



CASTLEMILK HIGH SCHOOL

STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT 2024-2025

Through our **values** of **ambition**, **respect**, **responsibility** and **resilience**, we **nurture** our **community** of **tomorrow**

Castlemilk High: Changing Perceptions, Changing Minds



NOTHING BUT THE BEST WILL DO



CONTEXT OF THE SCHOOL

Castlemilk High school is a 6 year non-denominational co-educational school. The school serves the catchment area of Castlemilk in the South-East of Glasgow. The school roll is 430 for 2024/25.

The Parent Council work closely with the school and is very supportive of the work of the school community. There is a strong and productive partnership with the associated primary schools: Carmunnock Primary, Castleton Primary and Miller Primary. We have very effective business partners including Castlemilk Youth Complex and Ardenglen Housing Association.

At Castlemilk High School the school motto is 'Nothing but the best will do' and this applies to all aspects of school life. Through our values of ambition, respect, responsibility and resilience, we nurture our community of tomorrow.

[Castlemilk High: Changing Perceptions, Changing Minds](#)

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS IN 2024-2025

We achieved the following awards this session:

- **Apple Distinguished Schools Award Reaccreditation**
- **Rights Respecting Schools Gold Award**
- **'Keeping the Promise' Award to Build on our All Behaviour is Communication Award**
- **LGBT+ Silver Award and working towards Gold**

The school's Learning and Teaching Policy was reviewed to ensure young people have a great learning experience and is enhanced through digital technology.

We reviewed the Wider Achievement Curriculum to ensure relevance and enjoyment and the provision for S4-S6 Wider Achievement to ensure additional qualifications.

We increased number of staff Mental Health First Aiders Aid and pupil Mental Health Ambassadors

We reviewed and updated pupil versions of Keeping Me Safe Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy and the Relationships Policy

We reviewed the Attendance Strategy to encourage more young people to attend school to learn and achieve



LEADERSHIP OF CHANGE

Some learners are involved in driving forward sustained change across the school whilst increasing their confidence in undertaking leadership roles. Some S5 and S6 young people engaged in a leadership/ambassador role with Personal Development and Leadership Awards* on offer to all. A number of young people are SCQF Ambassadors and are leading change across the curriculum.



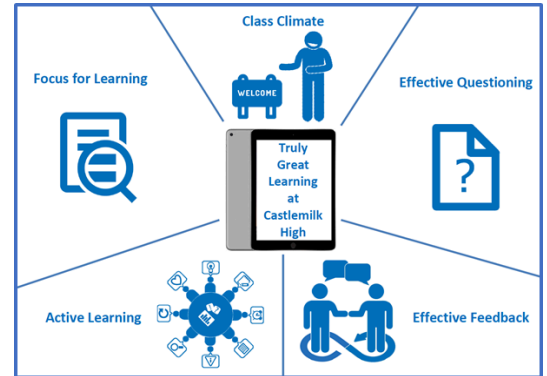
Our school also reviewed the Pupil Parliament processes to enhance pupil voice. All young people had a more structured opportunity to have their voices heard and to lead and effect change across the school.

We continued to build leadership capacity in most of our staff. The majority of staff are driving improvement across the school and leading on School Improvement Plan priorities.

We started to develop CLPL opportunities for all Middle Leaders to lead change across the school*. All Middle Leaders are beginning to increase in confidence in leading learning and teaching and driving change.

LEARNING, TEACHING & ASSESSMENT

The school's Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy has been reviewed to support staff. All staff took part in training around the 5 key areas of our learning and teaching policy and support videos were created to illustrate good practice in key areas. A few staff have been trained by the Glasgow pedagogy team in assessment, feedback and differentiation which will be used to support improvements next session.



Distinguished School

Recognised by Apple as a distinguished school for continuous innovation in learning, teaching, and the school environment.

All staff were trained in the effective use of digital technology to support learning and improvements in pedagogy. Almost all staff use the i-Pad effectively within the classroom and at home to enhance learning. **We were re accredited with the highly prestigious Apple Distinguished Schools Award and have been sharing good practice with other schools across the world.**

All staff have been involved in reviewing approaches to inter-disciplinary learning. The majority of departments have embedded interdisciplinary learning within the curriculum to increase learner engagement and support learners to feel confident in applying their learning in different contexts and unfamiliar situations.

We have worked closely with our associated primaries to ensure our assessment evidence is valid and reliable. Across our learning community we have shared expectations for standards to be achieved and have robust arrangements for moderation across the BGE in Numeracy and Science.



DIGITAL L & T AT CASTLEMILK

To support the delivery of the Five Aspects of Learning within CHS we have updated our strategy to reflect digital technologies that are now enhancing learning and teaching.

Pupils and staff use a range of applications and resources on their iPads to support learning and teaching.

