Blackridge Primary School and Early Learning Centre



PROGRESS REPORT FOR SESSION 2020/21

(Standards & Quality Report)

Main Street

Blackridge

EH48 3RJ



ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Blackridge Primary School is a non-denominational school which serves the community of Blackridge, West Lothian and sits within the Armadale Cluster. The combined school and ELC roll is 200. The school building and adjoining community wing provides accommodation for 8 classes. The school has a purpose build Passivhaus Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) building. This has its own outdoor learning area and is set up and follows Froebel principles.

During 2020-2021 all staff, parents and learners contributed to drawing up the new Vision, Values and Aims. In response to school closure due to Covid 19 we returned with an aim of ensuring recovery leading to a re-explored curriculum through agile learning.

VISION - LEARN TOGETHER, ACHIEVE TOGETHER, CELEBRATE TOGETHER

Our vision is to create an inclusive school community where learners fully participate, succeed and are proud of their achievements.

BACK TOGETHER VALUES



Respect

Happy

AIMS

We have re-exploring the four 'capacities' of the Curriculum for Excellence to define our Curriculum Aims. Blackridge Primary and ELC aim to support and challenge our learners to be or to become:

 SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS – Learners are supported and challenged to reach their maximum potential including wider achievements



 CONFIDENT INDIVIDUALS – Learners are supported to have self-respect, ambition and the courage to Dream Big.

• **RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS** – Learners are supported to treat others well and behave in ethical ways

• EFFECTIVE CONTRIBUTORS – Learners are supported to have enterprising attitudes, a positive approach to life and to play an effective part in the local, national and world around them

The school runs a successful Breakfast Club which is well attended by the children. We have a fully supportive Parent Council who play a crucial and vital role in school, especially in the areas of fundraising and general parental communication and liaison. The school has an excellent relationship with the Cluster Schools, Local Community, and the Local Church.

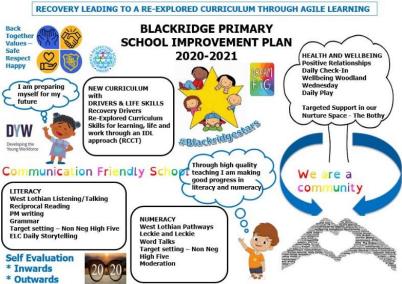
Our SIMD rank is 27 out of 67 WL schools with the majority of learners living in decile 2, 3 and 4. Free Meal Entitlement of 30% from ELC to P7. The Armadale Cluster has the joint 4th highest income deprived rate and joint 2nd highest employment deprived rate – being 1% and 2% above the respective West Lothian averages. Armadale's cluster has the 5th highest (mid-table) % share of West Lothian Universal Credit/JSA claimants, slightly below the average for the county. At 12.8%, the cluster has the 4th highest share of all West Lothian lone parents resident in its cluster. West Lothian Anti-Poverty Strategy Poverty profile identifies that 29% of children living in Armadale and Blackridge are living in poverty compared to 21% in West Lothian.

IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

Our improvement priorities are always based on the national priorities in the National Improvement Framework (NIF). Below we have indicated what progress we made with these priorities in Session 2020/21 and what the impact has been. Our report recognises that we entered a period of school closures in January 2021, and therefore our report takes account of this interruption to in school learning but will also reference any significant steps taken during the period of remote learning. Our future improvement priorities will be identified in our school's recovery improvement plan, which will respond the national and local advice on the reopening of schools.

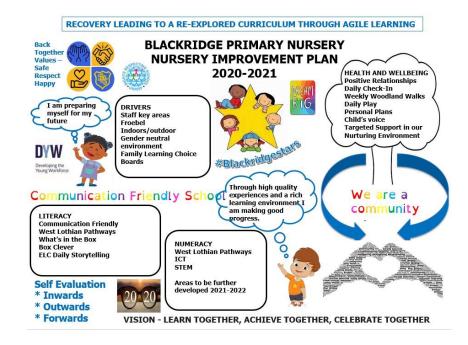
We have shown which NIF driver for improvement we used – you can find out more about the National Improvement Framework and drivers at <u>https://www.npfs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/NPFS_NIF_E-1.pdf</u>.

