



Glengowan Primary School and Nursery Class

Standards and Quality Report 2023-24

Context of School

Glengowan Primary School and Nursery Class is situated in the town of Larkhall. The school roll for session 2023-24 was 319. The school roll increased quite significantly during the session. Almost all placing requests were able to be granted during the period between September 2023 and June 2024. There were eleven classes and a nursery class. The catchment area is a mixture of social and privately-owned housing. A significant number of new homes are being built in the town at present. Glengowan continues to see an increase in placing requests and 'right to remain' applications due to the proximity of new housing developments to the school. The current developments are nearer to Glengowan than the catchment school. A public consultation was carried out in 2023 to gather views about altering the catchment areas of Glengowan, Machanhill and Robert Smille Memorial Primary Schools. Representatives from Education Scotland also visited each school to speak with relevant stakeholders.

The building is situated across from Merryton Train Station which provides a link to other towns and Glasgow. The school building was opened in 2012 and provides a modern learning environment.

In August 2022 an extension was added to the existing building, adding two more classrooms and a new Nursery Playroom.

Rainbow Cottage, a satellite provision of Kearsy Campus, opened during the 2021/22 session. Small groups of children attend this provision throughout the week. Rainbow Cottage is based in one of Glengowan's classrooms. Due to a review of all provision across SLC, this provision was renamed the Inclusion and Wellbeing Hub. Three classrooms are now used to accommodate the children and staff of the Hub.

Glengowan has a Head Teacher, Depute Head Teacher and a Principal Teacher. This session, the Principal Teacher was the Acting DHT(Equity).

The Glengowan Parent Group plays a significant role in the life of the school, and we are fortunate to be supported by the wider parent forum. This group supports the school through fundraising events and the purchasing of additional resources.

Strategic Priority 1: Further improve learning & teaching in P1-7 through consistent use of the 'Learning Intentions & Success Criteria' and 'Effective Questioning' sections of the SLC Pedagogy Palette.



Progress and Impact

All, including temporary, teaching staff participated in professional learning linked to 'Learning Intentions' and 'Success Criteria' from SLC's Pedagogy Palette. Almost all teaching staff feel more confident in using these in class, with some identifying the need to refine the wording of statements about learning.

Classroom observations provided evidence that all teachers were able to share the intended learning, either orally or, for older learners, via a whiteboard or screen. Following the 2nd observation, almost all children were able to state the lesson's intended learning when asked.

The majority of teachers were asking a wider range of questions by the time of the 2nd observation. This will be revisited in the future.

All teachers were given a copy of 'Power Up Your Pedagogy' by Bruce Robertson. All read the assigned chapters and kept a log of their learning. There were opportunities for teachers to come together to discuss good practice and their responses to the tasks from the book.

Almost all teachers completed a self-evaluation linked to the Pedagogy Palette after each observed lesson and conversation. We replaced 'Lesson Feedback' with a 'Lesson Conversation' based on the advice in Bruce Robertson's book. Although these conversations focussed on 'Learning Intentions' and 'Success Criteria', the wider components from the Pedagogy Palette provided a structure for these conversations.

Next Steps

We will continue to use 'Power Up Your Pedagogy' as our professional reading next session, with a focus on 'Feedback'.

Lesson observations will continue in Terms 1 and 3.

A simplified version of a lesson self-evaluation will be completed by class teachers following observed lessons and lesson conversations.



Strategic Priority 2: *Develop our curriculum offer with a focus on Technologies and Art & Design.*

Progress and Impact

Technologies

The development group for this area met regularly. Planning documents were created. A subscription to Kapow Primary gave class teachers access to a wider range of resources and contributed to an increase in subject knowledge. Furthermore, the children were able to explore the world of work due to a few engineering visitors. Almost all P4-7 children participated in an engineering competition, with 8 receiving commendations and 1 child attending a national award event.

Art and Design

The development group for this area met regularly. Planning documents were created for P1-7 classes, but not composite classes. Money was allocated to improve the resources available to the children. The development group identified resources that were necessary to deliver a range of lessons using different mediums.

Next Steps

Our Parent Council has agreed to fund a further subscription to Kapow Primary so that improved Technologies lessons can continue, and each teacher's subject knowledge will increase.

New Art and Design planners will be fully implemented during session 24-25.

Extend the use of Kapow Primary to accelerate our curriculum refreshment.

Strategic Priority 3: *Attain our first Reading School Award.*

Progress and Impact

We were awarded core accreditation in December 2023. The assessors were satisfied that the evidence presented supported the information contained within our improvement priority.



The Reading Leadership Group met regularly. We hosted two authors this session. Each class shared book reviews at assemblies. All classes, including the Nursery, were timetabled to visit the main school library once per week. All classes had book recommendations displayed.

Next Steps

The commission from our most recent book fair will be used to enhance classroom libraries. The children's views on titles to be purchased were gathered in June 2024, and we plan to continue this process in June 2025.

Strategic Priority 4: *Develop a Nursery Class 'Learning at Home' Numeracy programme for parents/carers and children.*

Progress and Impact

All children were given a Numeracy Sack home during the 23/24 session. 100% of survey responses indicated that each child had taken a Numeracy Sack home.

Survey responses: How useful was this Numeracy Sack?

Very useful – 73%, Useful – 27%, Not useful – 0%

The majority of parents posted responses and/or photos on Learning Journals of their children using the sacks at home.

Next steps

As the 2023 survey stated that we needed to provide more opportunities for learning at home, we will continue this in 24/25 with the introduction of literacy sacks.