



Renfrewshire Coucil

Johnstone High School



STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

June 2019

This report will inform you of the school’s progress and achievements in the last session and let you know about our plans for 2019-2020. I hope that you find it helpful and informative.

Lynne Hollywood

Head Teacher

OUR VISION, VALUES AND AIMS

Our Vision:

We are a school community where everyone feels safe, valued and supported to achieve to their maximum potential. We deliver high quality learning experiences within a responsive and engaging curriculum that fully prepares our young people for the next stage in their lives. We are an ambitious school that has high expectations of learners, parents, partners and staff.

Our Values:

Determination; Friendship; Honesty; Respect; Responsibility; Trust

Our Aims:

1. To be a place that everyone is proud to belong to
2. To be a safe, nurturing and happy environment
3. To value everyone and provide opportunities for all
4. To provide excellent teaching and learning in every classroom
5. To ensure positive outcomes for all learners by developing the skills they need to compete in the modern world
6. To work in partnership with parents in the education of their children
7. To be a school firmly embedded in the heart of its community

OUR SCHOOL

Johnstone High School is a six-year non-denominational school in the Johnstone area of Renfrewshire. The school’s main catchment area covers Johnstone and the surrounding areas of Howwood, Kilbarchan and Lochwinnoch. The school has seven associated primary schools. The catchment areas are a mix of local authority, traditional and new housing in both urban and rural environments. Many pupils are bused to school from the furthest villages. There is an active, oversubscribed parent council that has been in place for four sessions.

The school roll is projected to be 975 as of August 2019. The percentage of pupils claiming free school meals is approximately 18%. The SIMD profile is 48% from SIMD 1-3.

The school was visited by Education Scotland in November 2016 and given ratings of satisfactory in: raising attainment, learning teaching and assessment; and leadership of change. The school received a grading of weak in equality, inclusion and wellbeing. As a result we received a continuing engagement visit in February 2018 when the inspectors noted the strong vision for improvement and the progress that the school made since their last visit. As a result Education Scotland has no further plans to visit our school. In May 2019 we were visited by Renfrewshire Council for the final phase of our post-inspection engagement. Council officers were also satisfied with our continued improvement, therefore this concludes our inspection journey.

**SUCCESSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Leaver destinations**

* Over 92% of our leavers go on to a positive, post-school destination. This is in line with national statistics and is a 6% increase over 3 years.
* Broken down, our leaver destinations are particularly strong for S4 at 99.36% (above virtual comparator (VC), Renfrewshire and National); and S5 which is at 95.4% (above VC, Ren and NAT)

**ATTAINMENT**

**Literacy**

* At S4, we are above VC for Level 4 (L4) and Level 5 (L5) in literacy; L5 literacy shows a three year improving trend at S4. In S5 we are above the VC for L4 and L5 literacy
* There is a three year positive trend in L4 and L5 for learners from SIMD 1-3 in senior phase
* L5 for learners in SIMD 1-3 in S4 is a three year improving trend (20% increase)
* We have made steady year-on-year improvements in literacy, retaining significant increases that were made in 16/17

**Improving attainment for all**

For S4, using a ‘complementary’ measure, we are ahead of our VC and the National percentage for attainment for the lowest achieving 20% of learners, and middle 60 and highest 20 (+NAT). For S5 we are ahead of the VC for the lowest achieving 20% of our learners (also ahead of the percentage for National and Renfrewshire), and highest 20. For the S6 we are ahead of the VC for the middle achieving 60% of our learners and the highest 20 (also ahead of the percentage for National and Renfrewshire)

For leaners from SIMD 1-3, in S4 we are above all attainment measures for the lowest achieving 20% of our learners and above VC and National for middle 60. In S5 we are above all measures for the lowest achieving 20% of our learners.

**PUPIL ACHIEVEMENT**

**Sporting**

* We won 3 gold, 4 silver and 2 bronze medals at the Renfrewshire Cross Country and Road Race events.
* We also had pupil successes in Badminton, Football, Dance, Swimming, Ice Hockey and Volleyball.
* Our S2/3 Dance squad won the Renfrewshire Schools Dance competition.
* One of our senior boys won the Renfrewshire Badminton Championships.
* Our senior volleyball team finished 2nd in the Renfrewshire league.
* In swimming, two pupils finished in the top 20 at the Scottish Schools Swimming Championships.
* In the Scottish Schools Aquathon, one of our pupils finished 11th in his age group.
* In Football, two of our senior boys won the Scottish Cup with Glenvale Boys Club.
* One of our senior pupils has represented Team GB at the Youth Winter Olympics in the Freestyle Snowboarding event.
* Our sports award winner is a Scottish International Volleyball player at U17 and U20 level.
* At the Renfrewshire Athletics Championships we won 6 golds, 7 silver and 7 bronze. Nine of our athletes have been selected to represent Renfrewshire in the Inter Authority Athletics Championships.

