



St. Mura's N.S.
St. Mary's Road
16854V

School Improvement Plan

Evaluation period: September 2013 to June 2014

Report Issue date: 21/06/2013

Summary School Improvement Plan

1. Introduction

1.1 The focus of the evaluation

As part of our ongoing work in the school, we conducted a school self-evaluation of teaching and learning this year. We evaluated reading and reading comprehension. For more information on how the evaluation took place, please see our School Self-Evaluation report which is available on our school website and our October newsletter.

The school improvement plan sets out the actions that we will undertake in the school over the next three years in reading and reading comprehension. The main purpose of these actions is to improve our pupils' learning.

2. Summary of school self-evaluation findings

2.1 Our school has strengths in the following areas:

In general, the children have a love of, and interest, in reading.

The literacy attainment of the children compares favourably with national norms on standardised results.

We know these are our strengths because our standardised reading tests results are improving and reading tests (Salford & Schonell Word Reading Tests), conducted at the end of Literacy Lift Off and Peer Tutoring Programmes, show significant improvement in 2012/2013.

The children have indicated their interest in reading.

Senior pupils have taken part in Reading Buddies programmes (with Scoil Mhuire Transition Year Students) and "The Battle of the Books" in conjunction with Buncrana Public Library. Parents in the junior classroom have used "Story Sacks" and shared reading programmes with their child/children.

We know this because we consulted with pupils and teachers and examined test results and the results of pupil and parent questionnaires from the W.S.E. process.

2.2 Our school has decided to prioritise the following areas of development:

The introduction of the Catch Up Literacy reading intervention programme with children experiencing reading difficulties.

The continuation of Literacy Lift Off and Peer Tutoring programmes in 2013/2014 and beyond.

The commencement of the Building Bridges of Understanding programme throughout the school in 2013/2014.

We wish to improve the children's reading comprehension skills, word attack and word identification skills.

We aim to encourage the children to read in a variety of texts, including digital and print media, with fluency and understanding.

2.3 Our school has set the following targets for improvement which are related to pupils' achievement and has identified the following actions which will help in achieving those targets over the next three years.

As a parent, you can help us by sharing books with your children – reading with them at home and talking to them about books, assisting with homework during Literacy Lift Off programme (Infants – 2nd Class) and encouraging your child to use the local library during both term-time and holidays.

2.4 We know that we will have achieved our targets when, we see evidence on an annual basis of a general gradual improvement in percentile scores among pupils, particularly among those pupils previously scoring at or below STEN 7, by review of the results of standardised tests over the next 3 years. There is clear evidence of transferability of comprehension strategies (as taught in the area of literacy) to other subject areas, e.g. SESE, SPHE, Maths (word problems), etc.