

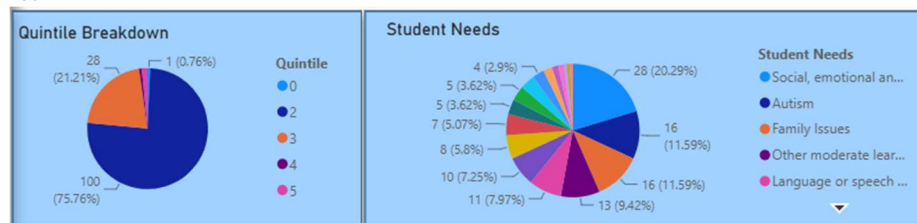
Blackridge Primary School Standards and Quality Report for Session 2025-2026



School Self Evaluation	
How good is our school? The quality indicators evidence that:	
1.3 Leadership of Change	Very good
2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	Very good
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Very good
3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	Very good

School Context:

Blackridge Primary School and ELC serve the community of Blackridge, West Lothian. Our shared vision, values and aims ensure that we have a relationship-based approach and put wellbeing first for learners, families and staff. We have effective community links through engagement with our local Community Council and associated community groups, including Blackridge Parish Church and Library and we have strong links with Armadale Academy and the cluster primary schools. We are supported by an active Parent Council who support and engage consistently in the life of the school. The school roll is 134. The staff team is made of an ambitious SLT team, consisting of the Head Teacher and Principal Teacher. We also have a nurturing team of 9 Class Teachers and a Support for Learning teacher who support learning across the school. In addition to the teaching staff, our non-teaching staff includes Pupil Support Workers who support learners in a wide range of learning experiences. We are ably supported by an Administration Assistant who enhances the welcoming and nurturing ethos of Blackridge Primary School. Our school is predominantly Quintile 2 and Quintile 3 and our students have a wide range of needs which are ably supported by a skilled and nurturing staff team.



The ELC role is 39 and is staffed by an Early Years Officer and 6 Early Years Practitioners as well as 2 Pupil Support Workers. Strong links have been established across the ELC and Primary 1 to support transition and strengthen the Early Level, ensuring consistencies in pedagogical approaches.

The school and ELC benefit from an extensive school estate, which supports high quality outdoor learning experiences. We are committed to ensuring our learners reach their fullest potential and therefore offer a wide range of free, extracurricular activities to our learners.

[Blackridge Primary School - Blackridge Primary School](#)

What has your Child's School being doing to improve this year?

We have

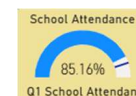
Increased consistency in approaches to problem solving and learning experiences that promote learner engagement and increased learner thinking with

- identified staff engaging in intense programmes of professional learning
- the development of robust curriculum guidance for approaches to teaching numeracy and maths.
- Cluster school collaboration to ensure high quality listening and talking assessment.

Continued to work on closing the attainment gap through targeted interventions for identified learners, strengthened consistency across Early Level and enhanced pedagogies across P1-7 in retrieval practices.

Continued our focus on improving attendance for identified learners and developing trauma skilled approaches to support learner and families by –

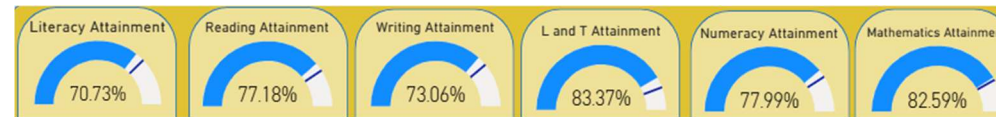
- collaborating on a cluster wide PE programme
- engaging in Trauma Skilled professional learning
- using the CIRCLT participatory tool to plan supports and identify barriers to learning
- closely monitoring and addressing attendance and late coming concerns in a timely manner.



Increased consistency in approaches to play across P1 – 7 by

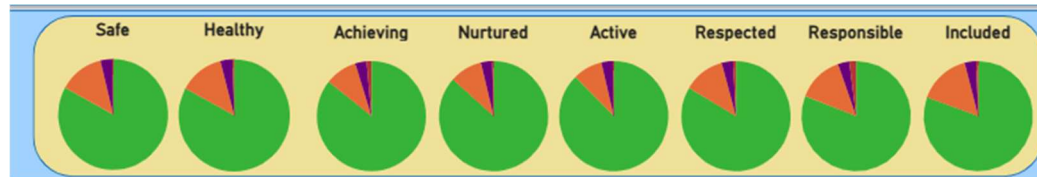
- developing learner confidence in the use of profiling tools to highlight successes
- introducing a refreshed profiling calendar for consistent expectations
- working with Learning Through Landscapes to plan the redevelopment of our playground spaces.
- Embedding our refreshed Positive Relationships Strategy
- Providing a wide range of clubs in partnership with Active Schools
- Developing Play the Blackridge Way for consistent experiences P1 – 7.

How do we know what has made a difference for your child?



Our evidence tells us:-

- Our learners are happy and feel safe in the school environment.



