



Standards and Qualities Report

2016 – 2017



Vision Statement

*Based on Equity, **Our Vision** is to use our combined expertise and talent, to develop within our school community the strongest ambition, the highest levels of respect and the most comprehensive understanding of equity to make Perth High School a genuine and a recognisable centre of excellence.*





Welcome to Perth High School's Annual Standards and Qualities Report for the Academic year 2016-2017. Compiling this report has given me the opportunity to reflect on the attainment and achievement successes from last year. It is a very positive picture which reflects the very high standards of work produced by our students and staff.



*Photo courtesy of Richard Wilkins,
Perthshire Advertiser*

The report illustrates the wide range of curricular and extra-curricular activities. I am also delighted to highlight the wider opportunities that pupils have undertaken.

School Aims

- To create a positive ethos and open channels of communication
- To support our pupils in becoming caring, competent, responsible individuals
- To provide a quality service in terms of teaching, learning and achievement
- To provide a balanced curriculum designed to be adaptable and meet young people's needs
- To make the most effective and efficient use of school resources

S1-S3 Attainment

The Curriculum for Excellence is now successfully embedded across our school community. We are continuing to ensure that our students consistently develop higher order skills such as analysing, evaluating, negotiating and creating. Our pupils are also developing important lower order skills such as remembering and acquiring knowledge. Developing high-level skills in literacy and numeracy remain two of our key aims. These skills allow easier access to the wider curriculum and enable pupils to become lifelong learners who are able to adapt to new situations with greater resilience.

By the end of third year, the majority of pupils are secure in Third Level in both Literacy and Numeracy. There are slight fluctuations at third level when comparing 2016 to 2017. There is an increase in the number of pupils who are secure at Fourth Level in both Literacy and Numeracy.

Percentage of S3 pupils who are secure at :	Third level 2016	Third level 2017	+ = -
Writing	72%	73%	+1%
Reading	73%	73%	=
Listening and Talking	74%	75%	+1%
Numeracy	67%	65%	-2%

S4 Attainment

Fourth year attainment continues to be very successful with a wider range of options and courses being made available for students. The number of students achieving five qualifications at National 5 has improved significantly and is our highest performance to date.

The results for those achieving five qualifications at National 4 has not yet been finalised with SQA and the figure shown below is provisional. Some pupils who were presented at National 5 and were unsuccessful will be awarded a National 4 qualification in late September, providing a more realistic assessment of their attainment.

Percentage of the S4 roll attaining by the end of S4	Perth High School 2016	Perth High School 2017	Perth & Kinross Council 2017
5 passes at National 5	46%	52%	45%
5 passes at National 4	84%	70%TBC	TBC

SQA are currently reviewing the arrangements for National 4. In school, we are working to increase our support to students completing National 3 and 4 courses.

S5 Attainment

We achieved very good results for those achieving 5 Highers and this reflects a stable three-year trend. In particular, the percentage of pupils converting their five passes at National 5 in fourth year into five Higher passes is encouraging.

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017
% of the S5 roll achieving 1 at Higher	62%	63%	67%	56%
% of the S5 roll achieving 3 at Higher	42%	40%	44%	36%
% of the S5 roll achieving 5 at Higher	20%	22%	25%	22%

Last year's S5 results were slightly weaker in S4 and again in their fifth year, as shown in the percentage of pupils achieving 1 and 3 Highers. Strategies are being put in place to address this as they enter sixth year.

S6 Attainment

As the vast majority of our pupils now continue until the end of sixth year, their cumulative attainment at school is of great importance. We are delighted by the consistency of these results, demonstrating considerable success at all levels, and ensuring that our pupils are extremely well placed to enjoy a successful transition from school to their next destination. Trends in the past three years are significantly better than the preceding three years. Advanced Higher results are strong. However, the figure shown is influenced by the uptake through Perth City Campus.

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017
% of the S6 roll achieving 1 at Higher	65%	71%	74%	75%
% of the S6 roll achieving 3 at Higher	46%	54%	54%	52%
% of the S6 roll achieving 5 at Higher	32%	41%	39%	38%
% of the S6 roll achieving 1 at Advanced Higher	30%	32%	42%	32%

Attendance

Our attendance figures:

	2016 - 2017
Number of pupils	1498
Total Possible Attendance	543198
Total Attendances	495002 (91%)
Total Authorised Absences	24400 (4.5%)
Total Unauthorised Absences	23411 (4.31%)

The total attendance figures remain the same as last year at 91%, total Authorised Absences have risen slightly from 4.4% to 4.5%, total unauthorised absences have dropped from 4.4% to 4.3%.

