

PAIBLE SCHOOL



Improvement Plan
2008/09

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PAIBLE SCHOOL

OUR VISION

In Paible School, we are engaged in the pursuit of excellence. We are committed through our teaching for all children to be

SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS with:

- Enthusiasm for learning and a determination to reach high standards of achievement

and be able to :

- use literacy, numeracy, communication and technology skills effectively
- learn independently and as part of a group

CONFIDENT INDIVIDUALS with:

- self respect and a sense of physical, mental and emotional well-being
- secure values and beliefs
- ambition

and be able to:

- relate to others
- pursue a healthy lifestyle and achieve success in different areas

RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS with:

- respect for others

and be able to:

- participate responsibly as a citizen within society
- develop knowledge and understanding of the world and Scotland's place in it
- understand different beliefs and cultures

EFFECTIVE CONTRIBUTORS with:

- an enterprising attitude and determination

and be able to:

- communicate in different ways
- work in partnerships and lead other people
- create and develop ideas and an ability to solve problems

OUR VALUES

In carrying out all aspects of our work, we:

- conduct our business with integrity, impartiality, fairness, tolerance and mutual respect
- value diversity, promoting social inclusion – in an environment where everyone is welcome
- seek progress through partnership, working closely with people with whom we share a common purpose.

OUR AIMS

The aims of the school are to :

1. ensure a broad and balanced curriculum that provides young people with the best possible learning opportunities and experiences.
2. ensure that all pupils are able to realise their potential through the promotion and recognition of achievement and excellence.
3. provide the highest quality of learning and teaching experiences that enable pupils to enjoy their education and develop positive attitudes towards learning.
4. provide effective support systems for all pupils which promote personal and social development and underpin academic achievement.
5. provide a welcoming, safe and caring environment in which each pupil is valued and supported.
6. ensure that the school's promoted staff provide high quality leadership, management and support.
7. improve the quality of educational experiences for pupils through a programme of continuing professional development for all staff.
8. build and maintain effective partnerships between the school and its parental body, external support agencies and its wider community.
9. equip pupils with the foundation skills, attitudes and expectations required to prosper in a changing society and to encourage creativity and ambition.

AUDIT REVIEW 2007/08

This section shows progress in meeting the targets set for the previous year's projects

Project 1 from previous session	5 – 14 MATHS
Quality Indicator	1.2, 2.1, 3.3, 3.6, 5.2
National Priority	1
Local Objective	3.3
Target 1	Provide staff development on Alta Maths programme
Target 2	Build Alta system assessment systems into weekly maths lessons.
Target 3	Monitor numeracy & problem solving tasks on weekly basis.
Evidence of impact on school/pupils	Staff more familiar and confident with programme. Staff file supports staff and offers next steps for each pupil. Pupils and staff confident in assessment procedures.
Next Steps	Continue with Alta system at all stages P1 – S2. Offer homework files from Term 1 2008

Project 2 from previous session	Assessment is for Learning
Quality Indicator	3.2, 3.5, 4.8, 5.4
National Priority	1
Local Objective	1.12
Target 1	Further develop P.L.P. by focusing on the curriculum area of Health & Wellbeing and building on self and peer assessment strategies already in place.
Target 2	Create regular ongoing engagement with pupils/teachers/parents of nursery, playgroup and school.
Target 3	Establish a regularly updated wall of display progress as well as folders of evidence of individual progress of achievement.
Evidence of impact on school/pupils	Staff are familiar with learning intentions and outcomes from nursery to P7. Progression and agreed practices in a newly established programme for all stages.
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build "Fitness & Health" programme into classroom planning. • Continue ongoing nursery/school liaison.

Project 3 from previous session	CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE
Quality Indicator	2.1, 3.2, 3.3, 5.2
National Priority	1.5
Local Objective	1.1, 2.3
Target 1	Audit current practice with regard to interdisciplinary/ cross curricular projects and studies.
Target 2	Draw up a programme of focus Fridays one per term to enhance cross curricular learning & teaching.
Target 3	Link the themes for each focus for the four capacities from AcfE.
Evidence of impact on school/pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revitalisation of learning and teaching has resulted in increased pupil motivation and high quality learning experiences. • More focus on collaborative learning and thinking skills.
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide staff with further training with regards to collaborative planning/working across the whole school.

Project 4 from previous session	PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT
Quality Indicator	5.7
National Priority	1, 5
Local Objective	2.2
Target 1	Audit schools policy and current practice with regard to parental involvement and consultation.
Target 2	Establish Parent Council in the school.
Target 3	Find ways to further promote and support involvement of parents in the school using the document "Parents as Partners"
Target 4	Develop the school policy on parental involvement taking account of the Authority Parental Involvement Strategy.
Evidence of impact on school/pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active and supportive Parent Council now well established. • Parents participating with pupils in particular activities. • Parents actually involved in organising events and activities. • Partnership with Parents Policy agreed with Parents.
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop strategies for the close involvement of parents in their children's learning.