We have also evaluated our overall provision using quality indicators (QIs) in How Good is our School?4 (HGIOS?4) and How Good is Our Early learning and Childcare? (HGIOELC?) which is a key aspect of the Scottish approach to self-evaluation and school improvement.



* Forwards

VISION - LEARN TOGETHER, ACHIEVE TOGETHER, CELEBRATE TOGETHER



PRIORITY	HOW DID WE DO?
1.	
To raise attainment, especially in literacy and numeracy	We have made good progress. What did we do?
Our measurable outcomes for 2020-2021:- SLT to have a clear baseline for L&T/ Reading, Writing and Numeracy Individual/group gaps in learning to be identified, and included within the Blackridge Intervention	 UNIVERSAL - LITERACY Implement Refreshed Three Year Cycle Curriculum with a Drivers for Literacy Revised WLC progression pathways and used plans to ensure progression in learning for all learners. Staff all upskilled. Staff made regular contact to support engagement during Remote Learning and focused on Literacy as a key learning activities. Initiated Digital literacy during Remote Learning Staff completed the Pedagogy Toolkit to identify gaps in literacy. The identified gaps are included in SIP 2021/2022. Initiated the Scottish Book Trust; Developing a Reading Culture.
Map All staff to have a clear understanding of progress within their class.	 Blackridge Intervention Map includes support for learners in L&T, reading and writing. Targeted literacy support continued throughout Remote Learning with SfL. Children who had none engagement during Remote Learning had targeted support in literacy April – June 2021
Engagement levels during Remote Learning 85% Amber or Green The majority (70% or above) of learners to be on track with their learning in reading/writing/numeracy in all year groups.	 UNIVERSAL - NUMERACY Refreshed and revised WLC progression pathways used to plan for progression in learning for all learners. Staff all upskilled. Staff made regular contact to support engagement during Remote Learning and focused on Numeracy as a key learning activities. Prioritised number and number processes on schools returning. Introduce Leckie and Leckie Boards in all classes. Began to upskill teachers in P2/3 in line with national dip at this stage. Recapped on Number Talks with all teachers.
NIF Driver(s): School Improvement School Leadership ⊠Teacher Professionalism ⊠Parental Engagement ⊠Assess. of Children's Progress ⊠Performance Information	 TARGETED - NUMERACY Set up the Blackridge Intervention Map which includes precision teaching and began training for the 5 minutes number box. PSWs all attended Number Sense CPD and this was added to Intervention Map 2021-2022 to implement. Evidence indicates the impact is that: Remote Learning Engagement ranged from 56%(P4) to 92% (P2) with an average of 70% There is consistently good teaching across school (Lesson Observations and Remote Learning Review) There is clear progression in literacy and maths book (Learning Book Review and Lesson Observation) attainment has progressed in reading by 5% across the school, compared to 19-20, with most on track and above BIG schools. (Data)
	 attainment has progressed in writing by 6% across the school, compared to 19-20, with the majority on track and in line with BIG schools. (Data) attainment has progressed in listening and talking by 6% across the school, compared to 19-20, with most on track and above BIG schools. (Data) attainment has progressed in numeracy by 6% across the school, compared to 19-20, with the majority on track and in line with BIG schools. (Data) attainment P7 working above expected level in all subjects and have made very progress across Second level. (Learning Book Review and Lesson Observation)