Focus for Learning



Showbie



Explain Everything



FreeForm

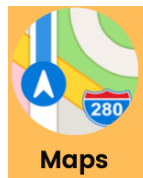


PowerPoint

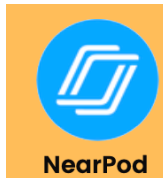


KeyNote

Active Learning



Maps



NearPod



Revision Relay Race



Book Creator

Effective Feedback



Showbie



Dylan William



Emojis



Action Plans



Socrative

Effective Questioning



Dylan William



MTV



Showbie



Pickers



Socrative



Quizlet



Mentimeter

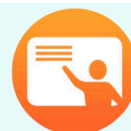
Class Climate



CHS Values

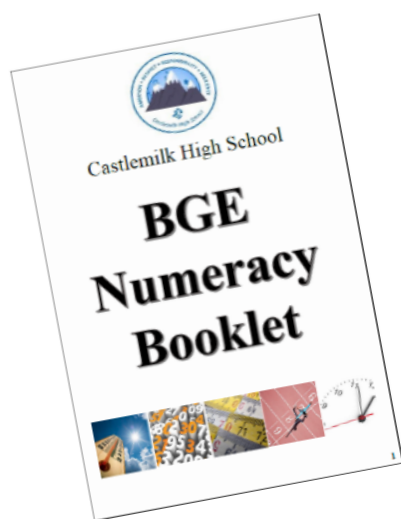


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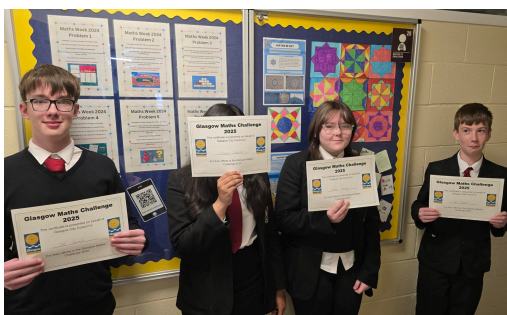
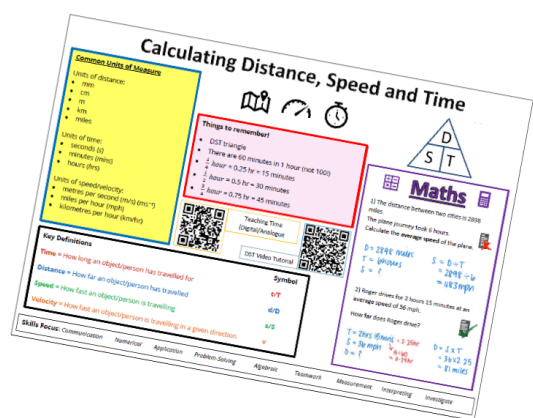


Apple Classroom

NUMERACY



- We promoted numeracy as a skill for life, learning and work across the school with our Numeracy Booklet
- We ensured a consistent approach with Numeracy topics across all subjects
- We continued to embed Glasgow Counts Methodology within our learning and teaching
- We participated in Maths Week, Numeracy Day and Maths Competitions
- We facilitated Numeracy Evenings for Parents



LITERACY

- We continued to ensure our school library is well stocked with a range of literature to suit all abilities and interests.
- We continued to provide opportunities for all pupils to make use of the library
- We continued to mark events such as World Book Day
- We embedded the Kaligo App in lessons to supports young people in improving their literacy skills
- We continued to support our young people in their literacy by using the Accelerated Reader Programme to help them choose books appropriate to their reading levels.



WELLBEING, EQUALITY & INCLUSION

Almost all of our young people feel cared for, valued, respected and supported. **We have achieved the 'Keeping the Promise Award'** while building on our previous work of All Behaviour is communication.



**#Keep
The
Promise**



We have an increased number of staff Mental Health First Aiders Aid and pupil Mental Health Ambassadors to support wellbeing for all staff.

All staff and young people continue to live our values of ambition, respect, responsibility and resilience. To support the value of respect, we have fully embedded children's rights throughout the curriculum and have achieved the **Rights Respecting School Gold Award** in recognition of this great work.



All young people are aware of the new attendance strategy and new initiatives are beginning to impact positively on attendance statistics.

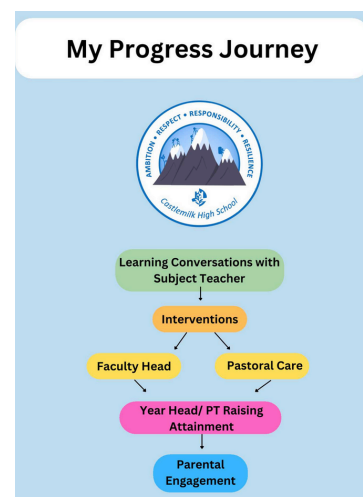
The school has continued to work toward achieving LGBT Youth Scotland Gold Level. LGBT is fully embedded within our curriculum and key policies have been reviewed to support this agenda: Keeping Me Safe Policy; Anti-bullying Policy; and Relationships Policy. Our LGBT+ group attended the Pride Lite event in June 2025.



RAISING ATTAINMENT & ACHIEVEMENT

Almost all learners are starting to have clear understanding of their next steps in learning and are understanding how to articulate these next steps.

