# Wallace Hall

## Celebrating Achievement

Together we grow, learn and achieve

# Wallace Hall Nursery, Primary and Academy

# How Good is our School?

## … our summary for parents

**Education Scotland has asked all schools to report to parents on performance. This will look at what has been going well, what we want to improve on and how we judge our own standards. It will also include information about the key messages you have given us – particularly through feedback from you and from our pupils and how we plan to respond.**

### Our school is committed to

- A process of self-evaluation – to assess our strengths and our areas to improve on.
- Working in partnership with parents – not just sharing information with you but genuinely involving you in the work of the school helping us to make this a great place to learn and grow.

### Our approach to self-evaluation: What do we do to assess our strengths and plan our development priorities?

√ We ask people (pupils/staff/parents) through surveys, focus groups and questionnaires.

√ We look at the wealth of data we have about the work we do – e.g. attendance statistics, behaviour merits and demerits, assessment information, SQA exam results, INCAS results, destination figures for our leavers etc.

√ We observe the learning and teaching that goes on in our school.

The results of our self-evaluation activities are then collated and used to plan improvements. Of course we also have to work towards priorities set by the Scottish Government and by Dumfries and Galloway Council. You will no doubt have heard about the national drive to raise attainment for all and to close the attainment gap between the most deprived areas and the most affluent. This is part of the National Improvement Framework for Scottish education.

### The National Improvement Framework priorities are:

- to improve attainment for all, particularly in literacy and numeracy.
- to improve the learning progress of every child, by reducing inequality in education.
- to improve children and young people's health and wellbeing.
- to improve employability skills and sustained positive school leaver destinations for all young people.

More details can be found at Parentzone – website address:
*www.**educationscotland**.gov.uk/**parentzone***

**NATIONAL IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR SCOTTISH EDUCATION**

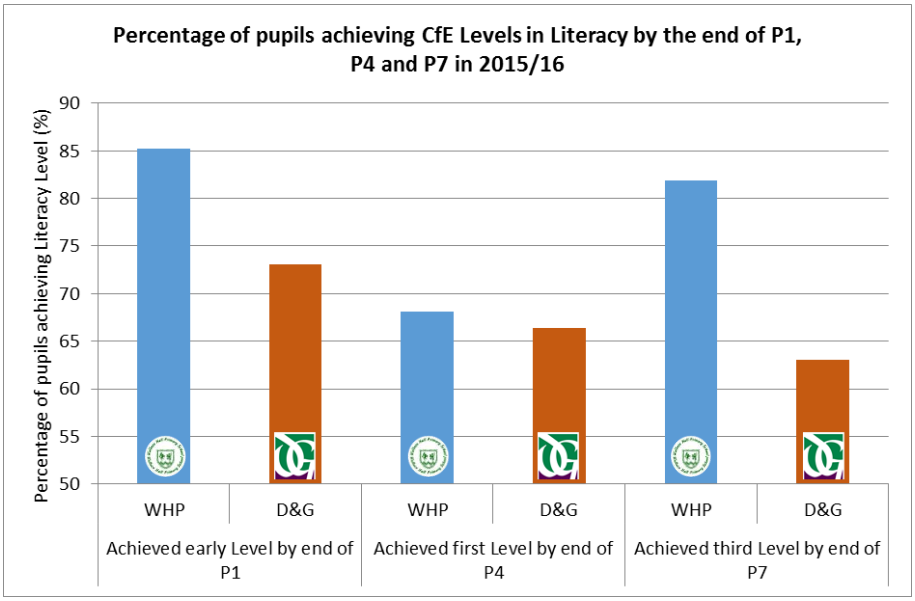
ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE AND EQUITY