ELC	ELC
To raise attainment, especially in literacy and numeracy	We have made good progress. What did we do?
Our measurable outcomes for 2020-2021:- Floor books/ Learners Journals and Reports to show good development across the year in response to CPD. ELC observations to show a wider range of rich experiences that focus on literacy and numeracy. ELC to reflect on the Third Teacher and constantly develop the learning space to meet the children's needs. SLT to draw up an ELC Intervention Map	 UNIVERSAL ELC Support Plan drawn up. Implemented the Communication Friendly School Policy. Communication Friendly Environment Training for ELC staff with a focus on visuals, classroom environment, interacting strategies Set up new ELC setting using Froebel Principles with free flow play and built on rich, first hand experiences with a focus on literacy and numeracy across all areas. Set up a system for ELC staff to constantly review The Third Adult (environment) and the impact on learning with a focus on literacy/numeracy. Empowered ELC staff so they were all fully involved in Consultative Planning. Consultative planning includes a weekly WL assessment focus and is linked to literacy, numeracy and HWB key aspect of learning Introduced the Every Day a Story Day Pledge included within new consultative planning and within its own learning environment. ELC staff trained in colourful consonants. TARGETED PEF Speech and Language (SLT) action plan was implemented with a focus on literacy interventions; teaching learners to listen principles, Box Clever and Word Boost. SLT reviewed Learner's Interventions and identified targeted support required. These were added to the ELC Intervention Map.
NIF Driver(s): ⊠School Improvement ⊠School Leadership ⊠Teacher Professionalism ⊠Parental Engagement ⊠Assess. of Children's Progress ⊠Performance Information	 Evidence indicates the impact is that: the ELC Support Plan has shown rapid progress made with ELC ethos, team working, consultative planning, the learning environment and pedagogy. (Learning Observations, Third Adult Checklist) the learning environment has only the children's own mark making. (Third Adult Checklist) pupils are using visual cues to support their learning and routines (Learning Observation) pupils are transferring skills learned in phonics and key word recognition into everyday literacy learning (Learning Observations and Learners Journals) pupils have engaged in a wider range of literacy and maths rich experiences (Consultative Planning) adults use a slow, relaxed pace when talking and give children plenty of time to respond (Learning Observations) EYP staff have been upskilled in data procedures and all data inputted by child's key worker to trackers. Renfrew scores show all children progressed and are now within tracker. Gaps have been identified and an ELC Intervention Map draw up to close these. [(DATA)

2.	
To close the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children Our measurable outcome for session 2020/21:-	 We have made good progress. What did we do? TARGETED Developed robust systems and processes for Continuum of Support Set up a Blackridge Intervention Map and began to train PSW's in strategies.
 SLT to set up a clear Continuum of Support system. SLT to set up a Blackridge Intervention Map to ensure equity for all. SLT to monitor WL HWB tracker data and targeted support put in place. 100% digital support to be given during Remote Learning. Engagement levels to be measured from beginning of Remote Learning and 	 Nurture Room set up and targeted support in place Aug – Dec 2020 with whole school. Nurture Room used by a small group during Covid closure Jan – March 2021 Nurture Teacher gap filled in response to Covid 19 closure April 2021-June 2021 17% children in school regularly during Remote Learning Closure compared to the National average of 10% PSWs supported children in school during the Covid closure with remote learning and in the Nurture Room. Implemented PEF Speech and Language interventions with identified pupils from PEF funded Speech Therapist. Intervention Map and the Positive Relationship Policy. PSWs began to deliver intervention strategies at targeted pupils. Evidence indicates the impact is that: Remote Learning Engagement was an average of 70%. 10% of the 17% of children in school were identified as vulnerable. This group had very good attendance and made good progress over the year. (data)
of Reflicte Learning and contact made to support engagement Check-In's to be established across the school when required. PEF SALT Feedback to show progress with staff confidence and responses from targeted learners. NIF Driver(s): ⊠School Improvement ⊠School Leadership ⊠Teacher Professionalism ⊠Parental Engagement ⊠Assess. of Children's Progress ⊠Performance Information	 P2 PEF Listening Skills programme Class Mean istening is of class with moderate istening adequate istening istiliary of class with moderate istening skills in my class. Pre Prot Pre Post Pre Pre Post Pre Post CrCL TCL TCL TCL TCL TCL TCL TCL TCL TCL T

