



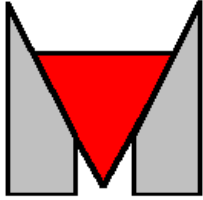
2011 - 2012



Menzieshill High School Standards and Quality Report

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Achievement • Ethos • Partnership



MENZIESHILL HIGH SCHOOL

STANDARDS & QUALITY REPORT 2011 - 2012

Section 1 - Introduction, school values and aims

Menziesshill High School is a secondary school in Dundee. The school caters for five hundred and fifty pupils and admits those who live in the Gowrie Park, Menziesshill, Charleston, Lochee and Dryburgh areas of the city, as well as the villages of Longforgan, Inchtute, Liff and Birkhill.. This area consists of a mixture of privately owned and council housing.

VALUES

We are committed to ensuring that Menziesshill High School is a community based on these shared values:

- accepting others, with consideration and tolerance;
- honesty, fairness and openness in our dealings with others;
- accepting responsibility for ourselves, our actions and developing a sense of self worth;
- treating one another with courtesy and respect, caring for each member of our school community and helping others in need;
- working hard, being positive about our life and learning and committed to education in its widest sense.



AIMS

1. All members of the school community contribute to a learning environment which enables them to develop their full potential as successful learners who achieve the highest standards in all aspects of their work.
2. All members of the school community are effective contributors who are actively involved in creating good working relationships within the school community.
3. All members of the school community are valued as individuals, regardless of their race, sex, religion, colour, creed or disability.
4. All members of the school community are provided with opportunities to develop their personal and social skills, enabling them to take their place as caring, confident individuals in society.
5. All members of the school community play their part as responsible citizens, maintaining and developing close partnership with parents and the local community.

Section 2 – Improvements in Performance

By end of S4 - All Candidates

	2010		2011		2012	
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD
English Lev 3	92	9	91	9	95	8
Maths Lev 3	91	9	90	9	66	10
English & Maths	89	8	85	10	65	10
5+ Level 3	87	9	87	9	89	9
5+ Level 4	67	9	64	10	70	9
5+ Level 5	20	9	18	10	28	8

Examination Results (within Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework) (2009/2010 results are pre-appeal)

National

(2011/2012 results are pre-appeal)

Percentage of the relevant September S4 roll achieving:									
By end of S4	5+ @ level 3 or better			5+ @ level 4 or better			5+ @ level 5 or better		
	2009/20	2010/20	2011/20	2009/20	2010/20	2011/20	2009/20	2010/20	2011/20
		10	11	12	10	11	12	10	11
	92	93	94	78	79	80	36	36	37

Menziesshill

Percentage of the relevant September S4 roll achieving:									
By end of S4	5+ @ level 3 or better			5+ @ level 4 or better			5+ @ level 5 or better		
	2009/20	2010/20	2011/20	2009/20	2010/20	2011/20	2009/20	2010/20	2011/20
		10	11	12	10	11	12	10	11
	87	87	89	67	64	70	20	18	28

Dundee City

Percentage of the relevant September S4 roll achieving:									
By end of S4	5+ @ level 3 or better			5+ @ level 4 or better			5+ @ level 5 or better		
	2009/20	2010/20	2011/20	2009/20	2010/20	2011/20	2009/20	2010/20	2011/20
		10	11	12	10	11	12	10	11
	88	90	92	69	70	71	27	28	26

By end of S6

	2010		2011		2012	
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD
5+ Level 5	30	10	48	7	43	9
1+ Level 6	26	10	47	6	37	9
3+ Level 6	17	9	34	6	24	9
5+ Level 6	10	9	20	6	14	9
1+ Level 7	7	8	13	6	11	7

87% of Menziesshill High pupils had positive destinations compared to Dundee average of 83%

Progress through the Curriculum for Excellence

- Curricular Areas

Each department has been asked to track progress and to plan assessment that is progressive, demonstrating development in knowledge and skills. A database developed by Design & Technology showing the planned experience's and outcome's, progress and CfE levels for each pupil is being developed for each subject and curriculum area across levels 3 and 4. An audit tool, completed last year, indicates experiences and outcomes each subject plans to cover at Level 3. Members of staff have been identified to take forward On Track With Learning. Midyis and SOSCA give us information on baseline testing and this is used competently by staff supporting pupils.