## Primary Data

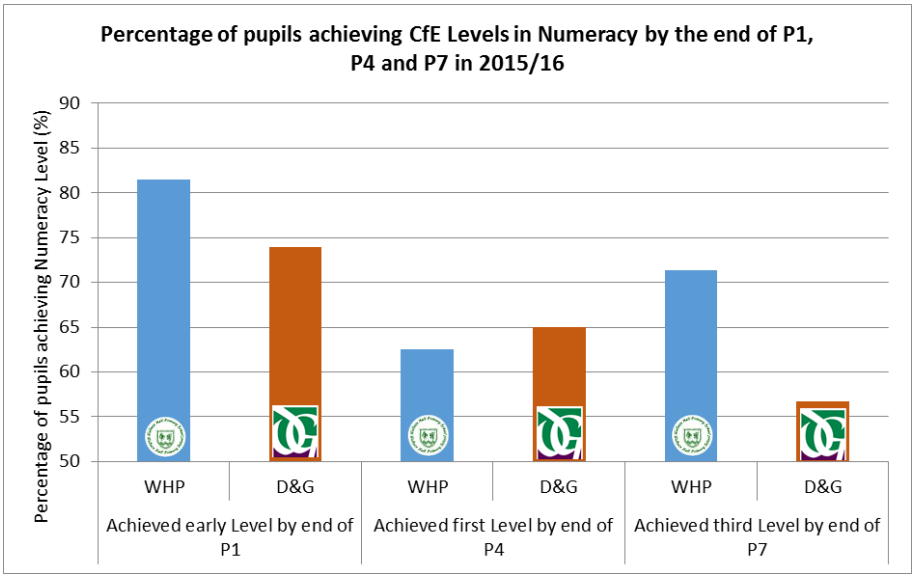
Education Scotland and Dumfries and Galloway Council ask schools to report on their levels of attainment in P1, P4 and P7. Below you will see where Wallace Hall Primary pupils are achieving relative to the authority average. In almost all cases this is a very positive position to be in.

This system is designed to help develop a consistent structure for looking at assessment and reporting. In 2017 a national development will be introduced by Scottish Government to look at standardised tests in literacy and numeracy. The intent is that this will aid teachers' judgement of pupil performance. Wallace Hall Primary has made use of standardised testing for many years and this has helped us to plan learning and meet individual needs. The charts below will help you to compare the progress of pupils at Wallace Hall Primary and the local authority.

The graph below shows that pupils at Wallace Hall achieve CfE levels in Literacy at a better rate than the regional average. Pupils are judged to have achieved a level based on teacher judgement and the use of a wide range of internal assessment methods and external standardised assessments.




The graph below shows that pupils at Wallace Hall achieve CfE levels in Numeracy at a better rate than the regional average most of the time. Pupils are judged to have achieved a level based on teacher judgement and the use of a wide range of internal assessment methods and external standardised assessments.



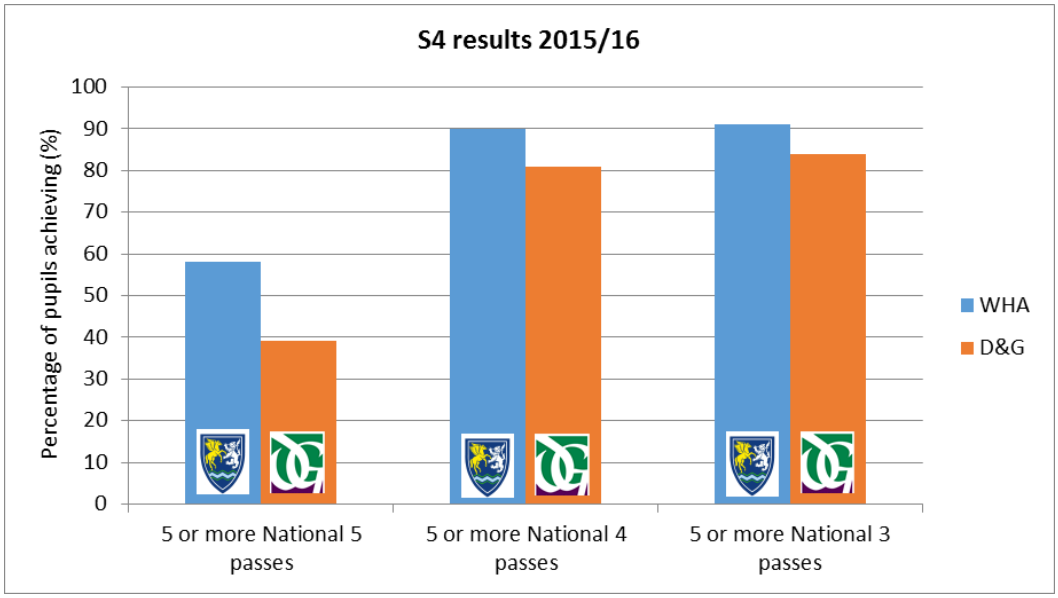
**SQA Results August 2016**

We were very pleased with these results and this was highlighted by the fantastic achievement of being ranked 26th overall in the top 50 Scottish State Secondary Schools according to The Sunday Times. This reflected our good results in Advanced Higher, Higher and National 3, 4 and 5.

