

# Standards & Quality Report

**2013 - 2014**



## **Kemnay Primary School & Nursery**

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**Aberdeenshire**  
COUNCIL



## Context of the School

The village of Kemnay has a population of approximately 5000. Kemnay Primary School is one of two primary schools in the village and serves part of the town and surrounding area. It is co-educational, non-denominational & provides education for approximately 240 pupils in Primary 1-7 and 40 pre-school pupils in nursery.

The Management Team consists of the Head Teacher and Depute Head Teacher. There are ten full-time equivalent teachers, including the Head Teacher. Five Pupil Support Assistants work with teachers to increase the effectiveness of learning and teaching, by undertaking many of the everyday non-teaching classroom tasks.

Additional Support Needs Teacher time is allocated throughout the four CSN primary schools and Kemnay Academy. Our ASN teachers work with individuals, small groups and visit each class supporting learning. A Pupil Support Worker helps pupils and their families throughout the school in accordance with needs.

Visiting Specialist Teachers enhance the teaching of the curriculum areas of Drama, ICT, Art, Music, Home Economics and Physical Education for blocks of time throughout the session.

Our school administrator, clerical assistant, janitorial staff, cleaning and kitchen staff give very good provision of essential services to our school. The school has good accommodation. There are nine classrooms, a purpose built nursery, a gym hall, main hall, computer suite, early stages hall, staff room/resources room, kitchen and dining facilities. The Library has been upgraded & toilets installed in the Annexe. There are outdoor play areas, including a large grass field that enable pupils to play under supervision at intervals and lunch times. The wildlife garden offers very good opportunities for pupils to increase their knowledge and understanding of the outdoor learning curriculum.

On leaving Kemnay Primary School most pupils transfer to Kemnay Academy. There are good curricular links and transfer procedures in place. Community links are a valued part of the life of the school. The canteen is used each day to accommodate the After School Club and Breakfast Club which caters for pupils from both Kemnay and Alehousewells Primary Schools. Various clubs and groups use the facilities in the evenings and a range of extra-curricular activities are provided after school and during lunchtimes by staff and parent/community volunteers.

A very supportive Parent Council, including a vibrant PTA encourage Parental Involvement at all levels.

Key Development	Progress during 2013 - 2014
Learning, Teaching & Assessment.	Good progress was made in this development. Pips and InCas assessments are used to direct practice. All staff are using Cooperative Learning principles in learning and teaching. All staff attended TAFLAN training and revisited key priorities in effective learning and teaching including AiFL. I CAN Profiles were completed by P7 pupils. Moderation has taken place across stages and cluster schools. One Jotter Week was introduced sharing aspects of learning and teaching with parents and provided an effective vehicle for tracking, monitoring, partnership with parents and capturing wider achievement. Progress has been made in tracking children's attainment via Seemis. Next steps – To produce pupil reports via the Seemis system and to migrate to the approved council format for pupil profiling. Numeracy focus.
Citizenship & International Awareness	Rights Respecting Schools, Rotakids, Eco Schools and Fairtrade initiatives are now built into annual class topics from P4 – P7. Various pupil led events have taken place throughout the year including fund raising for the End Polio Now Rotary campaign. Next steps – To incorporate these initiatives into revised planning and progression grid.
English Language & Literacy	Good progress has been made in this development and Kemnay Primary is recognised as being a model of good practice with colleagues from other schools visiting to share our practice. Active Literacy resources are now in place throughout the school with staff consistently using active approaches to spelling and other aspects of literacy. Next steps – To continue to evaluate and tailor Active Literacy and other approaches/resources to meet the needs of all learners.

## 1. How well do our children learn and achieve?

	Evaluation
QI 1.1 ~ Improvements in Performance	Good
QI 2.1 ~ Learners' Experiences	Good

### In arriving at these evaluations, we considered the following evidence.

- Learners are motivated and engaged in their learning.
- Aspects of writing are particularly good, with elements of the Active Literacy Programme impacting favourably on the quality of work.
- Wider achievement is captured through one jotter week with parents recognising and commenting on their children's progress.
- Incas data at Kemnay Primary School suggests that levels of attainment are good and above the Aberdeenshire and national average.
- Our learners produced particularly insightful comments about their learning and their future development. These were commented upon by senior officers as being of very high quality.

