West Lothian Council

St. Joseph's Primary Linlithgow Standards and Quality Report for Session 2025-2026

School Self Evaluation How good is our school? The quality indicators evidence that:	
1.3 Leadership of Change	Very good
2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	Very good
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Very good
3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	Very good



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School Context:

St. Joseph's is a welcoming denominational school serving the communities of Linlithgow, Linlithgow Bridge, Threemiletown, Philipstoun and Bridgend. In Session 2025–2026, the school roll is 85, organised across four classes.

At the heart of our approach is a strong belief in high expectations for every learner, with positive relationships underpinning a very inclusive and supportive ethos. Staff are proactive in fostering respectful relationships across the school and wider community, and engage collaboratively with learners, parents and partners in ongoing self-evaluation. At St Joseph's, our vision of *Learning for Life Together in Faith* underpins all aspects of school life. Our values of kindness, honesty, respect, love, creativity and resilience guide our relationships, learning and decision-making, fostering a positive and inclusive community. Through our commitment to developing the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence, we aim to support all learners to become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors, equipped with the skills, knowledge and values they need for lifelong success.

The school serves a diverse community, with staff using a strong understanding of attainment, wellbeing and contextual data to inform targeted support and interventions. Most learners achieve expected levels in literacy and numeracy, supported by a clear focus on equity and continuous improvement.

We nurture a strong sense of community through close partnerships with St. Michael's Parish Church, Sinclair Academy, cluster primaries and the wider Linlithgow schools and community, enriching learning experiences.

We have high levels of parental engagement, meaningful pupil leadership opportunities and a commitment to inclusion, wellbeing and equity to further enhance positive outcomes for all learners.

View our School Website for more information.

What has your Child's School being doing to improve this year?

We have been….

Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing:

- Continuing to embed our rights based approach to enable an inclusive and equitable school culture, celebrating diversity and supporting the wellbeing and achievement of all.

Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children and young people:

- Participating in Equity Thematic Reviews with other Primary Schools. In April 2026 we shared successes and planned next steps.
- Organising several charity initiatives through our Pupil Community participation group. These included a Food bank Appeal, SCIAF appeal and Daffodil Tea for the Strathcarron Hospice.
- Reducing the cost of the school day by organising a uniform, Halloween costume & Christmas jumper swap shop.

Improvement in skills and sustained, positive school-leaver destinations for all young people:

- Extending opportunities for achievement and reflecting this through learner profiles.
- Demonstrating our commitment to Learning for Sustainability and achieved our Eco flag re-accreditation.

Improvement in achievement, particularly in literacy and numeracy:

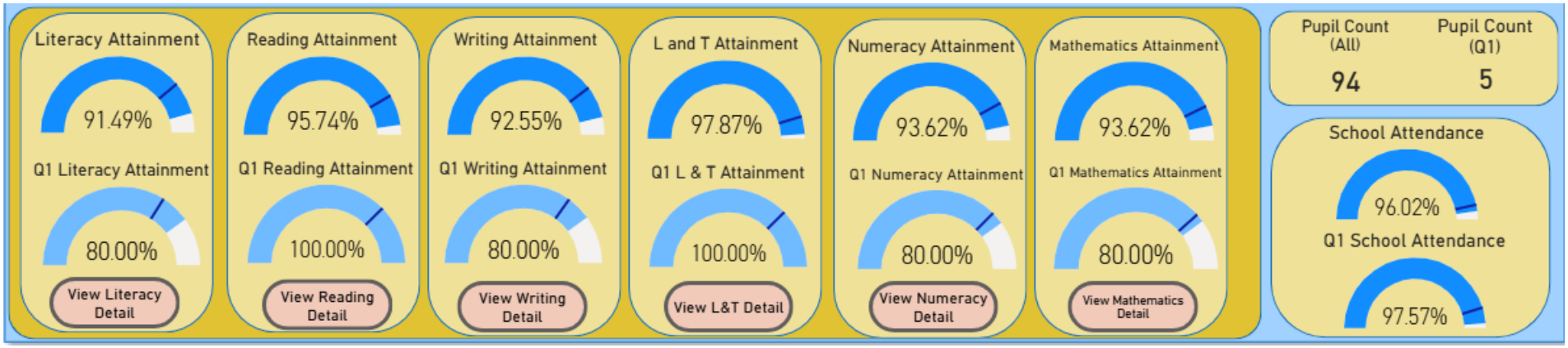
- Evaluating our approaches to developing skills in listening and talking to ensure progression with cluster colleagues.
- Continuing to promote enjoyment, enthusiasm and a love for Maths and Numeracy to support pupil progression and confidence.
- Refreshing our Numeracy and Maths strategy by developing a progressive whole school approach to support the development of maths skills.
- Continuing to promote our positive reading culture following Gold accreditation, strengthening partnerships with parents, the local library and through wider literacy opportunities (e.g. author engagements)