All young people are involved in the termly completion of digital tracking diaries to reflect upon attainment, skills and achievement. The majority of young people became increasingly confident at articulating their progress in learning and identifying areas where they require to improve.



All staff were involved in the implementation of the GCC Tracking and Monitoring tool for S1 - S3 in relation to reporting. The system is enabling us to track more accurately over time and to enhance and track interventions with learners.

In this year's SQA examinations, results were good and we continue to outperform our virtual comparator in the majority of areas across S4, S5 & S6 in National Qualifications.

Our attainment in S4 is one of the highest on record with 31% of young people gaining 5 or more National 5s. In S5, 48% of all learners achieved at least 1 Higher, our best ever result. In S6, 50% of all learners achieved at least 1 Higher, our second best on record.



Attendance data: 80% (below national average)

WIDER ACHIEVEMENT

Our school's Wider Achievement Programme was reviewed to ensure quality learner experiences and maximum learning and enjoyment. The majority of learners are able to confidently articulate what skills they have developed and how they developed them through the various wider achievement opportunities they have undertaken. These include a range of certification, such as Higher Leadership, Higher Personal Development and Higher Refereeing.



PUPIL EQUITY FUNDING

HOME LINK & YOUTH WORKERS

We are very fortunate to have Home Link workers here at Castlemilk High School. Our Home Link Workers help assist our young people and families.



CAMPUS COP

Our Police Campus Officer is PC Nicol who is in the school every day and works as part of the Pastoral Care Team. PC Nicol strengthens partnership working between the Police and the School. He works closely with our young people and families and the wider community.



COACHING AND MENTORING

Almost all of our young people engaged in coaching and mentoring in the senior school. An MCR Pathways trip to Blairvadach Outdoor Educational Centre also took place during the summer.



BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Breakfast Club ran from 7.30am - 9am every morning and welcomed a large number of young people.

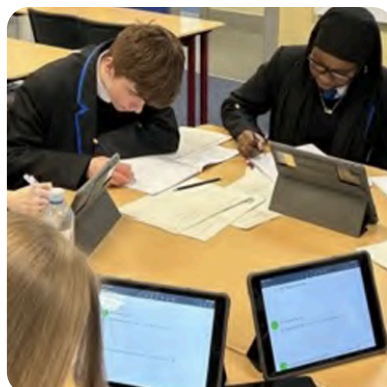
This provided a positive start to the day and enabled them to complete homework.



**magic
breakfast**
fuel for learning

STUDYING OPPORTUNITIES

We provided a wide range of studying opportunities, residential weekends - intensive studying in relaxed fashion, including breakfast clubs, learning for sustainability, Saturday classes, Easter revision sessions and tuition



Our Homework Club and Supported Study sessions were very well attended throughout the year as well as our Easter Study school. Our Hot Housing sessions leading up to SQA exams also supported young people to achieve.



DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE

Our Leavers' Destination figures are almost in line with the National Average and above our virtual comparator with 93% of young people going into a positive destination.

Our 2024-2025 DYW Team

Miss McDonald - Acting Principal Teacher of DYW

Kirsty – DYW Officer/Youth Worker

Claire – DYW School Coordinator

Joanne – SDS (Skills Development Scotland) Careers Advisor



We engaged with a great number of employers over the year in the following career areas: Construction, Engineering, Media, IT and Professional Services.



Our BGE pupils participated in events/workshops with the following employers: Social Enterprise Academy, Experian, Thales, Construction Aware and Glasgow Science Centre.

Our Senior Pupils engaged with the following employers:

Ashurst LLP, BBC, BAE Systems, City Building, Career Ready and Barclays to name a few.



THE CROFT

In May and June 2025 we had five separate groups of S2 pupils visit our croft in Gairloch for a 5 day stay.

At the Croft, pupils develop a sense of responsibility and the ability to face challenges that are in unfamiliar surroundings.

A visit to the Croft is an excellent opportunity for pupils to become more confident and responsible young people as well as being able to forge new relationships amongst their peers and staff.

This trip allows pupils to become part of the wider aspects of the schools' life and to realise that the learning process can be fun and occur without books.



BLACKPOOL



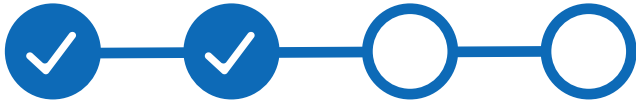
In June 2025, a number of pupils from S1-S6 and staff members visited Blackpool Pleasure Beach to round up a successful school year!

HILL WALK



Castlemilk High School scaled new heights as a team of 11 pupils, 3 teachers & 1 mountain leader summited Ben Nevis in June 2025.

IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR



- **Improve leadership opportunities at all levels (QI 1.3)**
- **Increase attendance (QI 3.1)**
- **Raise attainment of all young people (QI 3.2)**
- **Increase curriculum opportunities to include Wider Achievement (QI 2.3 & QI 3.2)**

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Further information is available in: the School Website, the School X page, the School Facebook page, Showbie groups, the School Improvement Plan and the School Handbook.

Contact us directly if you require further information about our school or if you wish to comment on this report.

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