



School Improvement (SIP) Update - May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I thought I would celebrate our school developments this year, so far. It was going to be a summary document; however, it is slightly longer than I anticipated, I think you will see how many areas we have improved to enhance the overall education for your children. I am extremely proud of our achievements, and we have been sent some lovely feedback over the last few weeks and I wanted to share them with you as well.

SIP 1 – To ensure all subject areas are coherently planned and sequenced, so children gain knowledge and skills for future learning.

- Environment is stunning, with a great amount of hard work going into this being a feature throughout school. Nick Ward- School Advisor April 2023
- Adaptive teaching - Intervention for children takes place on the same day plugging the gaps with learning.
- Computing – New scheme of work in places, further training has taken place, coaching from Computing lead Mrs Porter.
- Art – continue to build on the excellence training from last year. Sketch books are personal to children giving them an opportunity to express themselves. Monitoring showed children thoroughly enjoy lessons. Standards of sketch books has improved.
- Step into Quality project Year 1- improvements to the learning environment indoors and outdoors, development of the curriculum and accessing provision and review of transition procedures reflected in the whole school transition for Summer term.
- History – new subject leader – Mrs Logie. Summer term – meeting with Lancashire History Consultant. Whole School Focus area for 2023-2024.

SIP 2 – To improve the teaching and learning of writing with a focus on Vocabulary and Spelling

- Training for staff on **building sentences** to help the children understand the concept of a sentence and use punctuation accurately. Revisited the importance of spoken language before writing. (SIP for 2023-2024)
- **Vocabulary** Children focus on Words of the week. Curriculum has been developed to teach specific words in each subject. Games and activities for children used to inspire children. Vocabulary was used effectively, and misconceptions addressed appropriately. Nick Ward.
- Focus for this term on **Spelling** for Y3-Y6. Children will have a taught spelling session every day for 20 minutes. This will teach spelling rules, patterns and common exception words. The children will be taught strategies to learn their spellings. Children will be given 4 words to learn each week and then 4 unseen words that follow the spelling pattern/rule.

SIP 3 – To maintain high standards in reading with a focus on phonics and reading across all subjects.



- Introduced Monster **Phonics** Scheme for Year 1 and 2. (£4000) All staff trained in this area. Ordered new in class reading books linked to the graphemes taught in this area. Children love the new characters and raised standards seen in Y1 phonics assessments.
- New budget – new home readers linked to phonics lessons in class. (£2000)
- Parental sessions – ‘Come learn with me’ with specific learning focus for all year groups.
- Mrs Beevers has led the development of Dyslexia Provision.
 - Dyslexia friendly classrooms.
 - GL assessments completed with children to identify areas of support needed Nesy embedded throughout school to support children.
 - Children love Nesy programs.
 - Nesy fingers implemented for children who find the mechanics of writing difficult. Use of word processing in class.
 - Specialist teacher support and advice used.
 - Dyslexia Award External School assessment to be completed October 2023.
- Autistic friendly schools project
 - Learning environment policy changed to ensure the learning environment is fully inclusive.
 - Monthly parental support group set up to support parents and carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disability.
 - Specialist teacher bought to provide specialist advise for children with additional needs.
 - Staff upskilled from specialist agencies.

SIP 4 – To ensure that pupils behave with consistently high levels of respect for others.

- ‘Relationships and behaviour (both general and behaviour for learning) is **outstanding**. Nick Ward
- Equality Award – Focus Religion and Belief, Disability (change due to all the work with Autism project, Dyslexia Friendly Schools and Specialist teacher advice.)
 - Equality groups set up for parents and children.
 - Policies and procedures changed.
 - Raised profile during RE lessons and assemblies about religion and belief.
 - Assessment due to take place Thursday 22nd June.

Prospective Parent Comment – ‘I thought the school was amazing and well organised for each individual year group. The nurture element within the school is very apparent which I think is so important to make sure your children are happy and listened to which will ultimately encourage them to learn well in a comfortable environment.’ April 2023

SIP 5 – To speak that all enhancement activities are developed to an excellence level and inclusive for all pupils.

- New PE Subject leader in place – Mrs Logie
 - Revised policies and procedures for trips and events of site.
 - Training for staff on Fundamental skills and Net/Wall Games.
 - New zone system set up January 2023. Staff trained with games and activities to encourage the children to be active. **Positive feedback from children and next**



steps – see website) Staff feedback – playtimes far better, reduced incidents and first aid accidents.

- Parental question completed for evaluation of trips. Next Steps to be reported to parents.

Sport

- 91 children took part in an after-school sporting club and 95 children took part in a school sports event in Spring Term.
- Pupil voice – Cross Country/Football lunchtime clubs and additional 145 sports club after school places.
- Attending 20 West Lancashire Sports events this term – Parental feedback from the cross-country event. 'I really want to express how proud I was of Burscough Village Primary at the Cross Country. Whilst they did not come away with medals, there is no doubt they can hold their heads high, having displayed great sportsmanship.'
- External companies will provide Tennis, Cricket and football coaching this year. With ballroom dancing being introduced in September.
- PE leader raised the profile of PE this term with a question of sport assembly and Wimbledon Wednesdays.
- Year 2 to attend Rock and River.

Feedback from an external visitor

Thank you for showing me around Burscough Village Primary, what a lovely welcoming school where everyone including the children were industrious. It was a pleasure to visit. I was very impressed how the school keeps moving forward with new projects. April 2023.

Building Works Summer Term 2023

We are really excited to share that, following the Step into Quality project and our work with our Lancashire Consultant, we will be rearranging some of classrooms during the summer holidays. We have evaluated the provision that all year groups need in their classrooms, and we will be changing where some year groups are based in September.

Nursery, Reception and Y1 – will remain in the same places. The following year groups will change:

- Y2 – to the current Year 6 classroom
- Y3 – to the current Year 5 classroom
- Y4 – to the current Year 2 classroom
- Y5 – to the current Year 3 classroom
- Y6 – to the current Year 4 classroom

Y4/Y5/Y6 will become a junior area/corridor with brand new, larger toilets. We will also be creating a media centre in the old Art Cupboard. This will have a new window and be fully soundproof. The children have requested to be able to create radio and podcast shows. There will be a green screen (although, it will be blue, or our children will disappear because of their green uniform) for all the children to use to transform them to new places using the background. This will support our school improvement area for speaking and listening next year. The junior children will also be nearer the library to allow the children a separate space to change for PE. They will also have greater access to the ICT suite for their lessons.



As part of our transition work, the children will work with the class teachers to design their new classrooms, so they have ownership of them for September.

Finally, I wanted to say a huge well done to our Year 6 children and Mrs Swift. The children have worked extremely hard this year with Mrs Swift's determined attitude to ensure all children achieve their very best before they leave primary school. Mrs Swift believes in each and everyone of the children in her class. Quite often, it is building a 'can do' attitude that is the key to the children's success.

I am astounded in the children's achievements. I hope you can see the improvements in all their subjects. I recently observed a lesson, with the school adviser, and we couldn't believe the progress the children have made. Well done, year 6. We wish them the best of luck next week with their SATs. All they need to do is try their best. We look forward to the school production of Matilda and many more exciting events before the children move to high school.

Enjoy the King's coronation and remember we return to school on Tuesday 9th May 2023.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miss Smith'.

Miss Smith

Headteacher