First steps in benchmarking Level 3 literacy will be shared with all staff as part of training this session. The English department have 'Golden Folders' to demonstrate pupil work. Modern Languages has also adopted this approach.

The transition programme was praised by staff for providing accurate information. Supports for learning profiles of S1 pupil needs were available in early September 2012.

Staff were tasked with looking at the NAR in October and comparing their assessments to the good practice highlighted, and making any adaptations necessary. All curricular areas were asked for formative and summative assessment plans for S1-S3. Tutor conversations, target setting with class teachers, guidance interviews and profiling will all contribute to pupil evidence of progression through the curriculum and the development of skills. In November departments will plan units of work using the NAR process with support from the CfE staff tutor.

- Literacy, numeracy and health & wellbeing

A Health and wellbeing audit was carried out. The school is aiming for a Gold HWB award this session while raising the profile of health, wellbeing and health promotion. Health and sports prefects have been given specific jobs and HWB assemblies have been delivered.

The literacy programme in S1, highlighted as good practice in the extended review and the TESS, is successfully embedding skills across the curriculum. Rigorous baseline testing is carried out to provide information for staff. The evaluation of pupil skills will be undertaken as a next step.



A Numeracy booklet and posters were developed and shared with staff to ensure consistent approaches to teaching basic numeracy skills. A Numeracy week was delivered last session and a Personal Finance course been developed in the senior phase to better meet pupils needs. Work has been developed with primary schools. This will continue to be developed.

Staff are to pilot a "Responsibility for All" toolkit with the CfE staff tutor in November.

- Skills for learning, life and work

All staff received training highlighting pupil skills and the embedding of these in lessons. A pilot group of staff will develop a Menzieshill skills set and higher order skills training is planned this session. Links to profiling, tutor conversations and pupil assessment is ongoing. Mentoring for S3/4 pupils and employers is being implemented this year. Work experience for all S4, an SFW course in Early Education and Childcare is now in place. An Enterprise is offered by Business Studies and Personal Finance by the Maths department. An 'Employers in Language' event is held each year and a new Sports & Recreation course has been introduced. Intermediate 2 Photography will be offered to selected pupils in the senior school.

Section 3 – School Improvement Plan

Raise Attainment and Promote Achievement

The school is developing systems to monitor and track pupil progress through the Broad General Education phase, building on examples of good practice. Staff will also taking forward On Track With Learning to support this process. House Tutors are beginning to support the monitoring and tracking process and guidance staff are engaged in greater dialogue with pupils to support their progress. The Interventions facility in SEEMIS is now being used to support the monitoring process. Subject departments are increasingly utilising tracking information to engage pupils and identify strategies to improve attainment and the school has developed links with local employers to provide mentoring support for targeted pupils. At Celebration of Success assemblies a large proportion of pupils receive Gold Awards. A culture of achievement is being fostered through an enhanced House system and the introduction of profiling. More opportunities have been provided to identify and record wider achievements.

Principal teachers are more skilled in handling and analysing tracking, baseline assessment and SQA data. This information has informed appropriate departmental and whole school strategies with a greater use of targeted interventions and the provision of additional support. Departments are providing additional support materials as well as more afterschool and holiday supported study opportunities. The use of regular leadership meetings is embedding systematic self-evaluation approaches and enabling greater focus on effective coursing to maximise pupil attainment. The expansion of the prefect system and greater pupil leadership has created additional opportunities for achievement through the wider life of the school. Partners are increasingly offering further opportunities for pupil achievement. Parents, staff and pupil consultations have been carried out to inform the creation of a new Homework policy.

