

REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 20 MARCH 2006

**REPORT ON: EDUCATION DEPARTMENT STANDARDS AND QUALITY
REPORT 2004-2005**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 204-2006

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report brings to the attention of the Education Committee the Standards and Quality Report on the Education Department for 2004-2005.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Education Committee is recommended to:

- i) approve the report;
- ii) instruct the Director of Education to distribute copies of the report to staff and key stakeholders in the Education Department
and
- iii) require the Director of Education to provide further Standards and Quality Reports on an annual basis.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost of producing and publishing the report to stakeholders will be met within the current revenue budget.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Nil

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Nil

6.0 REPORT

6.1 As part of its Quality Improvement Strategy and its drive for continuous improvement the Department has continued to develop and improve its auditing processes at all levels.

- 6.2 Audit information was used in an evaluation which identified key strengths and areas for development in the Department. This information together with details of other developments and initiatives in the Education Department have been brought together in the attached Standards and Quality Report.
- 6.3 As part of the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000 Education Authorities are required to provide an annual report on progress towards their improvement objectives in the National Priorities. The Standards and Quality Report addresses that requirement.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 A Standards and Quality Report provides an annual evaluation of progress and helps identify areas for future development. This report identifies very positive progress and a significant number of major strengths across the Education Department. A number of areas which will help focus the future development of the Department are also identified. The report shows that the Department has achieved considerable success in achieving its aims through a wide range of initiatives which have and will continue to have an impact on young people in Dundee schools.

8.0 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Depute Chief Executive (Finance) have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 None

ANNE WILSON
Director of Education

03 March 2006

AW/LW

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

A REPORT ON STANDARDS AND QUALITY IN EDUCATION

AUGUST 2004 – DECEMBER 2005

INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to present Dundee City Council Education Department's 2004-2005 Standards and Quality Report.

This report provides a valuable opportunity to reflect on our achievements over the preceding year, and also to focus our efforts on the next steps necessary to continue to make further improvements.

It is very difficult to outline the huge amount of work that the Department undertakes every year in just a few pages. I hope that this report gives a flavour of the activity that is happening in our schools, the achievements of our schools and young people and the ways in which education in the City is changing to improve the educational experience of our young people.

This report is split into three distinct sections. The first records the City Council's progress against the National Priorities in Education. The second part focuses upon a self-evaluation of the Education Department's progress against the Quality Indicators contained within "Quality Management in Education. The third section celebrates the many successes of our schools, pupils and staff during 2004-2005.

During 2006, improving the learning experience for pupils and staff will be a focus of the Education Department as we implement the Learning Together in Dundee policy throughout the city.

The preparation and publication of our new Department Development Plan has given the department the opportunity to review our aims and mission statement. As a result we are now launching a much more focussed set of aims for the department that can be distilled to just three words – Achievement, Ethos and Partnership.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of all members of staff and pupils and the huge contribution made by parents and all other stakeholders.

I look forward to working with all members of staff in the department, pupils, parents and all of our other stakeholders to achieve our aims and the best possible educational experiences for our young people.

Yours sincerely

Anne Wilson
Director of Education

HOW DO WE KNOW?

The evidence for this report has been gathered from a range of sources:

Analysis of school development plans

Monitoring and evaluation visits to schools

Analysis of attainment data

Analysis of attendance statistics

Reports to Dundee City Council's Education Committee

Audit by the Department's Quality Development Teams

Audit using the European Foundation for Quality Management's quality mechanisms

Service plans and improvement plans for the authority

Surveys of parents

National Priority profiles from schools

Schools' standards and quality reports

Analysis of HMle reports of Dundee City Council schools (August 2004 - December 2005)

Evaluation of courses, conferences and seminars

Benchmarking information with other local authority education services in Scotland

Audit Scotland's Performance Indicators related to education

THE NATIONAL PRIORITIES IN EDUCATION

Five National Priorities in Education were drawn up by the Scottish Executive and approved by the Scottish Parliament in December 2000. They are as follows.

Achievement and Attainment

To raise standards of educational attainment for all in schools, especially in the core skills of literacy and numeracy, and to achieve better levels in national measures of achievement including examination results.

Framework for Learning

To support and develop the skills of teachers, the self discipline of pupils and to enhance school environments so that they are conducive to teaching and learning.

Inclusion and Equality

To promote equality and help every pupil benefit from education, with particular regard paid to pupils with disabilities and special educational needs, and to Gaelic and other lesser used languages.

Values and Citizenship

To work with parents to teach pupils respect for self and one another and their interdependence with other members of their neighbourhood and society and to teach them the duties and responsibilities of citizenship in a democratic society.

Learning for Life

To equip pupils with the foundation skills, attitudes and expectations necessary to prosper in a changing society and to encourage creativity and ambition.