Developing in Faith:

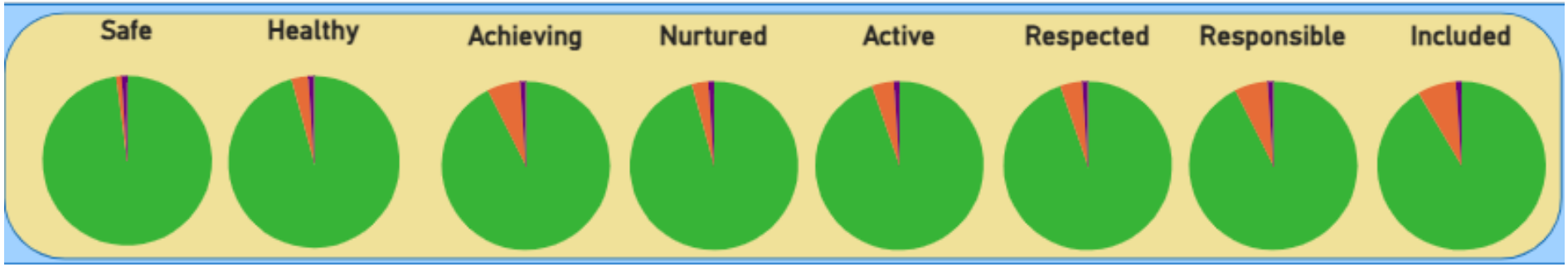
- We have continued to engage in the Pope Francis Faith Award (PFFA) and celebrated the Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope. Our Developing in Faith theme: this year was 'Serving the Common Good'

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How do we know what has made a difference for your child?



The information above shows an overview of our current levels of attainment. School attendance has continued to stay above the West Lothian average at 96%. Our school has maintained an exclusion rate of zero for session 2025/26, reflecting our strong commitment to supporting the wellbeing of all children through a comprehensive range of targeted interventions and inclusive practices. Recent self-reporting information below shows that pupils are self-reporting positively across the wellbeing indicators.



Our Ethos survey results show a high level of parental and pupil satisfaction with the school. Our parents are active participants in their children's learning. We engage with parents throughout the school improvement process using a variety of methods. Priorities have been discussed and shared at Parent Council meetings to which every parent is invited. Priorities were also shared at Parent's information evenings. We issued questionnaires to gather parental views. We use this information to help shape future school improvements. Our Parent Council supports the school financially with a group of highly committed parents organising fundraisers across the school year. This is hugely impactful on improving experiences for pupils across the school. This session we offered parents the following opportunities to support their child's learning: Fortnightly School HT Newsletters, Termly Class SWAY Newsletters, Summer Fayre, Showcase events such as School Show, Burn's Celebration & The Nativity. Pupil Equity Fund has had a positive impact on reducing the poverty-related attainment gap by providing targeted support for our learners. Through focused interventions, increased staffing, and enhanced wellbeing supports, pupils have demonstrated improved engagement, confidence, and progress in literacy and numeracy. The fund has also enabled the school to respond more effectively to individual needs, resulting in more inclusive practice and better outcomes for children affected by disadvantage.

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Achievements we're proud of this year:

Wider Achievements:

Pupils in P3, P4 and P7 received the Sacraments of First Holy Communion, Reconciliation and Confirmation. Most P7 pupils received the Pope Francis Faith Award and our P6 pupils continue to work towards this. All P7 pupils successfully participated in a residential school camp, developing independence, resilience and teamwork skills.