### Our key strengths in this area are

- Personal achievement is recognised and celebrated through a revised house points system and features regularly in school communications.
- Pupils share aspects of their learning through annual class assemblies,
- Children benefit from a wide and varied range of learning experiences
- Children's views are sought, taken into account and acted upon appropriately.

### We have identified the following as priorities for improvement in this area

- We need to extend pupil leadership and participation in taking responsibility for school and wider community/world initiatives.
- National data suggests that numeracy should be a priority for school improvement.
- Moderation to continue, with plans for annotated exemplars of learning to be produced.

## **2. How well does out school support children to develop and learn?**

	<b>Evaluation</b>
<b>QI 5.1 ~ The Curriculum</b>	Good
<b>QI 5.3 ~ Meeting Learning Needs</b>	Good

### **In arriving at these evaluations, we considered the following evidence.**

- A shared understanding of good practice in terms of active learning and assessment for learning features in our classrooms.
- Children benefit from a wide range of learning experiences and specialist inputs.
- Staff know their children very well and plan learning experiences to support and develop learning appropriately.
- A very good range of progressive learning resources and activities are used throughout the school, incorporating opportunities for individual and collaborative learning.

### **Our key strengths in this area are**

- Transitions from pre-school to primary, between stages and from P7 to S1 are good. P1 pupils were involved in the presentation of the new intake induction process.
- The introduction of an Intervention and Prevention teacher benefits pupils with additional support needs.
- Early identification of difficulties and strong partnership working to overcome barriers to learning feature highly at Kemnay Primary School.
- A high level of care and support exists for our most vulnerable children and their families.
- A shared understanding of additional support needs levels exists amongst staff.

### **We have identified the following as priorities for improvement in this area**

- Review courses and programmes to ensure appropriate progression and consistency.
- Introduce new IEPs and review current ILPs in school.
- Review statement in school handbook regarding additional support.
- Further communicate to parents the additional support provision at Kemnay Primary School.

### 3. How does our school improve the quality of its work?

Evaluation

#### QI 5.9 ~ Improvement Through Self Evaluation

Good

#### **In arriving at these evaluations, we considered the following evidence.**

- Staff evaluate learning daily and are responsive in their planning in light of these evaluations to meet learners' needs.
- Staff review school improvement plans against Education Scotland exemplars and evaluate practice honestly, demonstrating a good understanding of strengths and development needs.
- Staff regularly discuss learning and teaching with stage partners and SFL staff, sharing ideas and resources to improve practice.
- The school Quality Assurance calendar is used to ensure a continuous cycle of self-reflection.
- All staff are engaged with the revised professional standards and are reflecting upon practice via the GTCS online resource.

#### **Our key strengths in this area are**

- Staff work with stage partners (facilitated through collegiate planning time) to reflect upon, jointly plan and evaluate learning, leading to improved practice.
- Staff are given opportunities to lead aspects of school improvement e.g. P1 induction programme and production of revised materials led by Early Stages staff.
- P7 teacher reviews S1 assessment data and provides feedback on data to secondary colleagues.
- Cluster schools analyse attainment data and identify group priorities for improvement e.g. 14 – 15 session Numeracy and Maths.

#### **We have identified the following as priorities for improvement in this area**

- Parental questionnaire to be issued in 2014 – 2015 session.
- Moderation to continue, with plans for annotated exemplars of learning to be produced
- Increased use of Education Scotland evaluation resources to be introduced.
- Staff to identify key features of practice to be considered as criteria for evaluation during classroom monitoring.
- PDRS/EAR process being reviewed and updated by Aberdeenshire Council.

