

LEARNING

Portmoak is a friendly wee school of 5 classes, overlooking Loch Leven in Kinross-shire. Across all aspects of school life, relationships between staff, pupils, parents, and the local community are very strong, positively impacting on children's learning experiences. Our nurturing inclusive ethos is a key strength of the school. Community partnerships add significant value to children's learning experiences, e.g., Kinnesswood in Bloom, Portmoak Festival, Portmoak Gala, Kinross Museum and the Portmoak Grows Together food-growing project.

A continued focus on writing this year raised attainment in this area and provided pupils with increased opportunities to develop their learning and skills. We will need to maintain a focus on this area going forwards. Our learners have benefitted from a focus on numeracy pedagogy, which has improved the use of concrete, pictorial and abstract teaching of number concepts, particularly with younger children. Pupils can demonstrate that they are responsible citizens, successful learners, effective contributors, and confident individuals through a range of activities and experiences such as our Rights Respecting Schools and Eco work, committees, class trips, a range of contexts for learning, STEM activities and whole school projects. All children have shared their learning with families at assemblies this year, developing their presenting and listening and talking skills. We have been back to the church for Harvest and Easter assemblies, renewing these local links. P1-3 performed a Nativity for parents which was back in-person this year. The transition programme for our new P1s has again been successful and evaluated positively by families. We have enjoyed being able to welcome parents back into the building for a range of events this session.

LEADERSHIP

At Portmoak we are focused on the pursuit of excellence and equity and supporting our children to be the best that they can be. Our vision of Portmoak LIFE focuses on Learning, Inclusion, Friendship, and the Environment, and this underpins all that we do in school. Tracking and attainment meetings ensure a focus on raising attainment and support scrutiny of class data, providing both support and challenge to staff. Learners who require additional support are monitored and we continue to deliver a range of evidence-based interventions to target those with barriers to learning. A permanent appointment of Principal Teacher in summer 2022 has ensured consistency within the management team this year. Parent workshops were delivered this session to support parental engagement in their child's learning, on topics that were chosen by parents themselves.

We are proud to be a friendly and approachable school, and staff, pupils and families are well supported through our nurturing ethos and inclusive learning environment. Children's rights are a key focus, and our learners have their voice heard in a range of ways, including focus groups, pupil council and committees. Sharing of learning and communication channels include our Portmoak LIFE Learning Plans, regular newsletters, Twitter, parent contact sessions and we have relaunched parent coffee and catch up this term. Membership of our supportive Parent Council is high, and they collaborate with the school to support learning and experiences for pupils.

Standards & Quality Report 2022-2023 Portmoak Primary



Our Vision, Values and Aims

We strive to ensure that pupils become successful learners who enjoy learning and realise their full potential; confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives; effective contributors who achieve and are ambitious and responsible citizens who make a positive impact on society.

Our vision of *'Being the best I can be!'* focuses on **Learning, Inclusion, Friendship** and the **Environment** and our value statement poster was designed with our eco and outdoor learning credentials in mind. Staff, pupils and families worked collaboratively to produce **LIFE**, which encapsulates everything we are.



In reporting on the progress made by our school during last session we have been informed by information gathered in both teacher and support staff meetings, by continued dialogue with learners, parents and carers and our Parent Council.

ATTENDANCE, ATTAINMENT & ACHIEVEMENT

	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
Attendance	96.9%	95.1%	95.7%

National Expectations	
Early	The pre-school years and P1, or later for some
First	To the end of P4, but earlier or later for some
Second	To the end of P7, but earlier or later for some

A recent review of the attainment data for session 22/23, has highlighted the following key points:

- In P1, all children have achieved Early Level Listening and Talking, and most have achieved Early Level in Reading, Writing and Maths.
- In P4, almost all children have achieved First Level in Listening and Talking, and most have achieved First Level for Reading and Maths. The majority of P4 children have achieved First Level in Writing.
- In P7 almost all children have achieved Second Level Listening and Talking and Reading. Most have achieved Second Level in Writing, Reading and Numeracy, with the majority of children achieving Second Level in Writing.
- Across the school, there are pupils on track to achieve the appropriate level in the learning earlier than national expectations would indicate.

Through self-evaluation we have graded ourselves:	Grade
1.3 Leadership of Change	Very Good
2.3 Learning, Teaching and Assessment	Very Good
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equity and inclusion	Very Good
3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	Very Good

ACHIEVEMENTS

The continuation of our 'Portmoak Grows Together' food growing project in conjunction with Kinnesswood in Bloom has enabled all our learners to plant and look after crops, ready to be harvested next session. Members of the wider community joined us for an open morning to share the scope of children's gardening work. Our Celebration of Wellbeing Week in June was a success, with all pupils participating in Sports Day which was well attended by families. Our Rotary Quiz team achieved success, winning the Kinross-shire event, and the East of Scotland event. They then went on to compete nationally. Our cricket team won the Kinross-shire tournament, and our netball team has been successful at several events. Our Euroquiz team gave a strong performance in their heats. Individual pupils were celebrated at County Sports and Cross County as well as in the Cluster select football team. For the second year running we recorded a record number of winners and highly commended entries for STEM primary engineering young inventors.

HIGHLIGHTS

Learning across the curriculum has been supported and enriched in a wide variety of ways. All pupils from the older three classes are a member of a committee and are responsible for leading an area of school improvement. P1-3 have contributed towards committee outcomes through their work on sustainability. All classes enjoyed outdoor learning in school and the wider community this session. The children have exhibited work in both Portmoak Hall and Kinross Museum this year. All classes have been on school trips including visits to Portmoak Moss, Kilmagad Wood and RSPB Loch Leven to enhance outdoor learning experiences. Trips to Glasgow Riverside Museum, Solsgrith Farm and the Royal Highland Show enhanced learning in social subjects and science. All classes have benefitted from cricket coaching this year. P6 pupils had a residential experience at Ardroy Outdoor Education Centre. P7 pupils took part in two days of adventurous activities with the rest of the cluster P7s.

Evaluation of the impact of the school's actions to improve excellence and equity.

This session we have allocated Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) to support our most vulnerable learners. Pupil Support Assistant time was purchased to support literacy and numeracy interventions, as well as to support learners with additional support needs. We have also purchased literacy resources to support learners with barriers to their learning.

We have ensured progress towards National Improvement Framework Drivers and Local Priorities. Leadership at all levels exists with pupils, staff and parents taking forward school improvement in a range of areas. A wide range of opportunities and experiences are offered to pupils, and we strive to include people and places from our local area to ensure Portmoak remains a highly regarded school at the heart of its community.

LOOKING AHEAD

Through our robust self-evaluation process, regular data-analysis, clear team communication, committed professionalism and a shared understanding of our school journey, we have demonstrated our capacity for continuous improvement. Consultation with our families, learners and groups in the wider community support our improvement journey. Friends of Portmoak School, our Parent Council, continue to work hard to support our school, encouraging parental involvement and organising a variety of fund-raising activities. This support is invaluable and is much appreciated.

Improvement Priorities for session 2023-2024

- To refresh approaches to employability and outdoor learning skills.
- To develop our inclusive practice, deepening our knowledge of types of additional support needs and relationship-based practice.
- To consider our approach to parental engagement, parental involvement, and family learning and engage with the cluster in a shared parental offer.

These improvement priorities will deliver consistent, whole-school approaches with appropriately targeted supportive interventions where progress is measured, and next steps determined through tracking and self-evaluation with all stakeholders.