SECTION ONE: PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE NATIONAL PRIORITIES IN EDUCATION

Achievement and Attainment

National Priority 1 To raise standards of educational attainment for all in schools, especially in the core skills of literacy and numeracy, and to achieve better levels in national measures of achievement including examination results.

Improved Attainment remains a key priority for the Education Department. This will be achieved through the ongoing work to support the development of an appropriate curriculum for all learners at all stages. As part of the recently agreed Learning Together in Dundee (LTiD) strategy the Department will take forward its key objective of making pupil and teachers more aware of Learning Styles and Skills for Learning as a way of making Learning and Teaching more effective. The Department will continue to take forward its work in tracking pupil progress and involving staff and pupils more closely in measuring progress and setting meaningful targets for improvement.

The Education Department's Quality Improvement Strategy will help schools to develop a more effective process of self evaluation which will give them better information on progress in the key areas of Learning and Teaching and help them to plan future improvements.

Attainment

5-14 attainment in primary schools in language and mathematics shows further continuous improvement on last year's results. Most schools met or exceeded the average for their comparator schools

5-14 attainment in S1 and S2 shows significant overall improvement in both language and mathematics.

SQA attainment for all national qualifications remains broadly unchanged from the previous report. This has been the focus for significant attention in our recent school reviews and schools' own performance monitoring arrangements.

Learning Together in Dundee (LTiD)

This is a key component in the Department Development Plan 2005 - 2008. The focus is on making a difference by enhancing what actually happens in classrooms. Teachers across the City are enthusiastic and motivated by this approach. A wide range of staff development opportunities have been offered in relation to LTiD and many of these have been oversubscribed. Two very successful LTiD conferences have been held and over 500 teachers have attended on each occasion. The LTiD file, with guidance and good practice, has been distributed to all Dundee teachers and to schools across Scotland. LTiD will be featured in key Principal Teacher conferences that will be held in the city. The Department will require LTiD to be reflected in all school and department development plans and will support the implementation of these plans centrally through the work of the Educational Development Service. A range of primary cluster initiatives has been established and is taking forward good practice throughout the city.

Self-empowered learning

A key focus for the Department is on the learning that takes place in classrooms across the City. Learning Together in Dundee is supporting practitioners to reflect on and improve their practice.

Self Empowered Learning is an element of the LTiD programme. 90 primary teachers and 150 secondary teachers have been trained and a further tranche of modules is running this session.

Schools of Ambition

All schools in Scotland had the opportunity to forward submissions for funding through the Scottish Executive's Schools of Ambition initiative. Dundee forwarded three bids and Braeview Academy is one of the 20 schools across Scotland to be chosen to participate.

Through work in this programme, it is hoped that Braeview Academy will become a confident school where pupils, parents and staff work together in partnership to build a learning community, equipping young people with the necessary skills to become leaders of the future.

Focus on Achievement

Following on from the highly successful launch in September 2004, the second Focus on Achievement event was held in the Caird Hall in September 2005. The awards ceremony gives public recognition to achievements in education and support services. It provides a clear mechanism for the department to gather and share good practice throughout the Education Service. The feedback from schools and individuals, verbally, by email and in letters and cards has been outstanding. There has also been much favourable comment made with regard to the sponsorship of specific awards by individual businesses. This year over 400 teachers, support staff, parents and pupils attended the event.

Other Numeracy Initiatives

Harris Academy is involved in Number Partners, a scheme involving volunteers from local businesses who spend an hour a week working with selected school pupils using games to improve mental agility and problem solving skills. Pupils have the opportunity to talk about maths through contrived situations such as in the games. Learning and Teaching Scotland hope to introduce the initiative into five more schools in the authority with the support of Scottish Business in the Community.

Twelve teachers in the authority have been trained in Maths Recovery techniques by Professor Penny Munn of Strathclyde University. Teachers are made aware of how young children acquire number skills and of how by making the wrong connections, gaps appear in their knowledge which cause problems with later learning. These teachers are passing on their knowledge to colleagues and working with a variety of pupils in their schools.

Framework for Learning

National Priority 2 To support and develop in the skills of teachers, the self-discipline of pupils and to enhance school environments so that they are conducive to teaching and learning.

Staff are the most important resource of the Education Department. It is a key aim of the Department that both teaching and support staff have an effective process of Staff Review and Development which leads to an appropriate personal plan for their continuing professional development. The process of revising all guidance on the review of teaching staff has begun. This will take account of recently published national standards for full registration, headship and chartered teacher. An extensive range of CPD activity is now available to teaching and support staff through Dundee CPD Online.

A key target for all schools will be to implement the Health Promoting Schools Strategy. This will see schools working with staff pupils and parents to develop Health Education, Diet and Nutrition, Healthy Physical Activity and a Positive Ethos. The Education Department is clear that improvements in these areas will lead to a more positive atmosphere for learning and teaching which will impact on pupil achievement. This strategy will lead to all Dundee schools achieving a Health Promoting Schools Award and promote a healthy lifestyle for our young people.