ELC	ELC
To close the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children	We have made good progress. What did we do?
Our measurable outcome for session 2020/21:- Implement SLT Action Plan Implement ELC Intervention Map	 TARGETED Principle Teacher meets with each EYP to discuss pupils' progress and discuss interventions required. Principle Teacher has drawn up an ELC Intervention Map. PEF Speech and Language (SLT) action plan was implemented with a focus on literacy interventions; teaching learners to listen principles, Box Clever and Word Boost.
NIF Driver(s): School Improvement School Leadership Teacher Professionalism Parental Engagement Assess. of Children's Progress Performance Information	 Evidence indicates that the use of Pupil Equity Funding has had the following impact on learners is that: space is available for children to have downtime or engage in smaller group activities (Learning Observations and Learners Journals) step by step timetables are available to help children understand how to complete certain tasks (Learning Observations and Learners Journals) intensive Interaction is used to support self regulation (Learning Observations) a clear ELC intervention map is in place with EYP's training needs identified. (Data)

3.	
To improve children and	We have made good progress.
wellbeing	What did we do?
young people's health &	 What did we do? UNIVERSAL Classrooms to be set up to follow social distance guidelines maintained within a child friendly environment. All staff involved in re-writing the Positive Relationship Policy and implementing this on return to school. Within the Recovery Curriculum all classes had a daily class reward. All staff involved in drawing up the Recovery Curriculum. This had a focus on HWB through WL Model/Emotion Works/Play/ Jigsaw. Baseline assessments from HWB indicator through pupil self-reporting will support all staff in identifying learners who require targeted HWB support. Wellbeing Check-In set up in all classes on the return to school. TARGETED Nurture Room re-instated for and targeted support in place Aug – Dec 2020 with whole school. Nurture Room used by a small group during Covid closure Jan – March 2021 Nurture Room used by a small group during Covid closure April 2021-June 2021 17% children in school regularly during Remote Learning Closure compared to the National average of 10% PSWs supported children in school during the Covid closure with remote learning and in the Nurture Room. SLT set up a clear Continuum of Support system. They use resources identified in HWB placement and refer to partner agencies as required. Liaise with IWB Service and Wellbeing Scotland to support targeted children Lego Therapy training from PEF SALT for nurture teacher implemented. Evidence indicates the impact is that: SHANARRI Grid feedback shows pupils very positive about relationships with teachers (Pupil Voice) Remote Learning Survey of parents in Feb 2021 showed Parent in line with
	 all West Lothian responses for Advice and support for wellbeing and learning Parent Questionnaire March 2021 showed 100% parents feel the school is friendly and welcoming
	 94% feel their child likes being at this school/is safe at the school/ is treated fairly and with respect 97% parents read the weekly newsletter
	92% wish to continue to receive the weekly assembly
	 The Parents Annual Ethos survey had a higher response rate than other WL schools and noted the school was good at ensuring the children were safe and. Increasing in confidence.

To improve children and		
young people's health & wellbeing		
 Our measurable outcome for session 2020/21:- ELC practitioners to be able to discuss what they are planning for the children and the rationale. Observations of ELC practitioner interactions show a depth of understanding regarding the development needs of children displayed through Personal Plans and Learning Journals. Parents to be surveyed on how they feel they are kept informed about their child's progress. All children to have a Personal Plan in place. Floor books/ Learners Journals and Reports to show development. All children to transition smoothly. NIF Driver(s): School Improvement School Leadership Teacher Professionalism Parental Engagement SAssess. of Children's Progress Selor Information 	 UNIVERSAL A full audit of Personal Plans by the ELCASM showed all plans were in place and EYP's have a very clear understanding of the needs of their children with high quality plans. The needs of every child is met through empowering key adult attending their learners' CPM meeting and in keeping Learners Journals and Reports up to date. There was a very smooth transition for learners into the new ELC buildings. SHANAREI characters used as part of planning and within daily practice. Parents and children contacted weekly during Remote Learning. TARGETED Personal Plans include targeted support for HWB Evidence indicates the impact is that: The ELC practitioners work hard to create a nurturing, caring and welcoming environment. (Staff Questionnaire) all ELC children transitioned very well into new building in Feb 2021 and showed a rapid level of engagement due to the learning environment. (Learning Journals) the new ELC learning space has supported a very positive learning environment for children and adults. (Learning Journals and Learning Observations) all ELC children can name Safe Sally, Respectful Rosie and Healthy Heather and are aware of the other SHANARRI characters. (Learning Observations) Child's Plans are in place for targeted children and parent's and ELC Key Adults fully informed and involved. (Child's Plans) ELC Key Adult have clear evidence for each child's HWB in their Learning Journals (Learning Journals) play is a key focus at all times with no screen time within the provision (Planning) play is a key focus at all times with no screen time within the provision (Planning) play is no stracked for each child and support put in place as required. (Data) 	