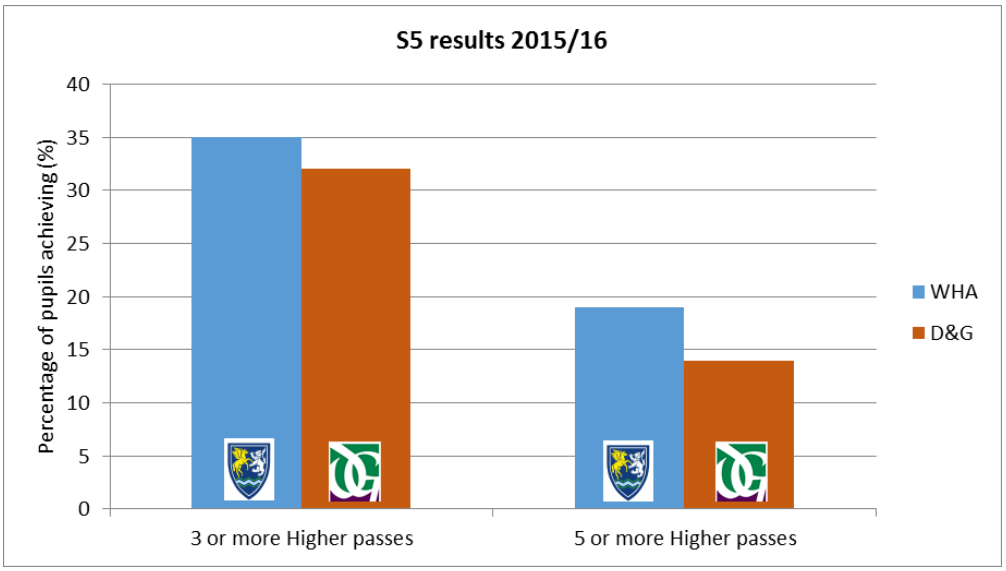
**The Senior Phase**

The school and local authority data continues to produce a very positive picture of pupil attainment. The most positive aspect is the recognition that we meet the needs of all of our students. This would include our most able, those students in the middle and those students who require extra support to achieve their potential. These results show that we continue to achieve beyond what might reasonably be expected of a school in our circumstances.

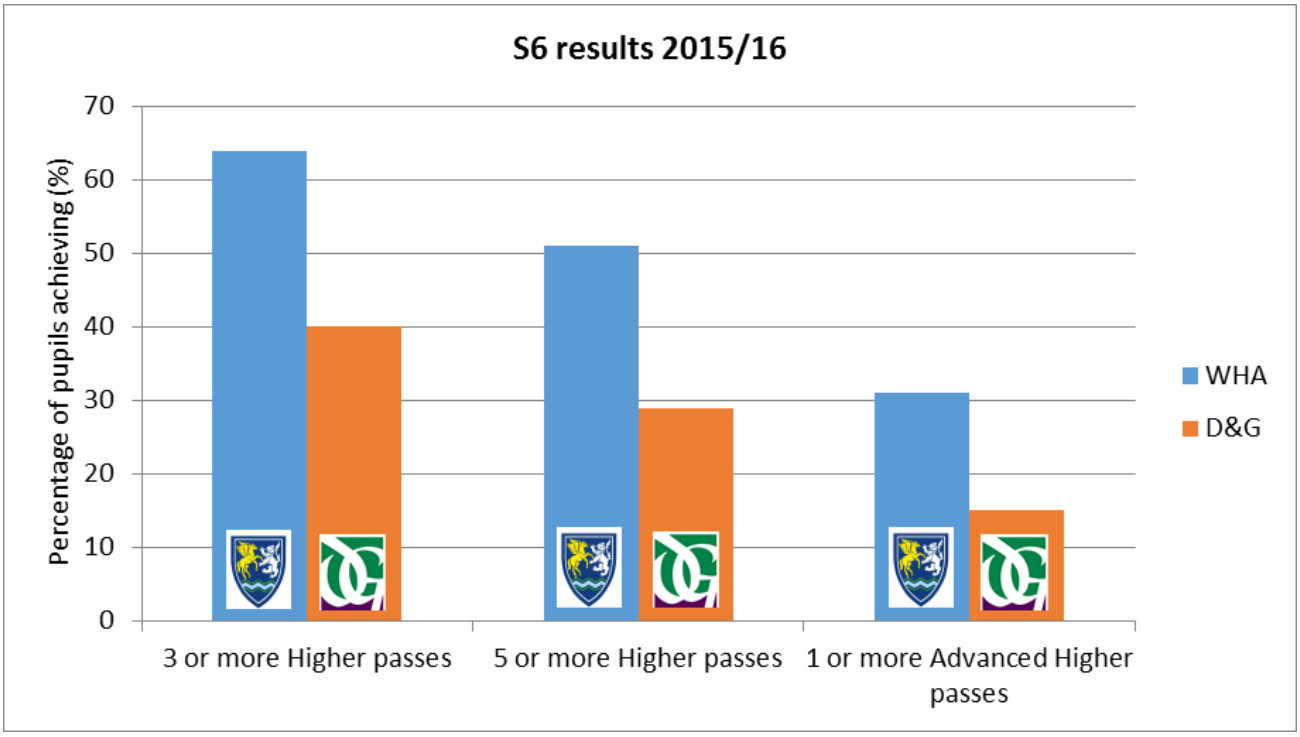
The graph below shows that pupils gaining National 3, National 4 or National 5 qualifications at the end of S4 at Wallace Hall achieve more success than the regional average. Pupils sit 5, 6 or 7 qualifications at the end of S4, the vast majority of which are externally assessed by the SQA.