Continuing Professional Development

From October 2005, the CPD directory for Education Department staff has been available in an on-line format. Since its launch over 3000 applications for CPD have been made by over 1700 teachers and support staff. Overall evaluations for all CPD activities since October 2005 show that over 94% of staff agreed that courses were good or very good.

The Scottish Qualification for Headship (SQH) is a national qualification, which recognises the responsibilities, challenges, and rewards of leading a school and prepares aspiring Head Teachers for that role. 16 candidates from Dundee Schools have successfully gained the award and currently there are 11 candidates undertaking the SQH.

A major CPD programme on "Leadership for Learning" aimed at all Principal Teachers in all Dundee secondary schools will be completed by Easter 2006. This major CPD initiative, delivered through three major conferences to clusters of schools is undertaken with support from Dundee University. It aims to equip principal teachers with the skills and knowledge to give positive leadership to their departments in order to support the improving achievement and attainment agenda.

Four teachers have attained full Chartered Teacher status and one teacher has become the first in Scotland to gain the GTCS Professional Recognition award.

ECDL for staff

Members of Education Department staff are continuing to develop their ICT skills by working through modules within the European Computer Driving Licence. To date, 238 have completed ECDL, 182 are progressing through the course and 34 have gained the Advanced Certificate. In addition to this over 400 additional teachers have registered an interest and although working through the course materials have not yet officially registered. In the last 12 months an online assessment programme had been introduced for ECDL which gives participants instant feedback on results

Kick-it, Kick-off

This project, in partnership with Dundee Football Club, seeks to tackle deprivation, raise achievement and increase self-esteem of vulnerable pupils. The project has attracted a number of awards at local and national level. Recently a nationally developed learning portal specific to learning through football was introduced to the DFC Learning Centre in conjunction with Newcastle United FC learning Centre and this is available to all pupils participating.

Managing Disruptive Behaviour

The Department has fully evaluated its policy for supporting children and young people with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties, and is now ready to issue a revised and updated version. Considerable time for development, consultation and training has been given to a revision of the Stages of Assessment and Intervention, which is the authority's key mechanism for identifying the nature and severity of a young person's additional support needs, and the appropriate means of supporting them. The Department has also used modern technology to devise a new format for Individualised Educational Programmes and has introduced this to representatives of all schools.

Inclusion and Equality

National Priority 3 To promote equality and help every pupil benefit from education with particular regard paid to pupils with disabilities and special educational needs, and to Gaelic and lesser used languages.

A range of strategies will enable us to pursue our objectives of equality of opportunity and social inclusion. These include the Equality Action Plan, the goal of which is to build on our current work with children with physical needs and promote further access to the curriculum and to educational buildings, as well as tackling issues of anti-bullying and anti-racism.

The new department development plan contains important projects in this area, including a commitment set out in a joint policy with Social Work colleagues to monitor the progress of looked after children in terms of attainment, attendance, exclusion and progression into further/higher education or the world of work. Progress in the second pilot new Community Schools project, in a primary cluster, will also be evaluated, and the results built into our phased roll-out programme which has begun with a clear multi-agency model in three secondary schools. Finally we will continue our work in primary schools through the Framework for Intervention programme, and in secondary schools with the establishment of School Referral Teams, to maintain young persons in mainstream education for as long as possible, to allow and encourage them to reach their full educational and personal potential.

Race Equality

The Race Equality Policy has been revised to comply with the Race Relations (Amendment) Act and in particular with the specific duty to eliminate racist incidents and promote good relationships between persons of differing backgrounds. Initial screening to assess the impact of all Education Department policies has been completed and on-line diversity training has been offered to all members of Education Department staff who are based in Tayside House. Schools have been involved in Show Racism the Red Card activities and anti-sectarianism work.

Health Promoting Schools

All schools have made significant progress in achieving accreditation as Health Promoting Schools. Mossgiel Primary School was the first school to attain a Gold award and Menzieshill High School was the first school in Dundee to achieve a Bronze award in the national SHAW (Scotland's Health at Work) award scheme. Ten schools have subsequently achieved awards and a number of others are nearing completion.

All schools have been supported to take steps to improve the healthy lifestyle of pupils and staff. Initiatives include healthy tuck shops, keep fit for staff and Health Weeks in many schools.

Toothbrushing

The supported toothbrushing programme for all primary1 pupils is in operation in all schools. The programme is also implemented in some nurseries, and planning is ongoing to extend this to all nursery locations. It is hoped that by encouraging pupils to brush their teeth at school, the good habit will continue at home. It is hoped that this will result in a reduction in the number of pupils with tooth decay. To support this all nursery and primary pupils are being provided with home toothbrushing kits. The impact of the project will be evaluated by NHS Tayside's Community Dental Department.

