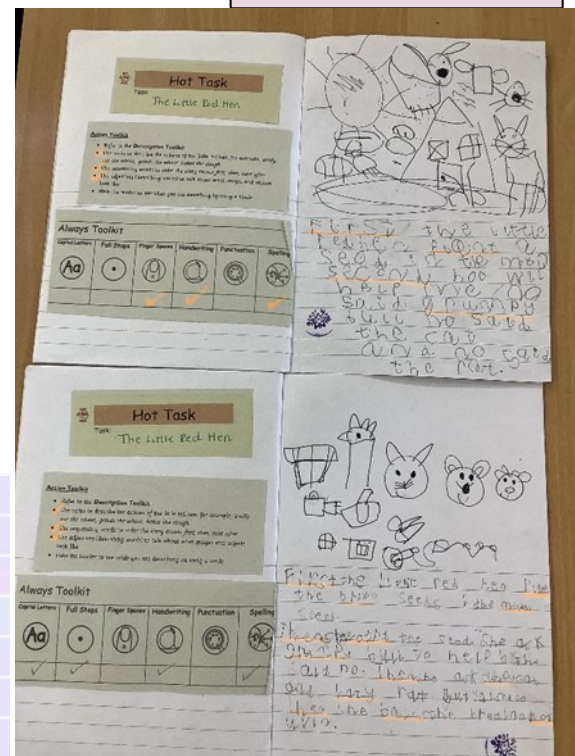


Team St Margarets!



Primary 1 meet the little Red Hen and friends!

Playground leaders!



Primary 1 writing about the Little Red Hen through our Talk 4 Writing approach



Talk for Writing treasure hunt.



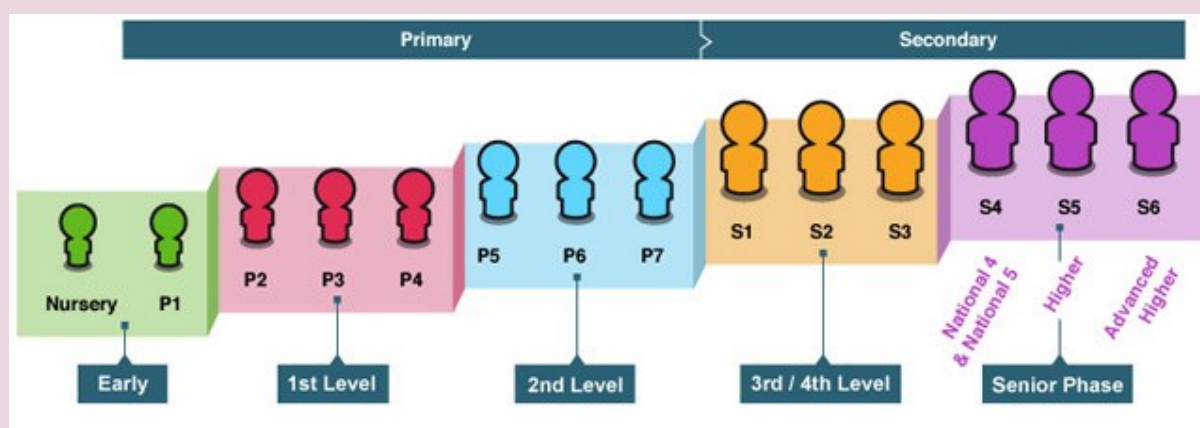
PIC-COLLAGE

Our attainment

Across the school our attainment in literacy and maths and numeracy remains very good and above the local and national average at almost all stages.

We have seen some significant achievements and progress for many learners in their writing and increased confidence levels and application of learning in maths and numeracy in some. Feedback from learner's talk of high engagement levels and developing a love of reading.

The majority of our learners are highly engaged, growing in confidence and developing skills in team work, communication, problem solving, assessment of their own learning, assessing risk and challenging themselves, independence and resilience as a learner as well as tolerance and understanding of others children's difficulties and challenges. These are skills and attributes that will help them long term to be very successful learners and great citizens later on in life.



Those children who experience difficulties with aspects of learning are very well supported through a highly knowledgeable and skilled team, targeted interventions as well as universal supports and our flexible bespoke approaches to support our learners. Our support is based on need – the need of the individual child and we work to support the need, **not** for the child to fit into our school.

Our capacity for improvement

St Margaret's staff are a highly committed and close team who work together very well collegiately and independently. They are all highly committed to the children in their community as well as being incredibly supportive of each other, including the senior leadership team.

There is a strong sense of camaraderie and good humour where are all clear on our vision of what we are trying to achieve collectively – inclusion, high standards of learning and teaching, understanding and meeting all learners' needs, celebrating diversity.

We have been developing our approaches to critical reflection, self-evaluation and professional discussion and debate over the last few years and this is having a positive impact on our improvement journey.

Staff are very knowledgeable about their learners and confidently able to discuss their progress and supports required.

Leadership of learning and change is strong within the culture of the school, many staff going above and beyond in supporting all learners and developing the curriculum.

Leadership is well developed in the classroom where teaching staff use creative and innovative approaches to develop the skills of all learners.

Tracking meetings are robust, based on a broad range of evidence and all teaching staff know their children well & are aspirational about what they can achieve.

Support staff are highly committed to meeting the needs of our learners at breaks and lunches as well in the classroom, attending school CLPL as well in their own time. Our support staff work closely together as a team to lead change in their areas of responsibility.

We are very proud of our team.

Parents, Carers and wider family members

However, we also need you to be on board, to communicate openly and be part of the team around St Margaret's children.

We LOVE having parents and visitors into school as volunteers; taking and running lunch clubs, supporting our library, class trips, garden maintenance, reading with children, supporting STEM, sharing your work life journey with children... the list is endless. Please look out for ways that you can get involved as the terms go by next school session.



We do very much encourage our parents/carers to get in touch with us if they have a concern or wish to ask a question, however, we follow the Falkirk Council Policy of five working days for response, so if we do not get in touch immediately, please do not worry, we have not forgotten about you and a relevant staff member will be in touch as soon as they are able. We are a lively and busy school and aim to respond swiftly, however, this is not always possible.

We appreciate that sometimes emotions can run high when there is a concern regarding your child(ren), however, we would appreciate if that any correspondence or contact reflects our school values of **being respectful, being safe and being the best you**. As adults we all have to model for our children how we live these values.

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