

Questions asked at the parents meeting about 'Coasting School' on Monday 6th February 2017.

1.) What do you mean by data? Please explain what this is.

A coasting school is where the progress and attainment data by the end of Year 6 shows that, over a three-year period, the school is failing to ensure that pupils reach their potential. A school will only be coasting if performance data falls below the coasting bar in all three previous years, 2014-2016.

At primary level, the definition applies to those schools who have seen fewer than 85% of children achieving an acceptable secondary-ready standard in reading, writing and maths over the course of 3 years, and who have seen insufficient pupil progress.

The power point presentation explains the data in more detail.

2.) Which year groups are coasting? What parts of the school are included in this?

Although the decision is based on the end of Key Stage 2 outcomes, progress across school over time is critical so the whole school is included. Having said that, the outcomes from Early Years and KS1 are strong when compared to other school nationally.

3.) Is your finger on the pulse? Where is it going wrong? Do you know?

Absolutely! The whole team is aware and, in partnership with our governors and supportive families, we are confident that the plan we are already working on is going to address the historic issues and secure the improvement required.

4.) What other statistics do you look at, such as who does homework and who has good attendance?

Tracking school attendance and punctuality is a priority. It is part of the Deputy Head's role to ensure that our standards of attendance are at least in line with national. Nationally the figure is 96% and currently our attendance is 96.4%.

Home learning is really important and one of our leaders has responsibility for it. We ensure that there are purposeful resources for the children to engage in on our learning platform and the website also contains videos of children explaining their strategies for learning in maths, for example.

We do, however, feel that we need to develop our strategies further to enable our families to support learning even more effectively, especially in reading, writing and maths.

5.) How are you reviewing the curriculum or anything else that fundamentally needs to change?

Through rigorous monitoring and evaluation, leaders and governors are identifying those things that are working well and those that need to impact more positively on outcomes for our children. The School Development Plan on the website will provide you with the detail for this, but the plan is evolving as we review our practice constantly.

Project based learning is still a key part of what makes learning exciting here at Kerr Mackie, so we are tweaking it to ensure that it is also contributing to improving outcomes in the core skills of reading, writing and maths. What we are all committed to is ensuring that our children receive a well-rounded education that equips them with a variety of skills for life, and for success in life too.