#### 4. How do we ensure equality and inclusion, and promote diversity across the school?

##### In arriving at these evaluations, we considered the following evidence

- Kemnay Primary continues its work as a Rights Respecting School.
- The school Golden Rules are regularly highlighted through assemblies and pupils understand their rights and responsibilities.
- Rotas and timetables help ensure equity of access to e.g. playground equipment, school resources and specialist inputs.
- Pupils with additional needs are provided with the appropriate supports to enable them to experience their entitlements.
- Learning and teaching programmes highlight e.g. customs, beliefs and religions around the world, encouraging tolerance and understanding towards all.

##### Our key strengths in this area are

- Introduction of a nurture group supported by the I&P teacher and pupil support worker with Alehousewells School, enhanced the school experience for an identified group of pupils requiring additional support.
- We are committed to working in partnership with pupils, parents, other agencies and the wider community in welcoming views and input to improve our service.
- Our Parent Council and PTA strive to ensure that families feel included and welcome in the life and work of the school.
- We ensure information is accessible to all, especially those with English as an additional language and make use of interpreter services and EAL services as appropriate.
- We work in partnership with parents to ensure that disabilities are not viewed as a barrier to learning, but that the appropriate supports and channels of communication are in place to allow successful learning to be achieved by all.

##### We have identified the following as priorities for improvement in this area

- School vision, values and aims to be reviewed.
- Continue to work towards accreditation as a Rights Respecting School.
- HT asked to support the work of the Equalities Team.

##### Key

**Evaluation – Excellent** -outstanding, sector-leading **very good** - major strengths **Good** - important strengths with some areas for improvement **Satisfactory** - strengths just outweigh weaknesses **Weak** - important weaknesses **Unsatisfactory** - major weaknesses

## **SUMMARY OF IMPROVEMENT PLAN PRIORITIES FOR 2014-2015**

### Additional Support Needs

- Communication regarding additional support provision at Kemnay Primary School.
- Staff training and provision of additional resources to support specific learning needs.
- Appointment of SFL staff.
- Implementation of revised Individualised Education Plan, Individual Learning Plan and Group Learning Plan

### Inter-Disciplinary Learning Contexts

- Review of school vision, values and aims.
- Review of topic learning plans.
- Introduction of Citizenship Groups

### Numeracy & Maths – Cluster Development

- Introduction of new planning, progression and assessment resource.
- Partnership working project with Education Scotland, cluster and authority partners to develop best practice in Numeracy & Maths.
- Introduction of new resources in Early Years.

## **Some of the highlights at Kemnay School this session...**

Far too numerous to mention, but to give a flavour of highlights and achievements –

Our P5 – P7 pupils continue to benefit from the transition events held at Kemnay Academy. Technology Day, Cluster Ceilidh & Enterprise Day.

Our PTA continues to lead a range of fund raising events for our pupils, their families and the wider community. The major funding this year which was jointly funded by Awards for All was the purchase and installation of the new outdoor play equipment costing £14000!

The school community continues to support a range of charitable causes, including shoeboxes to Kosovo and Children in Need. The school raised approximately £1700 for charities throughout the session.

The school continues to be supported by staff, parents and community members in providing additional clubs and activities for the children including - Netball, Basketball, School of Rock, Knex, Chess and Computer Club.

Our Basketball Team won the prestigious Tawse Tyres Tournament! Wow!

Our P7 pupils also won the I&K Motors “Jingle” competition winning £1000 for the school.

Our P7 pupils were blessed with two glorious evenings where they presented their version of Othello under the Shakespeare Tree.

A number of local businesses kindly sponsored perpetual trophies to be awarded to our outgoing P7 pupils recognising a range of achievements.

Staff, pupils, parents and members of the wider community thoroughly enjoyed a range of pupil performances including class assemblies, Peter Pan, Call the Midwife and our Nativity presentations. Pupils also entertained at the Grove and the Day Care Centre.

Our P7 team won the local heat of the rotary quiz, coming 6<sup>th</sup> overall out of over 100 teams entered.

Funding was secured to refurbish classrooms, corridors and the canteen area improving the overall school experience.

Our P6 Euro Quiz Team got through to the final of the competition.

All pupils enjoyed contributing to Mrs Laing’s farewell celebration and carried on all things Scottish to our Scottish Culture event and Scots Stooshie.

