

Child Centred Provision

School Policies School policies were updated in accordance with the School Policy Record.

Risk Assessments Whole-school detailed risk assessments continued to be in place ensuring the health and safety for all pupils, staff and visitors as required.

Attendance We continued to implement our Attendance Policy. Parents were notified if their child's attendance fell below 85%. Review meetings with EWO were held half-termly.

Online Safety The PSNI were invited to speak to the pupils about on-line safety. The pupils enjoyed activities as part of Internet Safety Day and we held a number of whole school assemblies themed around online safety.

Pupil Voice The School Councillors were elected in September 2022 and had regular meetings throughout the year. There were also pupil responsibilities within the roles of Digital Leaders, Playground Buddies and Wellbeing Champions.

Health and Wellbeing We continued to expand our school's Extra-Curricular Programme and offered a wide range of activities for all pupils. New clubs included Uplift, Coding, Construction and Nature. Our breakfast club times were revised and we now have an 8am opening time. We continued our journey towards the Sustrans Gold Award and received our Level 3 Take 5 Award-the highest accolade, for our promotion of positive health and wellbeing throughout the school. The school continued to implement our positive behaviour policies. As a school we celebrated 'Anti-Bullying Week' with activities such as; 'Odd Sock Day'. We provided counselling sessions to over 15 pupils through our Healthy Happy Minds initiative. Funding and grants were utilised to improve our outdoor learning facilities and our pupils continued to be provided with many outdoor learning opportunities.

School Trips Our pupils all enjoyed school trips throughout the year including visits to Stormont, Woodhall, Belfast Zoo, W5, Airtastic, Bowling Alley, Carnfunnock and local parks and places of interest. Our whole school enjoyed a trip to the Waterfront for the Pantomime in December 2022.

A School Connected to its Local Community

Communication Parents/Guardians were kept updated with school events via the introduction of the SchoolsNI app and new school website. Communication also through the weekly newsletter and email.

Parent/Teacher Meetings Parents/Guardians were invited to attend parent/teacher consultation meetings in February 2023. Pastoral phone calls were introduced in October 2022.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) The PTA was re-invigorated and held a number of very successful school events including the Christmas Shopping Event and Raffle, Halloween Disco and the Summer Fair, all of which raised fantastic amounts for school funds.

Community Events The school supported local community events and entered competitions including Larne Schools Football Tournament in association with Larne FC, Larne Schools Hurling Tournament Larne Music Festival, Larne Credit Union Quiz, Larne Schools Swimming Gala and hockey tournament. Our pupils also attended many local events and used the locality for our Forest Schools project. We invited representatives from local businesses in through our Community Champions scheme.

External Agencies Close links continued with external agencies including Education Welfare, Educational Psychologist, NHSCT, RISE, Behavioural Support, SEN Support and Literacy/Numeracy Support Services.

School Events Parents/Guardians were invited to school events including open evening, assemblies, Christmas plays, Sports Day, PTA events and teacher-led information sessions. Parents participated in Time to Read/Count, Mystery Readers and Stay and Play sessions.

Shared Education Shared Education continued for 2022/2023 with our partnership schools. We also participated in twinning events through YMCA PeacePlayers and the IFA.

Surveys/Questionnaires Google Form surveys were introduced to seek the opinions of Parents/ Guardians on school issues/proposed change. Consultation surveys for School Development Planning were issued to all stakeholders in February 2023.

Links with other schools Linking with our local nursery, primary and post-primary schools continued through visits and project work.

Fundraising We fundraised for NSPCC, Trocaire, Children's Cancer Unit, AutismNI and we held our annual Shoebox Appeal.

St MacNissi's Primary School

School Development Plan 2023-2026



This is an overview of just some of the things achieved during the 2022/2023 school year in St MacNissi's Primary School.

Some of our priority targets for the 2023/2024 year ahead are also included.

When we devised our School Development Plan we considered a number of factors to help us prioritise the needs of the school, including results from internal tests and feedback from our pupils, parents and governors provided through questionnaires. As a school community, you have recently completed questionnaires to help us evaluate what is going well and to identify areas that need further improvement. Within school we have used the self evaluating tools recommended by the department of Education and reflected on recommendations made by the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI).

A School Development Plan is drawn up for a three year cycle. This year is the first year of our 2023-2026 plan.

What is our School Development Plan?

The SDP is a strategic plan for improvement. It brings together, in a clear and simple way, the school's priorities and the main measures it will take to raise standards.

Parent Comments - February 2023 SDP Consultation

'A fantastic school which focuses on the individual child.'

'Safe, happy environment.'

'Excellent staff- both teaching and non-teaching. Lovely community spirit. I feel we are very lucky to have such an excellent school in our town.'