Pupil Voice

A pupil conference was held in October to form several pupil voice groups. The areas that they discussed were Developing the Young Workforce, Curriculum Development, Sustainability, Communication, Rights Respecting, Welfare and Social Areas.

In particular the DYW group presented their ideas for an employability passport to staff at an in-service session. They have also produced a poster to highlight the language of employability in the classroom.

The Curriculum Development Group spoke to parents at parent Council and all pupils at House assemblies about changes to our school day following consultation. They gave a clear message about the benefits of the changes. These were implemented at the start of the new timetable in May 2017.

Wider Achievement at Perth High School

There has been a wide variety of opportunities for pupils this year including

- Duke of Edinburgh
- John Muir award
- Taking part in “bring your child to work day”
- Going on a one night residential to Comrie Croft
- Boat Building
- Stonemasonry
- Hedge laying
- Mock interviews

Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Scheme

The success of the DofE expeditions is not possible without the invaluable contributions of volunteers in training and supervising the young folk. Volunteers give hundreds of days (and nights) in often dreadful weather conditions. During 2016-2017 146 pupils have undertaken expeditions.

What the pupils have to say about

Stonemasonry

“ inspiring, interesting, challenging, motivating, rewarding, feel more confident, more positive”

Mock Interviews

“a really useful experience, very helpful, very supportive”

Duke of Edinburgh

It isn't an easy challenge but it is still very enjoyable and you come out with something worthwhile.”

S4 pupil, Bronze Award 2017

“What makes Duke of Edinburgh so great is that students like myself who often spend their lives online have the ability to genuinely experience the beauty of nature, not only allowing you to bond with people you never thought you would, but also to improve upon basic skills such as communication and cooking that you never thought you could. I'm not gonna say that it isn't hard, because often clouds of midges or lashing rain aren't the most enjoyable, but what makes it all worthwhile is when we conquer that Munro and are standing at the top eating our crushed sandwiches and taking in the view.

Staff volunteers are what makes this all happen, and any student who takes this opportunity is eternally grateful.”

S6 pupil, Gold Award 2017

Trips and Excursions

This year we have organised 638 school trips. These included:

- Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions
- Visits to Colleges and Universities
- Field trips and subject trips
- Competitions e.g. the National Maths Challenge,
- Community events
- Sports competitions
- Employability and enterprise
- Cultural visits
- Educational Conferences
- Theatre and Drama performances

Residential Excursions

- Comrie Croft
- Pitlochry
- New York
- Barcelona (Languages Trip)
- London
- Auschwitz
- South Africa - Bongani
- Erasmus Project trip to Finland
- Villareal CF
- France Watersports

Career Ready and Work Experience

There were 6 S5 pupils and 5 S6 pupils that took part in the Career Ready Programme this year. This included a summer internship whilst working within a mentoring programme.

The students carried out presentations about their experiences and how it had influenced their next steps in their chosen career pathway.

We also had targeted work experience opportunities for S4 – S6 pupils. In all 24 pupils took part in a 5 day work experience and 31 in an extended work experience.

Summary of Improvement Priorities: 2017-2018

. We are constantly striving to improve. Our priorities for 2017 – 2018 are set out below, striving for excellence and equity:

- To develop and strengthen the whole school ethos by creating and embedding a school vision which underpins the daily work of the school. To strengthen relationships across the school community supported by behaviour management and restorative practice.
- To raise attainment across the school, a review of the Broad General Education will be carried out. Departments will utilise subject benchmarks and implement changes to the Senior Phase qualifications that have been introduced this year. A new reporting system will be trialled this year, home school links will be strengthened and learning conversations with pupils will be developed further to ensure that they know their next steps in learning.
- To develop Self-Evaluation for Improvement further, there will be further familiarisation of “How Good is Our School 4” to evaluate whole school and departmental performance. A variety of methods will be used to collect data including surveys, focus groups and observations. Analysis of data will take place alongside the data available from SQA, Insights and Perth and Kinross Council.



Photo courtesy of Richard Wilkins /Perthshire Advertiser

Standards and Qualities Report

2016 – 2017

Thirza Pupillo, Headteacher

Perth High School
Oakbank Road
PERTH
PH1 1HB

Tel: 01738 628271
E-mail: PerthHigh@pkc.gov.uk

