



St Ninian's High School
EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Awareness

Focus

Creativity

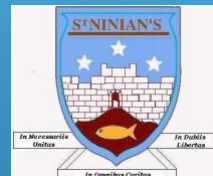
Integrity

Perseverance

Service

Education Scotland

Inspection January 2018



Saint Ninian's High School
Kirkintilloch
www.st-ninians.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

www.st-ninians.e-dunbarton.sch.uk





Quality Indicators Evaluations

- Leadership of change :- **Excellent**
- Learning, teaching and assessment :- **Very good**
- Raising attainment and achievement :- **Very good**
- Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion:- **Very good**



The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work. □

- The outstanding leadership of the headteacher in promoting a culture of learning and **high aspirations** and developing a belief that '**anything is possible**'. This is driving school improvement and **empowering staff to initiate change** and take forward developments that are improving outcomes for young people. □
- The extremely positive learning environment. **Strong relationships** and **high expectations** across the school are resulting in **highly motivated young people** who engage well in their learning and are achieving success. They have a very good understanding of their progress and their next steps in learning. □
- The very strong sense of **shared values** across the school community which is underpinned by the school's Catholic identity and reflected in every aspect of the school's work. This is central to the wellbeing, development and successes of young people. □
- The consistently high levels of attainment of all young people. In particular, **the school's work to improve equity** is raising the attainment of those young people facing additional challenges. □
- The **creative approaches to developing partnerships** which are enhancing learning opportunities and contributing to positive outcomes for young people. □





Context

- Location
- Roll 800 pupils at time of inspection
- Denominational
- Staff – over 100 (teaching and non-teaching)
- New build 2009
- Achievements

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0w5UVIR9RU>



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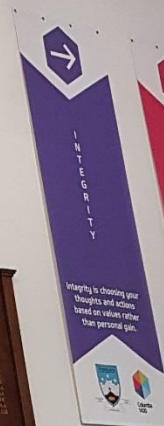
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Achievements

- Excellence in Professional Learning Award – GTCS
- Cycle Friendly School with Distinction
- Probationer teacher of the year – EDC
- Raising Attainment in Numeracy – Scotland
- “School of Ambition” – designated by Scottish Government
- “Outstanding Secondary School” – UK (4 times)
- “Outstanding Sporting Initiative” – UK
- “Community and Collaboration Award” - UK
- Learning through Technology Award - Scotland
- Aiming High Award – Scotland
- Enterprise & Employability - Scotland
- Marketing Society Star Award
- Confucius Classroom of the Year
- Dance Hub for East Dunbartonshire
- UK Teacher of the Year
- Headteacher of the Year



Strategies for improvement

- Columba 1400
- Improvement in attainment
- Focus on relationships
- Staffing changes
- Work as Associate Assessor
- Curriculum changes



QI 1.3 Leadership of change

- Developing a shared vision, values and aims relevant to the school and its community
- Strategic planning for continuous improvement
- Implementing improvement and change



Developing a shared vision, values and aims relevant to the school and its community

- Extensive consultation
- Partnership with Columba 1400
- Ongoing professional learning opportunities
- Staff engaged in effective PRD and CLPL
- Self evaluation effectively embedded at all levels
- Staff understand the social, cultural and economic context
- Leadership opportunities at all levels
- Confidence and capacity to innovate change
- High aspirations
- “Excellence in Professional Learning Award” - GTCS



Strategic planning for continuous improvement

- Learners made aware of VVA
- Forensic use of Insight
- Leadership programme for staff
- Leadership Academies for pupils and staff
- Assertive mentoring



Implementing improvement and change

- Values based assemblies
- PT/SMT Focus Groups
- Staff understand the school's equity profile
- Improvement teams
- Achievement Resource Centre
- Columba 1400 Headteacher Leadership Academy



QI 1.3 Leadership of Change

School self evaluation

- Vision, values, aims developed through extensive consultation and evident in the life of the school.
- Effective leadership is evident at all levels.
- Continue to evaluate partnership activities to ensure measureable impact.

Summarised inspection findings

- *"The school's vision and its values permeate the life and work of the school."*
- *"A significant strength of the school is the outstanding commitment of all staff to developing their leadership capacity."*
- ?



QI 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment

School Self evaluation

- Positive relationships based on mutual respect.
- Rigorous monitoring and tracking procedures support learner progress.
- Further develop approaches to digital technology.

Summarised inspection findings

- *"The very positive relationships between staff and pupils are a significant strength of the school."*
- *"There are robust systems in place to track and monitor young people's progress."*
- *"Learners would benefit from further planned opportunities to work collaboratively and independently using digital technology."*



QI 3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion

School self evaluation

- Learners are involved in discussions about decisions affecting them and the school community.
- Through the “Supporting Learners Programme” and values based assemblies, learners have an understanding of the issues and challenges relating to equalities and inclusion.
- Review and further develop procedures to monitor wellbeing in relation to health and wellbeing benchmarks.

Summarised inspection findings

- *“Young people’s views are leading to improvements.”*
- *“Young people value the ‘supporting learners’ programme, describing it as helping them to develop skills, set personal targets and build a strong relationship with a member of staff.”*
- *“There is scope to encourage young people further to self-report progress in aspects of their wellbeing.”*



New Initiatives since inspection

- Link with Larbert High School in Falkirk - assist with their Validated Self Evaluation of their curriculum in S3 looking particularly at challenge.
- Development of coaching techniques initially for PTs in line with the model used in St Andrew's Secondary School in Glasgow.
- Our Learning and Teaching Committee visiting St Mungo's High School in Falkirk (Microsoft Showcase School) to look at Digital Technology Developments.



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KIRKCUDBRIGHT



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- Service



St Ninian's High School, Feast of St Ninian, Patronal Mass in The Holy Family and St Ninian's Church, Kirkcubright,
Principal Celebrant Archbishop Philip Tartaglia with PP Fr Stephen Hannah & Deacon Bernard Lavery, Friday 15th Sept 2017.
Entrance procession.
Photo by and copyright of Paul Mc Sherry 07770 393960 @Paulmcsherry2



WWW.STNINIANSSCHOOL.CO.UK



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Questions???

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