**Creative**

* A number of pupils in the BGE had their Artwork exhibited in the Paisley ‘Inspired’ competition in February. The Tannahill Community Centre in Ferguslie had the work on display for several months.
* We also have a number of senior pupils moving on to study Art, Design and Photography at further and higher education level. Our pupils will be studying at Glasgow School of Art, Caledonian University, Clyde College, Heriot Watt and the Visual Arts Centre.
* Our Music pupils have performed at Glasgow Armadillo with the Piano Guys.
* Piping success: 1st in Quartet category at Scottish Schools Championships; Renfrewshire Schools were 3rd in their category at the British Championships.
* Paisley Opera visited the school to work with S1.
* This year’s school show is We Will Rock You and it features a number of performers in the BGE.
* S3 Music pupils worked with Riverbrae to create music and learn together.
* Pupils performed at Paisley Abbey in the Local Authority Spring Concert.
* The Music department launched a trip to Barcelona for June 2020.
* The choir performed at the head teachers’ meeting in Johnstone Town Hall in February 2019.

**School**

* Our new website went live in January 2018 and continues to garner positive feedback from parents and partners in terms of information and ease of use. Our school twitter continues to raise the profile of the school and celebrate the huge number of pupil successes across our school.
* We are proud of our strong relationship with our Parent Council who remain very supportive and have both a political and a fundraising dimension. They raised over £20,000 from grant applications and school events (e.g. winter fayre) for a school ground refurbishment which was completed this session and offers an excellent outdoor learning space for our pupils.
* This year we have collaborated again with Columba 1400 to develop pupil leadership using a values based approach. 15 S3 pupils and 5 staff went to the Columba 1400 centre in Staffin, Skye in May 2019 to develop their leadership and engage in personal reflection. Our 2018 graduates played a pivotal role in selecting and preparing our 2019 cohort. Both groups continue to contribute heavily to our school improvement agenda, taking leadership roles in a variety of different areas of the school, inspiring all our young people to develop and embed our school values.
* This year we got involved in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative. All of S2 took part and worked in teams to research local problems and issues, and charities that are supporting these. Each team picked a charity to support and the short listed teams took part in a celebration event and presentation with the winning charity ‘Crisis Counselling’ being gifted £3000 from YPI who are in turn funded through the Wood Family Foundation.
* We continue to offer a range of extra-curricular activities, supported study, raising attainment booster sessions, masterclasses and Easter school. Our thanks to staff for their continuing goodwill.
* Similarly, we continue to offer a wealth of in-house guests, external trips and residential experiences to our pupils. These have included:
* Continuing work with a range of employers and providers; MPs, MSPs, Councillors, Holyrood; Hunterston, Sky Studios Renfrewshire debating competitions, Thales, Mission Discovery, Robot Wars, the Science Centre; West College, University West of Scotland and a range of HE/FE careers events.
* 45 S6 pupils and 6 staff participated in the Sleep in the Park event, raising £3000 for homeless charities.
* S6 pupils and staff participated in the Renfrewshire ‘Big Clean Up’.
* Christmas Parcels for local community were again organised by S6.

**Trips**

* Residential trips that have taken place or are planned include: Belgium Music tour, Columba 1400 at Skye, London Theatre experience, World Challenge to India, Ardentinny.
* A full programme for end of term activities including the JHS Carnival day.
* A full range of end of term day trips: Lapwing Lodge (S6 Trip),; M+Ds, Alton Towers, Bowfield Spa, Ryze, Lochwinnoch cycling, paintballing.
* Employability trips such as Dumfries House Sewing Challenge, London Alexander McQueen, Tennents, local hotels/hospitality venues etc.
* Cultural trips such as theatre, cinema and French restaurants.

**HOW SUCCESSFUL HAVE WE BEEN IN IMPROVING OUR SCHOOL?**

**School Leadership**

* Investing in staff leadership has been an important strategy in developing the continuous improvement culture. Staff are increasingly positive about the impact of their professional learning opportunities in developing their leadership skills and supporting improvements in their practice.
* We have developed a very well received bespoke in-house programme for middle and senior leaders. This complements the in-house career long professional learning (CLPL) programme for all staff as well as the local authority leadership development opportunities for staff.
* Staff regularly engage young people in discussion groups about their views on teaching and learning as well as gathering views through more traditional means.

**Teacher Professionalism**

* All teaching staff are involved in a TLCs of their choice which they opt into twice per session. An evaluation of TLCs after the first year of operation showed they are helping build staff confidence and develop a culture of continuous improvement.
* TLCs are creating a more collegiate culture across the school as staff support colleagues in the identification and sharing of good practice. They are also providing a range of opportunities for leadership of learning for staff at all levels.
* All teachers have a ‘staff development pack’ which sets out consistency of expectations and practice, promotes reading, reflection and sharing of practice and resources. This has been well received and is supporting consistency through a shared language and set of expectations.

**Parental Engagement**

* The Parent Council has been closely consulted in planning the revised priorities for school improvement.
* Parents are positive about improvements in consultation and communication, such as an increased use of social media. This has allowed us to share our improvement priorities more widely with parents and seek feedback, encouraging more parents to play a more active role in school improvement.