Develop a Curriculum for Excellence

The views of pupils play a greater role in shaping policy and practice in the school. Pupil evaluations at a Departmental level aim to support school improvement and the PRC has recently been re-established to provide an additional forum for pupil voice. Pupils have been consulted recently over homework and the use of handheld devices. Senior pupils oversee pupil focus



groups to inform the development of a new learning and teaching policy. Staff training in the use of ABLE strategies and new support procedures have been implemented to enhance Support for Learning. New Enrichment opportunities are offered in the senior school, an example being a number of senior pupils who provide peer support and mentoring to junior pupils. Partners such as KIKO, also play an increasing role in meeting learners' needs. The quality of the learning experience for all pupils is monitored by pupil shadowing and peer to peer observation,

developing and sharing good practice in learning and teaching. The first use of Learning rounds by staff in the school focussed on differentiation. A significant staff led research project on anti-bullying has resulted in the creation of a new anti-bullying policy.

Additional staff have been trained in the use of cooperative learning and a new Learning and Teaching Working Group has been created. Active learning and the use of ICT has been a particular focus in the classroom observation programme this year. The Literacy project evaluation was very positive and the profile of Health and Wellbeing was enhanced by the introduction of the Health Week and input of Health and Wellbeing Prefects in the school assembly programme. The skills agenda has been taken forward across the school. Profiling has been introduced in S3 and pupils have been trained in the use of E-portfolios. Parent information evenings have been arranged to support the transition into the senior phase and inform parents of the features of the new qualifications framework. Staff are familiar with the NAR assessment process and are increasingly using the experiences and outcomes to plan and moderate assessment approaches. A wide range of staff are members of national and local assessment and moderation groups. Further IDL opportunities have been provided by staff working across departments.

Promote School Improvement by Developing Leadership and Systematic Self –evaluation

Improve leadership capacity within the school

The school is committed to providing opportunities for pupils to develop leadership. Senior prefects now have specific remits and are leading developments in school. Health and Wellbeing prefects for example, have addressed assemblies to promote physical activity, nutrition and good health. Learning and Teaching prefects are supporting the Learning Resource Centre and consulting with pupils on Learning and Teaching across the school. Prefects are driving forward changes in the House System and Health Buddies are supporting the delivery of PSHE. Pupils have the opportunity to support and mentor junior pupils as a result of the introduction of an enrichment programme in S5.

Staff are taking on greater leadership roles. A number of colleagues are leading whole school initiatives in areas such as profiling, health and wellbeing and the development of learning rounds. More staff chair or participate in working groups. The leadership role of the House Head has successfully been extended.

Develop leadership through effective Professional Review and Development and relevant CPD

All staff were reviewed as part of an annual cycle and the review process is used to identify Professional Development needs. Staff are increasingly encouraged to support and deliver CPD opportunities and a range of external partners have been engaged in the delivery of CPD in the school. Staff and School Leadership meetings provide further CPD opportunities for staff and these strongly correlate to the priorities identified in the School Improvement plan



Develop and embed a culture of self-evaluation

The school remains committed to planning strategies for continual improvement. A systematic approach has been developed through the Menzieshill Audit Plan and departments are regularly

engaged in self-evaluation. The classroom observation programme has been reviewed and SMT have a planned programme for pupil shadowing and class observation. These observations have a clear set of priorities based on previous self-evaluation. Staff increasingly participate in peer to peer observations to identify and share good practice and the staff led learning rounds group carried out its first observations on the theme of differentiation. The findings of this will be presented to staff. Pupils are involved in effective self-evaluation with evaluations and consultations informing departmental evaluation of the quality of Teaching and Learning. Pupil focus groups also support this process. The strategic remit of SMT has enabled a greater focus on supporting Principal Teachers and facilitating school improvement through regular meetings with link departments.

Section 4 – Parent Council Report

The parent council have met regularly to keep us up to date with school life and representatives have attended meetings with the Director of Education, and secondary chairpersons in Dundee. These have included matters of Budget, Cyber bullying and Safe Use of the Internet.