- We have achieved increased consistency in our planning approaches.
- Learners can evidence through learner conversations. the range of assessment approaches used within learning experiences and their role in the assessment process.
- Learners are working well within expected levels and accessing the curriculum through a range of well-planned learning experiences
- Building Thinking Classrooms pedagogy is used effectively at most stages according to recent Quality Improvement activities
- We have continued to use My World of Work and Seesaw to profile learner successes and engagement. Learners are becoming increasingly more confident at identifying appropriate next steps, supported by staff, leading to more ownership over their profiles.
- Our refreshed profiling calendar for P1-7 is ensuring that there is breadth to what learners are profiling, linking with the 4 Capacities and Metaskills.
- Our Lead learner for outdoors was successful with a grant application, receiving £10,000 from Learning Through Landscapes. This is supporting the delivery of CLPL for staff, as well as develop the playground space through consultation with learners.
- The refreshed Positive Relationship Strategy has been embedded, and this session has been enhanced through engagement with Pupil Friendly Complaints working party, further evidencing our commitment to UNCRC and ensuring our learners' voices are heard. We have worked closely with children and families and retained our zero exclusion record.
- Our effective partnership with Active Schools is enabling the school to provide a wide range of clubs to develop children's skills in a wide range of sports. The continued focus on achievement within sports for all our learners is evident in our maintenance of Gold Sports Scotland award.
- Our Early Level Lead teacher has developed *Play the Blackridge Way* resource to support the consistency of play based learning experiences across ELC – P7. This is particularly evident in progressive block play learning experiences across P1-7.
- Our nurture provision has successfully supported learners in P2 and P3 to make progress in Literacy and re-engage in whole class learning with greater success and sense of achievement.

Achievements we're proud of this year:

Wider Achievements:

- P1-7 entertained our families and wider community with their Christmas Carol Concert, showcasing the talents of our learners.
- P4-7 participated in cluster wide sporting festivals in a range of sports, supporting transition and cluster links.
- Our senior basketball teams had incredible success in this year's West Lothian Wolves Basketball Leagues, with our 1st team winning Gold and the 2nd team Silver. Our Netball Team also won Gold.
- Our P7s won the Enterprising Maths tournament at Armadale Academy.
- Additional funding from Foundation Scotland and River Kids enabling sessions at Beechbrae and with Kids Gone Wild for targeted learners.
- Funding from the James Wood Bequest which enabled us to develop a state of the art Sensory Room
- We successfully competed in the authority Literacy competition achieving an Early Level award
- We achieved Sports Scotland Gold Award status.
- A fully funded whole school trip to Edinburgh Zoo.
- An active role in planning and participating in the Cost of the School Day Voice Event

What our pupils say:

Our school is a welcoming community"
 "I think staff are caring. The teachers always say hello to us in the corridor. We have rules to keep us safe. Every morning we do check ins and it gives us the opportunity to talk about things."
 "When we need help we get extra help. Work is challenging"
 "Everyone is expected to behave."
 "We get to share our ideas and opinions We have lots of times to share our ideas."
 "Our uniform shows us we belong to the school."
 "Our school has choosing time and clubs that allows us to be around friends who have similar interests."
 "You can tell the headteacher or a trusted adult if you need something to change"
 "We have Trusted Adults, a safe place in the classroom, the Sensory Room and Rainbow Room to help us if we are sad."

What our families say:

Most parents/carers think their child is increasing in confidence, progressing well in their learning and encouraged and stretched to work to the best of their ability.
 Most parents/carers think their child has opportunities to learn about their rights and that these are promoted and protected.
 "At Blackridge Primary there is a great sense of community and parents/carers are made to feel welcome."
 "Children are celebrated for their wider achievements as well as academic ones.
 "Staff are kind and approachable and always willing to help."
 "As a parent I appreciate all the opportunities available to get involved within the school e.g. parent council, family club and Stay & Play sessions."

"Best wee school going teachers and staff are amazing nothing ever to much ..."

What can your child look forward to next school session?

Our exciting new curriculum will begin to take shape.
 Increased opportunities for learner voice to shape school development through Young Leaders of Learning programme
 Greater tracking and celebration of wider achievements
 Increased partnership with our secondary colleagues to ensure a high quality PE programme.
 Further development of our Building Thinking Classrooms and Maths through STEM learning
 A more holistic, joined up approach to Literacy learning and teaching
 Improved opportunities and experiences across Expressive Arts and project based learning at second level.
 Enhanced outdoor learning and learning through play experiences.

How do we know we have made a difference? What does this mean for your child?

Our learners are happy coming to school and are confident in expressing their views and embracing opportunities to share their voices and opinions. This means our learners are actively involved in the shaping of their learning and decision making as individuals, as classes and as a whole school.
 Our priority is always the physical and emotional health and wellbeing of our learners and evidence tells us almost all of our young people feel safe coming to school.
 Our quality improvement activities will continue to inform our evaluation and assessment of progress and where we go next, with learner voice at the heart of this every step of the way.
 Learners tell us they felt challenged in their learning and supported when they need a little extra help. They recognise the importance of feeling challenged and how this helps them learn.
 Learning Conversations, Benchmarking Exercises and pupil leadership groups meet regularly with staff to ensure we are getting it right for them. Our pupils are able to discuss what they consider our best strengths and areas for improvement. These are our most powerful indicators and influencers shaping the direction of Blackridge Primary and ELC.