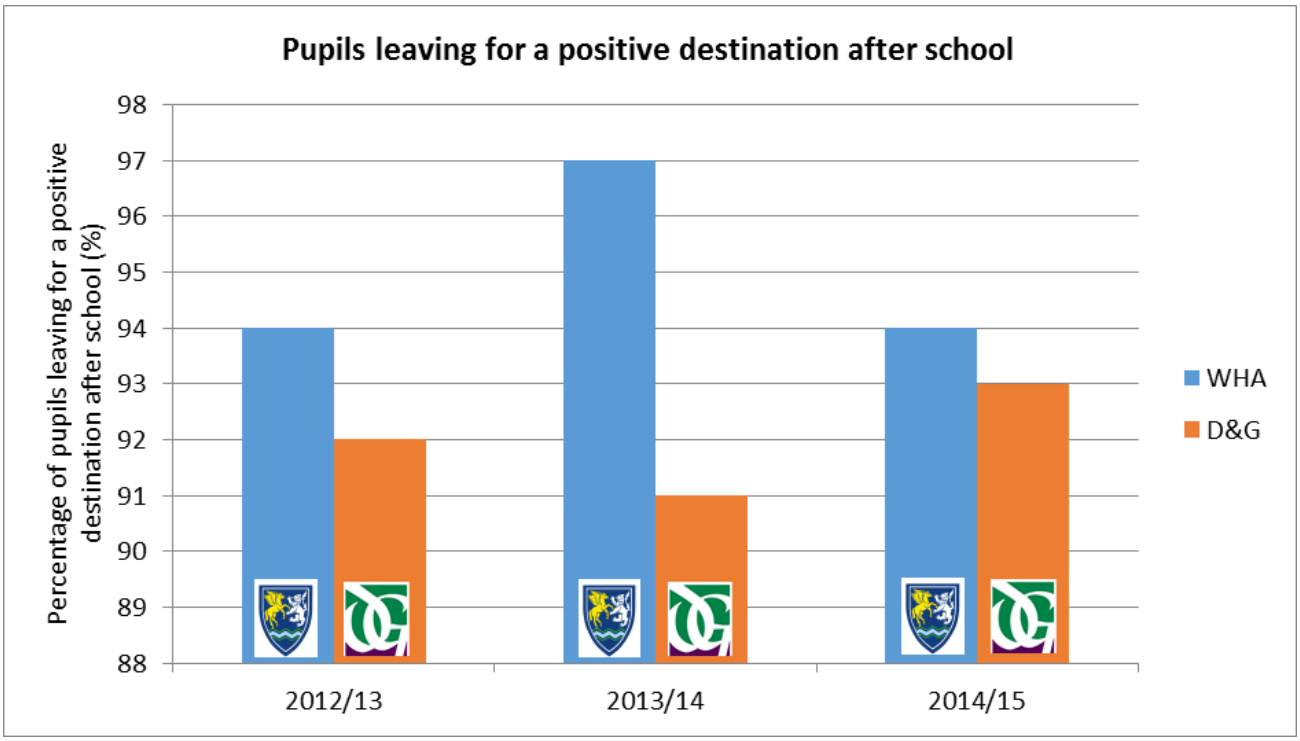

The graph below shows that pupils gaining Higher qualifications at the end of S5 at Wallace Hall achieve more success than the regional average. Pupils sit 5 qualifications at the end of S5 which could be made up of a mix of National and Higher courses, the vast majority of which are externally assessed by the SQA.