We have continued to campaign for a barrier to be put in place near an exit to the school to ensure the safety of pupils leaving each day from this exit and have supported the Christmas concert and other school events.

We have been extremely active in raising funds to provide an Easter school for pupils, have been involved in the Menzieshill High School Festival held each September and have organised social events to help celebrate the school's 40th Anniversary and have sponsored the new School dux Awards at Prizegiving.

We have endeavoured over this last year to encourage more support for the Parent Council and have attended the parents evening for the individual years within the school to try to encourage parents personally to support us. We have been involved in parental consultation, a focus group and in interviews with HMIE. In addition we are involved in working groups in the school helping with specific projects and developing policy. We were consulted by the Headteacher on the School Improvement Plan.

We are continually looking for new ways to encourage and support Miss Gray and her staff to show that Menzieshill High School is a school to be proud of and that we as parents thank Miss Gray and her staff sincerely for all their hard work and efforts over the year.



Section 5 – Pupil Representative Council Report

The PRC was re-launched last session in a different format mirroring Curriculum for Excellence, S1 – S3 and S4-S6. Each group has representatives from each year and house and is linked to a lead teacher who facilitates the meeting.

Pupils are much more actively involved in school improvement, putting ideas forward, fund raising, taking roles of responsibility, leading Health Promotion, the House Competitions, assemblies and offering study support for others. Senior pupils have become members of school working groups and contribute willingly.

Pupils have been informed about the School Improvement Plan, developing policies such as adaptations to our Behaviour for Learning guidelines.

Pupil voice is high on the school improvement plan agenda and this session pupils will form a learning and teaching focus group informing practice and be invited to take part in a consultation on responsibility and expectations for the school.

Section 6 – School Achievement

The school offers a wide and varied range of achievement for our pupils, reflected in the following examples from the past year.

Apprentice Question & Answer Session

A group of Intermediate and Higher Business Management pupils attended a question and answer session at the Apex Hotel with Jim Eastwood, a former contestant and runner up of the Apprentice. Pupils gained the opportunity to ask questions about the show and also heard an motivational speech from Jim.

Stock Market Challenge

In November a group of pupils represented Menzieshill High in a competition which involved them buying and selling shares on a simulated stock market floor. The pupils learned valuable skills such as team working, problem solving and the enterprising skill of risk taking. All gained an excellent insight into the world of work and the daily pressures of this industry.

Dare schools Challenge

In June a team representing Menzieshill High won the Dare Schools Challenge, a computer games programming competition. The winning team swept the boards with their peers from throughout the city. Organized by DCC Economic Development Department in conjunction with the University of Abertay, the games are judged by a team of academics and computer games programmers.

Arnold Clark Challenge

Two teams of pupils studying Computing from Menzieshill High were in the top 10 finalists of the Arnold Clark Schools' Challenge. The teams were selected from over seven hundred entries by Sir Arnold Clark's judging panel and Chunk Games, who spent days whittling the entries down to just 10 final games. Sir Arnold Clark, chairman and chief executive of Arnold Clark Automobiles Limited, commented, "We have been absolutely delighted with the overwhelming response to this year's Challenge. With over 700 entries from schools across the length and breadth of Scotland, this year's task to create an idea for a game app was difficult.

However the judging team has been surprised by the well thought-out, original ideas created by students at Menzieshill High School.



Trip to Iceland

During the first week of the summer holidays the Geography department from MHS ran a trip to Iceland with 28 pupils taking part. The trip was two years in the planning and pupils worked very hard organizing a bingo night to raise money for the trip. The group had an amazing experience in Iceland taking part in activities such as: swimming in the Blue lagoon, walking up a volcano, whale watching, watching Geyser's erupt... all the while admiring the magnificent landscape! The group were lucky enough to stay only a couple of miles from the Eyjafjallajökull volcano that erupted in 2010, causing chaos across Europe.