ELC

4.	
To improve	We have made good progress.
employability skills, and	
sustained, positive	What did we do?
school-leaver	
destinations for all	UNIVERSAL
young people	 Review and refresh Curriculum long term planning to align with refreshed rationale, and drivers.
Our measurable outcome for session 2020/21:-	 Planning relates to the curriculum drivers and identifies relevant contexts for learning.
Three Year Curriculum Plan	 All staff involved in re-writing the Positive Relationship Policy and implementing this on return to school.
to reflect the drivers and the uniqueness of Blackridge Primary.	 Key Focus for Assembly was the Back Together Values – Safe Respect Happy and the Refreshed Vision – Learn Together, Achieve Together, Celebrate Together
Planning to relate to the	 SIP included identified drivers; HWB, Literacy, Numeracy, Outdoor Learning, Skills for Learning and Life and Work through
curriculum drivers and identifies relevant contexts	
for learning.	 TARGETED Children in Nurture Room to be encouraged to reach their potential through ongoing positive praise.
Learners in learning	5 51 1
conversations to talk about	Evidence indicates the impact is that:-
what they are learning, why it is relevant and how they	 the new Three Year Curriculum has supported the delivery of a wider range of rich experiences. (Staff Feedback)
have been involved in planning their learning.	• The Parents Annual Ethos survey had a higher response rate than other WL schools and noted the school is good at keeping parents informed.
NIF Driver(s):	
School Improvement	
⊠School Leadership	
⊠Teacher Professionalism	
⊠Parental Engagement	
⊠Assess. of Children's	
Progress	
⊠Performance Information	

ELC	ELC
To improve employability skills, and sustained, positive school-leaver destinations for all young people Our measurable outcome for session 2020/21:-	 We have made good progress. What did we do? UNIVERSAL ELC setting uses Froebel Principles with free flow play and built on rich, first hand experiences with a focus on literacy and numeracy across all areas. ELC staff constantly review The Third Adult (environment) and the impact on learning with a focus on literacy.
At least 70% of families to engage in Family learning Choice Boards	 ELC staff fully involved in Consultative Planning. Consultative planning includes a weekly WL assessment focus and is linked to literacy, numeracy and HWB key aspect of learning TARGETED
 ELC setting to reflect Froebel Key Principles with free flow play and building on rich, first hand experiences. ELC staff to constantly review the environment and the impact on learning. Review planning to ensure clarity and focus in assessments and linked to numeracy and mathematics 	 Family Learning Choice Boards introduced Jan 2021 and one EYP engaged with families during lock down to encourage participation. Evidence indicates the impact is that: 75% families engaged with school through the Family Learning Choice Boards (Data) learners in our ELC setting are benefiting from increased opportunity to apply their play in relevant contexts allowing for the development of early skills for learning, life and work. (Learners Journals)
key aspect of learning identified in the consultative plan. NIF Driver(s):	
 School Improvement School Leadership □Teacher Professionalism □Parental Engagement □Assess. of Children's Progress □Performance Information 	

- Almost all of our pupils have an attendance rate of 95% or above and our exclusion rate is 0.0% this session.
- The majority of parents/carers and all partner agencies have engaged with the school in evaluating our work and this information has been used to inform improvement planning and reporting on school performance.
- We held two Digital Parent Evening in October and April.

Our Wider Achievements this year at the time of Remote Learning have included:



How good is our school? The quality indicators* evidence that:

1.3 Leadership of Change	GOOD
2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	GOOD
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	GOOD
3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	GOOD

How good is our Early Learning and Childcare? The quality indicators* evidence that:

1.3 Leadership of change	GOOD
2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	GOOD
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	GOOD
3.2 Securing children's progress	GOOD

*(Indicators used in How good is our school? 4th Edition, Education Scotland 2015 and How Good is Our Early Learning and Childcare? 2016)