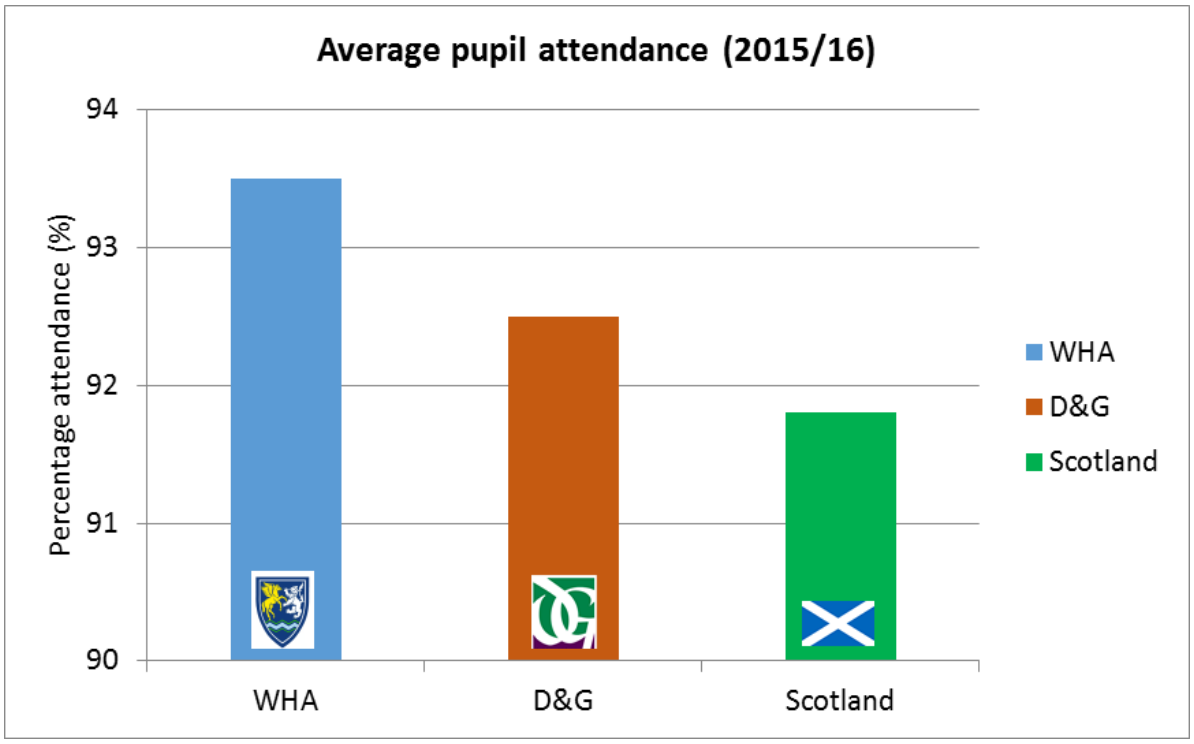
The graph below shows that pupils gaining Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications by the end of S6 at Wallace Hall achieve more success than the regional average. Pupils sit 5 qualifications at the end of S5 and another 4 at the end of S6, the vast majority of which are externally assessed by the SQA.