Fair Trade and Eco-Schools

The Fair Trade group work towards the school achieving the 'Fair Trade Schools' award and are now also focusing on Eco-Schools, keen to work towards the eco-Schools 'Green Flag' award. The group has recently carried out an Environmental audit in the school and will use this information to create an environmental action plan. The group run a weekly Fair Trade stall during interval on a Friday, sourcing Fair Trade tea and coffee for the staff room. The group also likes to raise awareness of Fair Trade in the wider school community by regularly hosting a stall at parent's nights and whole school events such as the Menzieshill Festival and the forthcoming Christmas concert.

Pupils Rise to the Challenge

Seven future chefs took up the gauntlet thrown down by the Dundee Rotary Club in their search to find their young Chef of the Year and produced some mouth-watering results. Their challenge was to produce a 2 course meal in 1½ hours for 2 people to restaurant standards for under £10. Three Rotarians came along to watch our young people in action who treated them to an array of delights from Spiced Coconut and Lentil soup, to a Trio of Desserts from our budding young chef in S1. An S3 pupil wowed us with her Quails Eggs and Parma Ham Baskets, even finding the time to throw together hand-made and rolled pasta. The Mixed Berry Tarts which would have given the Queen of Hearts a run for her money were baked to perfection.

The Rotarians commended the pupils for their inventiveness and flavours and struggled with the decision of the school heat winners. In the end and after re-tasting everyone's food in the call of duty they eventually selected two pupils to qualify for the school heats in the next round in January.

Author visits - Sue Reid Sexton

Following on from our successful visit from Melvin Burgess last session, this term we have had two visits from the author Sue Reid Sexton, whose first novel 'Mavis's shoe', about the Clydebank blitz, has been very well received. Sue worked with second year classes. In the first session she talked about the book and the research she had done and what actually happened that day in March 1941 and set the pupils a writing challenge.

The second session was a workshop, with pupils working in groups to create their own characters and imagine the consequences for them if bombs dropped on Dundee that night. There were some very imaginative scenarios devised.



Maths in the Pipeline

Five senior pupils represented the Mathematics Department at the Bonar Hall, on Friday 30th September, when S5/6 Higher students from across Dundee and the Angus region met to participate and then compete in an event entitled 'Maths in the Pipeline'. Our students were placed into teams of 4 that worked together on problems that contextualized Mathematics within the modern oil industry. Each team was then given an Oil-Business Challenge in the afternoon and had to report their findings back to a team of experts at the end of the day.

Mathematics and the Police

Ms Jelly invited Jen Keenan from the Dundee Police Department to the school on 15th December to enable her to speak to her S3 class on the use of Mathematics within the Police Force. Ms Jelly will, in a similar way, invite a wide range of employers to the school from around Dundee to enable our students within S2 and S3 to experience the wonders of Mathematics within the workplace.

Percussion Ensemble

Menziesshill High School's percussion ensemble has been very busy performing out in the community in the last year. They have received some excellent feedback from audiences on their polished and professional performances. They have been supported and encouraged by our committed and enthusiastic percussion instructor Kenny Carlyle

Sports Ambassadors
During the October holidays, the vast majority of our sports ambassadors participated in the Active Schools October Coaching week. Six of our students all successfully completed the SL1 Sports Leaders course. Additionally five completed the Basketball 'Getting Started' course and two completed the SFA Level 1 coaching course. These are all excellent qualifications and have given our senior pupils a lot of confidence when delivering extra-curricular clubs.

One of our Senior Sports Ambassadors represented Dundee at a National Sports Ambassadors conference.

Swimming

On November the 8th and 10th Menziesshill High School competed in the Tayside Schools Swimming Championships. All boys and girls swam fantastically and were an asset to the school, there were many personal bests achieved.

Two Lunchtime clubs were started up in August, Learn to swim & 50m Swimming Club. These clubs are well attended and will continue in the New Year. We hope to see new and familiar faces in January.