AUDIT FOR 2008/2009

This section briefly explains the audit processes used to determine the strengths and development needs of the school.

The audit focussed on Dimensions 1 and 2 of "The Journey to Excellence" and the related quality indicators from "How Good is Our School" Part 3.

Evidence was gathered from the following sources.

1. Classroom visits.
2. Sampling of pupils work.
3. Teachers plans and assessment records.
4. Analysis of pupils' attainment.
5. Analysis of school development plan projects.
6. Staff meeting-minutes.
7. Working Group Meetings / Meetings with other schools.
8. Pupil and Parent Questionnaires.
9. Meetings with education department staff.

All the evidence is available in school.

Staff were directed to use the descriptions of Good and Excellent practice and the related quality indicator illustrations at level 5 to evaluate their own performance.

Thereafter staff were requested to identify the main strengths and areas for improvement.

After careful consideration of the returned evidence and bearing in mind national developments and local improvement objectives, the following were identified as improvement priorities for session 2008/2009.

- Curriculum for Excellence – interdisciplinary studies.
- Numeracy across the Curriculum.
- Education for Citizenship – Eco schools
- Meeting the needs of the most able pupils.

PRIORITIES 2008/09

Project 1	Curriculum for Excellence – Interdisciplinary Studies
Quality Indicator	2.1, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 7.2
National Priority	1, 5
Local Objective	1.1, 2.3
Target 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities for collaborative planning/working/learning
Target 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce plans for activity based learning which address the principles of C f E and AifL
Expected impact on school/pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils enabled to make connections between different areas of learning. • Learning and the transference of skills made relevant to the pupil. • Pupils exposed to a greater depth of learning. • Pupils participation in learning extended through experiences motivation and engagement.

Project 2	Numeracy across the Curriculum
Quality Indicator	5.1
National Priority	1
Local Objective	1.1
Target 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff to become familiar with the numeracy outcomes & experiences.
Target 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct Audit on current numeracy practice across the school.
Target 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a common approach to the teaching of numeracy across the school.
Target 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build more active learning strategies into the programme.
Expected impact on school/pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved consistency in the approach to numeracy topics across the school. • Pupil attainment raised.

Project 3	Education for Citizenship (eco-schools)
Quality Indicator	2.1, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 7.2
National Priority	2, 4
Local Objective	1.1
Target 1	Progress the development of school grounds/garden
Target 2	Progress points for action relevant to Eco-Schools Silver Award. (from previous audit)
Target 3	Apply for Eco-Schools Silver Award
Expected impact on school/pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whole school interest/ participation in the eco-schools initiative. • increased motivation, quality of learning experience • increased attainment • increase in parental/community involvement

Project 4	Meeting the needs of the Most able pupils
Quality Indicator	5.1, 5.3
National Priority	1, 3
Local Objective	3.3
Target 1	Draw up a policy to address the needs of the most able pupils.
Target 2	Identify and record all pupils as per policy guidelines.
Target 3	Provide for the needs of all identified pupils.
Expected impact on school/pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • achievement of the more able pupils raised. • achievement of all pupils raised. • pupils exposed to a greater depth of learning and challenge.

MAINTENANCE AREAS

The main projects do not represent the full range of improvement work which the school will undertake. There are aspects of the school that require adjustment and fine-tuning from year to year. These are referred to as maintenance areas and, although they do not constitute new improvements, they do affect the overall workload implicit in the improvement plan.

In session 2008/2009 the principal areas under this heading are set out below

- Curricular links P7 – S1
- Citizenship Programme of Study
- Enterprise and Creativity
- Enhance garden and recreation areas.
- Parental involvement
- Alta Maths programme
- AifL Fitness and Health P L P

SUMMARY IMPROVEMENT PLAN: SESSION 2008-2009

The Scottish Executive Education Department requires all Scottish schools to produce an Improvement Plan each year setting out targets for the improvement of the educational services offered. The process of formulating our improvement plan involved the following procedures:-

- An audit of the Key Areas of the school's work using HGIOS 3 Quality Indicators to identify our strengths and weaknesses and how well the school is performing in relation to our aims.
- A review of national and local authority improvement initiatives including the Scottish Executive Education Department's five national priorities for education.
- Consultation with staff, Parent Council and Pupil Council to ascertain their views.

As a result of this process the following areas will be progressed during session 2008/2009:

- Curriculum for Excellence – interdisciplinary studies.
- Numeracy across the Curriculum.
- Education for Citizenship (Eco-schools)
- Meeting the needs of the most able pupils.

A full copy of our Improvement Plan is available to parents and other interested parties on our website. (www.paibleschool.org.uk)