**Assessment of Children’s Progress**

* This session we have embedded our in-house BGE tracker that tracks the key skills required for each curricular area and for progression into the senior phase. This allows staff to identify key strengths and areas for development for each individual pupil, which in turn informs planning and learning and teaching.
* Report data is summarised for PTs to allow them to analyse performance patterns and identify/track performance of vulnerable groups. PTs are continuing to develop their data analysis skills by working with the DHTs and PT Attainment during training days and one to one support sessions.
* Departmental moderation is more fully embedded in both the BGE and the senior phase with moderation time being prioritised on in-service days and at departmental meetings. As a result of the BGE tracker, staff training and time given to moderation, data in the school is becoming increasingly reliable and robust.

**School Improvement**

* The school continues to develop a streamlined approach to improvement planning. We have a strong focus on developing a culture of continuous improvement through engagement with staff, young people, the parent council and partners.
* We have created a working group to further develop pupil voice in decision-making processes across the school. The implementation of a three year cycle that will look at the five key themes outlined in the HGIOS self-evaluation document for pupils has commenced and will provide opportunities for young people to participate and contribute more to school improvement.
* Our rigorous SE and Closer Look departmental review processes are providing challenging feedback in a way that is supportive and helps staff take ownership of the improvement agenda. We continue to develop approaches to how we use SE information to share best practice across the school.

**Performance Information**

**KEY STRENGTHS OF THE SCHOOL**

**Education Scotland continuing engagement June 2018** letter stated that they are satisfied with the progress being made and have no plans to visit the school again. Highlights included:

* Culture of school improvement focused on our vision and values.
* An inclusive and supportive learning and working environment.
* Streamlined improvement planning.
* Increasing opportunities for young people.
* Positive relationship with the Parent Council.
* Teacher professional learning groups are improving pupil learning experiences.
* The JHS lesson sets out clear expectations around learning and teaching.
* A strong foundation for improving pupil health and wellbeing.
* Our use of data and tracking to plan for improvements in pupil attainment.
* Improved courses and programmes to cater more effectively for pupils in S1-3.

Our validated self-evaluation report for the Renfrewshire Council visit to the school in May 2019 stated the following strengths:

* A strong and clear vision and set of values for our school that are embedded day to day.
* A clear commitment to equity for our learners.
* Staff, young people, parents and partners are more confident about the leadership and direction of the school.
* An SMT which is highly visible, communicate well and is creating an inclusive, supportive learning environment.
* Our attainment challenge and pupil equity funding have also been directed towards our improvement priorities.
* Young people have a wider range of opportunities to develop their leadership skills and contribute to school improvement. These include the pupil council, house leaders, peer educators, befrienders and Columba 1400.
* In the BGE, teachers are increasingly using a range of different assessment techniques and styles to create a more holistic view of the progress of each pupil across curricular areas.
* Our self-evaluation arrangements are now in the third year of implementation. Staff demonstrate a good awareness of their collective responsibility for improving outcomes using the quality indicators from HGIOS?4.

**OUR NEXT STEPS – PRIORITIES FOR 2019-20**

We believe that we have made good progress during session 2018-19 and we will use the improvement priorities listed below to build on this progress moving forward.

* Health and wellbeing (HWB): We will be implementing our new positive relationships policy and ensuring the success of our nurture base extends into the wider school as we continue to develop our nurturing approaches. We will also work hard to improve attendance and late-coming next session. We will make sure that pupil voice is reflected in the HWB provision within the school and pupils are given increased opportunity to support and lead initiatives. It is important to us that learners feel an improved sense of belonging and safety and will do that by working with partners to make sure our PSE curriculum meets the needs of our pupils. Finally, we will seek to improve and raise awareness of the importance of pupil physical and mental health.
* Learning and Teaching: All staff will be actively engaged in professional development linked to improving learning and teaching approaches that positively impact on classroom practice. Through classroom visits, we will strive for consistently high quality learning and teaching across the school which reflects the JHS lesson. We will prioritise pupils being actively engaged in their own learning and making contributions to whole school improvements in learning and teaching. We will also ensure that the classroom experience is tailored to meet the needs of individual pupils with particular focus on pace and challenge, differentiation and the needs of pupils who have additional support needs or are care experienced.
* Attainment: In addition to the existing improvement areas we are adding Attainment as a third strand to our improvement priorities next session. We will focus on key areas to improve outcomes for our pupils, specifically, improving the percentage of leavers who move on to a positive, sustained post-school destination. We will also focus on improving the presentation levels and pass rate for both National 5 and Higher Maths. We will also embed new procedures to ensure robust moderation and assessment in the BGE, and are prioritising improved attainment in the BGE. Finally, post SQA examinations we will target areas of underperformance to maximise attainment for pupils in the senior phase.

**School Name: Johnstone High School**

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**Phone:**

**Website: www.johnstonehigh.co.uk**

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HAVE YOUR SAY!

Please take the opportunity to share your thoughts with us as we use feedback to help us make improvements to the school. You can do this by speaking to staff, participating in Parent Council meetings, responding to questionnaires/surveys and by completing evaluations at school events.

Full details of the school’s improvement priorities and actions are detailed on the school improvement plan which can be accessed on our website or by contacting the school office.