Special Educational Needs

- * Updating of whole school Provision Map
- * Initial Personal Learning Plan training for staff
- * Continuation of the updating and embedding of SEN processes and systems within school
- * Continued professional development for our SEN classroom assistants

Safeguarding and Child Protection

- * The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy was updated. In accordance with DE/ETI directives
- * All Staff received Child Protection training from Mr C Oakes (Designated Teacher for Child Protection)
- * Governors participated in CP Training as required
- * Principal Safeguarding training completed by Mrs J Baxter
- * Secure record keeping continued for Child Protection and Safeguarding Concerns through our revised system
- * Child-friendly posters of the Safeguarding Team were updated and displayed around the school
- * Operation Encompass was introduced (February 2023)
- * All volunteers were vetted through Access NI

Pastoral Care

- * Pastoral Care Policies were reviewed and updated according to a review timetable.
- * Children's Mental Health Week and Anti-Bullying Week were celebrated.
- * Wellbeing Champions were introduced in September 2022.
- * Fire drills are conducted termly. All fire equipment and lighting was recently tested and the boiler serviced. PAT testing is ongoing. Our newly appointed Building Supervisor is continuing to update his training record and completes a weekly checklist of testing around the school building.
- * We fully embraced the Take 5 approach to wellbeing and earned our level 3 award in June 2023.

Teaching and Learning

Assessment The school's assessment data continued to be utilised to monitor pupil progress. The following school interventions were put in place; Literacy and Numeracy Sessions, Time to Read/Time to Count and Engage III Programme. Dyslexia Screener Testing software was purchased. Internal monitoring of Literacy, Numeracy and ICT continued through Next Steps and individual targets and whole class targets were set termly.

Numeracy Numeracy Problem-Solving resources were purchased and staff engaged in training. Mathematics continued to be provided for the children through Shared Education funding. Time to Count volunteers held weekly catch-up sessions with small groups. SEN pupils were supported through intervention sessions.

Literacy Staff received training in the development of Creative Writing from P1-P7. The Accelerated Reader Programme continued successfully for P4-P7. Our Foundation Stage teachers participated in EA Phonics Training. A new whole-school comprehension scheme was purchased.

ICT Internet Safety Policies were reviewed as part of our Safeguarding review. Digital Leader roles were created. Progression of skills in Using ICT continued to be developed and embedded in all classes as evidenced in our pupil portfolios.

Outdoor Learning Outdoor Learning and Outdoor Play was enhanced through the development of our outdoor spaces and our sensory garden.

Music Tin Whistle lessons were introduced in Primary Six. Our school choir is re-formed annually. We have successfully secured a place in Peace Proms 2024. Uplift music and drama afterschool club was introduced. Violin lessons in conjunction with the EA continue throughout the year.

PE The school implemented a new PE Scheme from Core NI. Our after schools clubs include hockey and football. We have worked in partnership with Larne FC, Latharna OG, Larne Ladies Hockey Club, IFA and YMCA Basketball Club. We celebrated many sporting successes throughout the 22/23 academic year.

Key Priorities for the 2023/2024 academic year

Child-centred provision

- * Continue to develop the roles of our School Council, Wellbeing Champions, Playground Monitors and Digital Leaders as representatives of all of our pupils.
- * Develop our whole-school approach to emotional health and wellbeing through the EA Being Well Doing Well programme.
- * Update Safeguarding Team and whole-staff training.
- * Work towards gaining the Eco-School Green Flag.



Special Educational Needs

- * Implementation of Personal Learning Plans to replace Individual Education Plans
- * Continue the provision of high quality and effective intervention groups
- * Continual review and development of SEN practices and procedures to ensure inclusivity for our pupils with additional needs. This includes training and staff development, whole-school monitoring and evaluation, management of resources, equipment and sensory areas and partnerships with external agencies including RISE, AAIS, EWO and other Education Authority services.

High Quality Teaching and Learning

Numeracy

- * Continue to raise standards in Numeracy through review & refinement of the whole school approach to the teaching of Problem Solving.

Literacy

- * Continue to raise standards in Literacy through review & refinement of the whole school approach to the teaching of comprehension strategies. Implementation of Collins Literacy scheme throughout all Key Stages.

ICT

- * To implement the Safer Schools app for our whole school community (staff, pupils and parents)
- * Agreed whole-school UICT focus from CCEA desirable features - Film and Animation, Publishing and Presenting
- * Purchasing of laptops for ICT Suite and begin to replace interactive whiteboards where required.

A School Connected to its Local Community

- * Engage with the follow-up CASE programme - Bridging the Gap Programme for Shared Education.
- * Continue to promote our PTA and expand programme of events.
- * School Development Plan launch (school community welcome) during Open evening (Dec 2023)

Effective Leadership

- * Effective school development planning is ongoing, providing clear and realistic targets for improvement based on a sound vision for the school, with governors supporting and challenging the Principal and staff in carrying forward the process of improvement.

Continual review and updating of school policies is ongoing.