



Laurencekirk School

Our Priorities 2022 -2023

Families Version

Each year we identify a set of improvement priorities to focus on. This helps focus our time and attention and ensures that our school continues to improve and be the best it can be. In this document, I have summarised our priorities for the remainder of the session. I will update you on our progress through our school newsletters. We look forward to working together this session.

Jill Smith

Our 3 main priorities:

- To improve health and wellbeing
- To improve the curriculum we offer
- To improve our approach to teaching, learning and assessment



Priority 1:

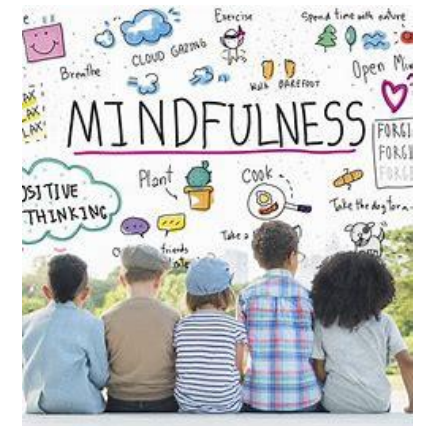
How will we Improve Health and Wellbeing?

What will we do?



We aim to improve health and wellbeing

- Our children will take part in 'Mindfulness Sessions' each week for a term to learn a range of strategies to support their own wellbeing.
- Our families will be invited in for a workshop to learn more about this important work.
- Our Staff will learn about mindfulness and social and emotional wellbeing alongside their classes.



We aim to improve health and wellbeing

- We will work as a school community to design and create a garden which will attract wildlife into our school grounds. Being close to nature has many benefits for our children including supporting all aspects of their health and wellbeing.



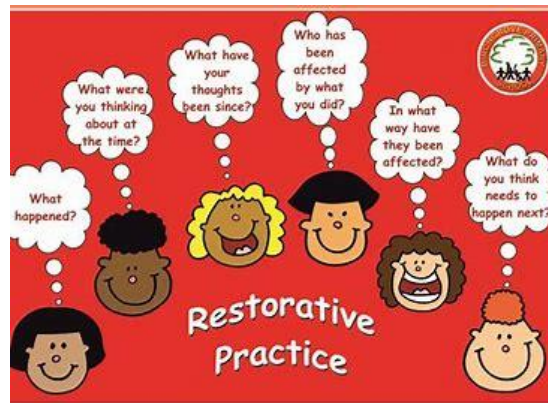
We aim to improve health and wellbeing

- We will develop a nurture classroom which will offer a range of opportunities for children to engage with nurturing experiences. These experiences will help our children to develop the social and emotional skills they need to do well at school and with their peers as well as developing resilience to cope with the inevitable ups and downs.



We aim to improve health and wellbeing

- In Laurencekirk School we use restorative conversations to respond to relationship difficulties which our children may experience. This helps our pupils to understand the impact of their behaviours and to reflect on their choices. We will work with our pupils to devise restorative mats which guide this process and help to ensure that we are all using the same language.



We aim to improve health and wellbeing

Review and refresh our approaches to Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Curriculum (RSHP).



We aim to improve health and wellbeing

- Review and refresh our whole school approach to the Health and Wellbeing curriculum across our school through using the SCARF programme. This will support us to promote positive behaviour, mental health, wellbeing, resilience and achievement.



Priority 2:

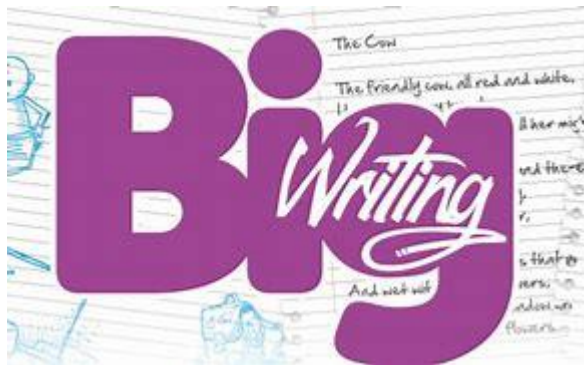
How will we Improve our Curriculum?

What will we do?



We aim to improve our curriculum

- All our staff will learn more about 'Big Writing' and we will take this forward in our school. This is an approach to the teaching and assessment of writing in primary schools which is enjoyable and motivating. Research has shown that this approach can make a significant difference to standards in writing.



- [Ros Wilson - Ros Wilson Discusses Big Writing - Bing video](#)

We aim to improve our curriculum

- Our children will develop their understanding of the range of skills that they develop in school and in their life and be able to talk about these skills.
- [Skills 4.0: Thriving in the future - Bing video](#)



We aim to improve our curriculum

- Introducing a progressive approach to teaching and learning about internet safety across our school.



We aim to improve our curriculum

- We will work with the school community to create a policy related to the responsible use of technology across the school.
- Our staff will attend workshops to learn about how to use digital technology in the classroom.



We aim to improve our curriculum

- Our children will be given the opportunity to participate in two STEM (science, technology, engineering andAll our children will participate in STEM outdoor lessons with an Outdoor Learning consultant and implement these ideas in their own classrooms.
- maths) challenges.
- We will continue using our 'big' loose parts and will develop this to include 'small' loose parts.
- We will look at the technology experiences and outcomes and work out what we will teach, when we will teach it and how.



Priority 3:

How will we Improve Teaching, Learning and Assessment?

What will we do?



We aim to improve our approach to teaching, learning and assessment

- We will work together as a staff team to develop our thinking about what really brilliant teaching, learning and assessment looks like, sounds like and feels like in our school and use this knowledge to be the best we can be.



We aim to improve our approach to teaching, learning and assessment

- We are launching a new intervention to help some of our children in Primary 5-7 accelerate their reading progress. They will also develop good comprehension, spelling and punctuation skills through targeted activities.



We aim to improve our approach to teaching, learning and assessment

- We are improving our assessment practices through developing a consistent approach to assessment in literacy and using the results to plan what we do next to help our learners achieve their potential.