S1/2 Girls Football Club

The Girls football club now has 16 players attending training every week. This is a very even mix of S1 and S2 girls who have been extremely enthusiastic and a joy to work with. There is also a fair bit of talent within the squad, with quite a few being club players at Celtic Girls Tayside. Some of the players attending are girls who had previously played in primary school but had given up the game and are now getting back into the sport, which is a huge success story in itself. This group are first class when it comes to attending school clubs and festivals.

Boy's Football Clubs

The school football team has a team playing in all age groups for U/13 to senior level. All the teams are making steady progress. As always, in typical Menziesshill High School tradition, the boys are encouraged to play football the way it should be played.

Basketball

The S1/2 Basketball club has been running very well, with four seniors all leading the delivery of sessions and doing a great job in the process.

At the recent S1/2 basketball festival, our young S1 team were defeated by two very strong and predominantly S2 teams from Grove and Baldragon but gave a very good account of themselves on the day. This experience will definitely stand them in good stead for the future.

Our S3/4 Basketball team earned a Bronze medal at the recent festival at Harris Academy and played with a lot of style. It was again pleasing to see that Menziesshill had enough players for a girls-only team, it's just unfortunate that no other schools in the city have enough girls playing to give ours a game.

Menziesshill Dance Group

In November extra-curricular dance group was started. Presently there are 20 girls participating and working towards the school Christmas Concert. The pupils have been working extremely hard and are very enthusiastic. After Christmas the Menziesshill Dance Academy will be introduced. This will include senior pupils training as Dance leaders and choreographing pieces for the younger pupils in the school.

Cycling for Africa



A team of 14 pupils and 5 staff from Menzieshill High School took part in the Claverhouse Rotary Club Dundee Cyclathon in September to raise funds for an irrigation project in Kenya. In October a team were working at an orphanage in Uganda building a new dock and were helped by a pastor from Kenya. Pastor Tom works with some very poor communities in Kenya and the school is raising funds at the Cyclathon this year. One of the main problems for the community is the poor food supply and they want to make a paddy to grow rice to feed them. The community is on the shores of Lake Victoria and there is water – but it is in the wrong places and they need a pump to move it to the right places.

The team raised an amazing £960 for this project which meant that we were again successful in gaining the cup for the school team raising the greatest amount of money for charity, the fourth time we have won it.

Menzieshill Eggheads success

A team of Menzieshill High School seniors beat off stiff competition in the Dundee heat of the Tayside Eggheads competition, based on the TV show Eggheads. The team showed a broad range of knowledge in both the specialist and general rounds. They went forward to the final where they represented Dundee against 5 professors from Abertay and Dundee Universities and the John Hutton Institute. The competition took the same format as the television competition and was part of the Dundee Science Festival. The team were excellent representatives for Dundee and although they did not win they did get a £25 iTunes voucher each.

Rotary Award

During the summer Mary Livingstone, a prefect at Menzieshill High School, was sponsored by Claverhouse Rotary Club to attend a Rotary Club Youth Leadership Award course. This course develops leadership through discussion, inspirational speakers and outdoor activities. Mary says “Everyone in the group at one point of the week was in charge. They were also responsible for the equipment needed for that day’s activity and tried to make sure that everyone was involved and taking part. It was a great experience and I feel more confident in myself to be able to lead a group and to voice my opinions”. Mary feels she will be able to put her new skills to good use in her work as a prefect at Menzieshill.

Hockey

In October the PE department organised and managed a hockey festival for S1 boys and S1 girls. It was an Inter House competition with school houses Weem, Fortinghall, Culdres and Aberfeldy putting forward strong teams. Senior pupils also assisted in this festival by refereeing, score keeping and coaching S1 pupils. The festival was extremely successful and Weem was the winning team.

Our S1 team

be Mr and are the

Dundee

Hockey They a great league

play indoors



– S3 hockey are continuing to trained by Gavin Byers competing in Active Schools Secondary Schools League. have made start to the and will continue to matches over the

winter period.