All pupils took part in a "Great Athletes" sponsored event, promoting health and wellbeing while raising funds to enhance sporting resources across the school.

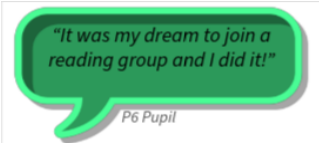
Learners engaged actively with the work of St Vincent de Paul (SVDP), contributing to social justice initiatives and supporting those in need as well as raising funds for SCIAF, Cancer charities and contributing to the local foodbank. The school achieved Eco Flag reaccreditation, recognising ongoing commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility.

The development of the trim trail has enhanced opportunities for physical activity, play and outdoor learning.

All pupils participated in a school performance through either "The Nativity" - providing meaningful opportunities to deepen understanding of the birth of Jesus and its significance within the Catholic faith, Our Scottish Showcase - celebrating Scotland's culture, heritage and traditions through music, dance and performance or Our School Show with themes of diversity and empathy promoted through inclusive, creative experiences that built confidence and a sense of belonging. All pupils participated in a school trip to The Five Sisters Zoo and a local outing to learn more about Linlithgow.

What our pupils say:

"*I love coming to school because I get to see my friends and the teachers have always been really nice to me. This year I played the lead role in the school show. It was my first time performing and it was hard to learn my lines. I got a standing ovation. Yesterday we had an end of the year school treat to bowling and it was my first time going on the train and it was amazing.*" ***P7 Pupil***



Click here for more quotes

What our families say:

"The school fosters a welcoming and inclusive environment, offering families many opportunities to engage with their child's learning."

"Staff are approachable, friendly and always willing to listen, creating a strong sense of partnership between home and school."

"We have lots of opportunities to come in and explore our child's learning, our youngest has been supported to develop confidence in his reading and it's came on tremendously in the last year. Equally being pushed on with his mathematics which he thoroughly enjoys."

"It must be noted that our eldest who is now in S1 was fully prepared for her onward journey, testimony to the staffing efforts in instilling values, respect and encouragement to thrive. We couldn't have asked for a better learning experience. "
Click here for more quotes

What can your child look forward to next school session?

Staff will continue to have a relentless focus on raising attainment and achievement by extending challenge through higher-order tasks, differentiation and targeted stretch groups and meet the needs of learners using data to inform targeted interventions.

We will adapt our pupil profiling to enable learners to reflect on their progress, and make informed connections between their learning experiences and skills for life, learning and work.

We will extend the development of play-based learning to enhance engagement, independence and progression, alongside the creation of a creativity hub to foster innovation, skills development and rich interdisciplinary learning experiences across all levels.

We will work with cluster colleagues on The Promise Award to support inclusion and improve outcomes for our care experienced learners.

Staff will participate in the Leaders of Learning and Pedagogy professional development approach.

We will continue to strengthen pupils' faith development through meaningful opportunities for celebration and worship, supporting spiritual growth and reinforcing the school's values and community.

Develop a dynamic and responsive timetabling approach to strengthen learner-centred HWB provision, ensuring learning is adaptive to emerging needs and leads to measurable improvements in wellbeing, engagement and outcomes for all learners

How do we know we have made a difference? What does this mean for your child?

The school had a positive validation of its work by WLC in 2025. The VSE team identified the following key strengths: High quality learning and teaching and a staff team who have a clear understanding of the school's strengths and areas for improvement.

- Across the school relationships strongly reflect school values and provide an effective climate for learning.
- Children are polite, motivated and eager to learn.
- Teacher's direct teaching, explanations and instructions are very clear and allow children to successfully engage in planned learning experiences.
- Effective systems are in place to plan, assess and track children's progress in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing and this supports the effective planning of timely interventions.
- Overall, there is a high standard of planning for learners experiences across the 4-contexts of the curriculum.
- Literacy and numeracy are a central feature of the school improvement plan and this has impacted positively on attainment in these areas.
- All children are involved in leadership opportunities across the school and are actively making a difference to their school and community. Opportunities for wider achievement are allowing children to develop a range of skills.

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