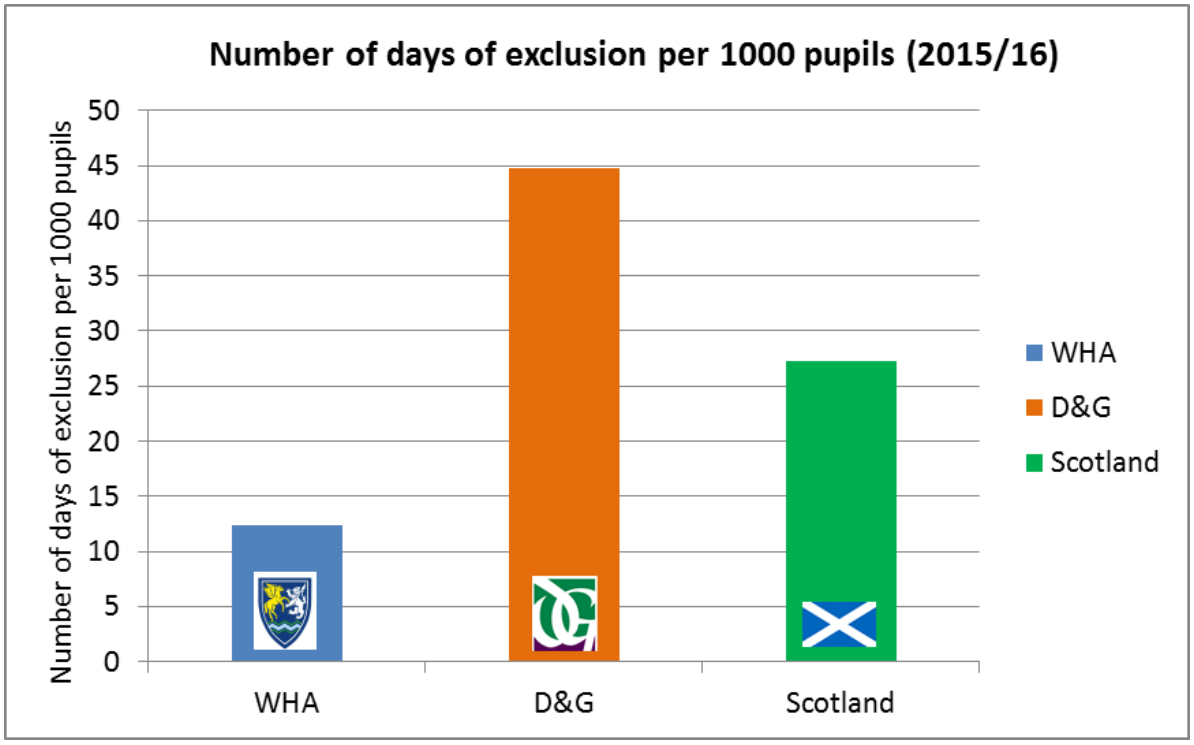

The graph below shows that pupils leaving Wallace Hall at the end of S4, S5 or S6 were more likely to go on to a positive destination than the regional average for the past 3 years. Examples of positive destinations include attending university or college, gaining employment, volunteering on a gap year or starting an apprenticeship.



The graph below shows that pupils' attendance at Wallace Hall Academy is better than in other parts of the region or nation.




The graph below shows that pupils attending Wallace Hall Academy are far less likely to be excluded from school than in other parts of the region or nation. We have a wide variety of strategies in place and work closely with parents to keep pupils in school. There were no exclusions in the primary in 2015/2016.

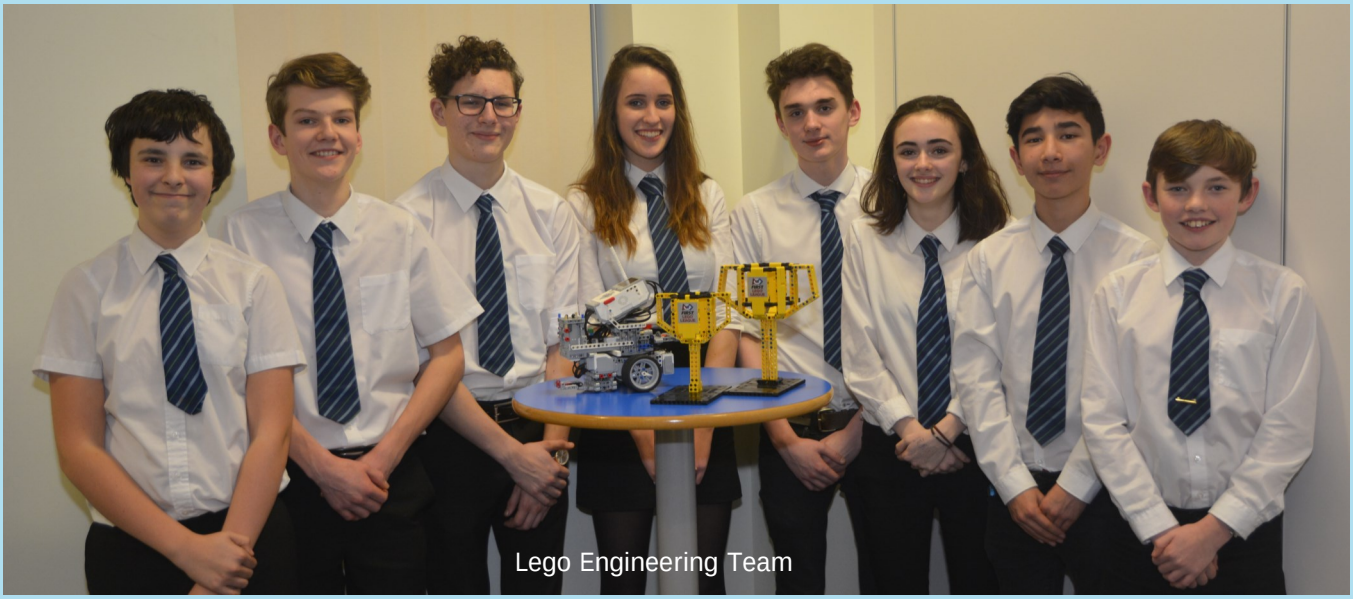


**Wider Achievement**

Personal or wider achievement provides children and young people with a sense of satisfaction and helps to build motivation, resilience and confidence. Wallace Hall provides opportunities for a range of achievements in the classroom and beyond. We encourage all students to take part in extracurricular activities and wish to provide opportunities for achievement and to support and encourage participation by all. Wallace Hall works closely with community organisations to help young people access information and opportunities. On our school website there is a list of clubs in the Academy and in the Primary we are supported by Active Schools who run various activities and we also have a very successful Scottish Country Dancing group which meets on a Friday evening. These achievements are recognised in a variety of ways including assemblies, newsletters, staff meetings, Celebration of Success events, church services and a variety of awards including: the Youth Achievement Award, Duke of Edinburgh, John Muir, Saltire, Leadership, Employability, Sports Leaders, Royal Yacht Association Levels, the Prince's Trust and the Caledonian Challenge.

Mrs Andrews with some of our S3 Saltire Award Winners

Primary 5 Accordion Group



Lego Engineering Team

Gavin is chosen to represent Scotland

Bethany and Ailsa at the Scottish School Burns Competition

Primary 7 Rotary Quiz Team winners

Myrna, Harvey and Morag working in the Hospitality Kitchen with consultant chef Ian McAndrew

Ella, Danny and Mary serving at the grand opening of the Hospitality Kitchen

Duke of Edinburgh Group

**The final page of this document shows our School Improvement Plan for 2016-17. This gives a clear indication of our plans for improvement and is based on the feedback we receive from parents, pupils and staff as well, as advice which we receive from Dumfries and Galloway Council and Education Scotland.**

**1. Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy**

Progression in literacy and numeracy.

Investigate reporting, learning conversations and target setting.

Evaluate merit and demerit systems.

Sharing understanding of assessment standards and strategies.

Evaluate Big Maths in the Primary.

Development tracking in S2.

Continue to roll out 'Show my Homework'.

Evaluation of transitions from the BGE to the Senior Phase.

Wallace Hall Primary School

Parental engagements review.

Training programme tailored to the needs of all.

New self-evaluation plan developed.

**2. Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children**

To investigate achievement and under achievement.

Continue to differentiate course materials.

Develop plan to support pupils in SQA examinations.

**3. Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing**

Working group organised to focus on health and wellbeing.

**4. Improvement in employability skills and sustained, positive school leaver destinations for all young people**

Develop further our P7 profile.

Ensure everyone has an experience of work opportunity before they leave school.

# 2016-17 School Improvement Plan

Together we grow, learn and achieve

Dumfries & Galloway