Walk to School

A School Travel Plan co-ordinator has been appointed. She has supported schools to participate in both national and local Walk to School Weeks. She has participated in a range of health events in local schools and has facilitated a number of cycling projects in schools. Streetsense, Walkwise and cycle training have now been incorporated within the Primary Health Education curriculum. A number of schools have participated in Walk to School Week and Walk to School Days and have identified Junior Road Safety Officers.

Fruit Initiative

The provision of fruit makes a valuable contribution to promoting and encouraging healthy eating habits. The free fruit in schools initiative has enabled schools to provide a portion of fruit, 3 times a week to every pupil in primaries 1 and 2. It is hoped that by targeting the youngest pupils the eating of fruit is more likely to become habit forming and bring the greatest gain in the long term.

Eating for Health

An Eating for Health Assistant has been appointed to each primary school. They are engaged in a range of strategies to encourage pupils to eat a healthy diet and extend their knowledge about aspects of nutrition. Such activities can include involvement in healthy tucks shops, encouragement to select healthy options at lunchtime, classroom lessons, nutritional games and they also facilitate the supported toothbrushing programme.

Nurture Groups

As part of the City Council's programme of support for schools in relation to managing disruptive behaviour, a pilot to develop Nurture Groups and Nurturing Schools within mainstream nursery, primary and secondary sectors has been commissioned for session 2005/2006.

Nurture Groups are small group learning settings, which operate within the context of a supportive and inclusive school. Nurture Groups and Nurturing Schools enable the less emotionally and socially developed child to be sustained in a mainstream educational environment.

Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004

A multi-agency implementation group chaired by the Education Department prepared for the commencement of this Act in November 2005. Staff in all mainstream and special schools, NHS Tayside, Social Work Department, Parent-to-Parent Tayside and all branches of the Education Department have undertaken joint training exercises to help staff become familiar with the Act and its implications for developing practice in supporting learners. There has been a particular focus upon the shift from Records of Need to increased use of Individualised Educational Programmes and the new Co-ordinated Support Plans. Within the implementation group's training, consultation and communication strategy, information leaflets have been distributed to all school staff and to partner agencies and more will follow. Further joint training for staff and consultation with parents and young people is planned to ensure the change to the new system of providing for pupils with additional support needs runs as smoothly as possible. This work, enabled by the additional implementation funding made available by the Scottish Executive to the authority, has been further supported by the secondment of a Development Officer.

Accessibility Strategy

The multi-agency Accessibility Strategy Planning and Review Group has conducted a review of the current accessibility strategy and is preparing to draft its successor strategy. The group will take on responsibility for supporting the department in fulfilling its duties under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and Disability Discrimination Act 2005.

An access audit has been conducted by Property Services and a programme of improvements to further reduce barriers to physical access to school buildings is underway. The work being carried out to implement the Additional Support for Learning Act will help to reduce barriers to learning experienced by children and young people stemming from the learning environment, family circumstances, medical need or disability, and social or emotional factors.

The addition of a new resourced location in Eastern Primary School has enhanced the Department's ability to support children with significant additional support needs. The emerging Nurture Groups at the specialist provision in Mossgiel Primary School and in other mainstream settings will increase capacity to enable troubled children to access the mainstream curriculum in an inclusive education environment.

Supporting Pupils with Autism

Five centres which provide support for pupils on the autistic spectrum in mainstream schools and within Kingspark School have been successfully re-accredited by the National Autistic Society.

A well-attended event for those involved in planning and delivering education for autistic youngsters was held in September 2005. Eight presentations were made to illustrate the breadth of programmes and projects in Dundee which support autistic children and young people from pre-school to post-school employment.

In session 2004/2005, two highly successful series of autism seminars were delivered to staff from mainstream primary schools throughout the city as part of the ongoing programme of support and training for school staff. This exercise will be repeated during session 2005/2006. A similar set of seminars for secondary school staff to be delivered in session 2005/2006 has been designed by experienced school staff and therapists as an integral component of the programme of support for secondary school staff working in mainstream settings. The development of an outreach programme in the secondary sector to provide advice and information to other teachers working in mainstream schools will mean that such a service will be available to staff in every school in the city. Parents now have a representative on the Autism Strategy Group.

Early Years Physical Activity

The Early Years and Childcare Team in partnership with the Leisure and Communities Department Youth Sports Development Team deliver a wide range of services to promote parents' and young children's physical activity. This means that young children are able to access physical activities in nurseries, sports and community centres, playgroups and toddler groups and at home through specialist programmes supported by the Pre-School Home Visiting Service.

Values and Citizenship

National Priority 4 To work with parents to teach pupils respect for self and one another and their interdependence with other members of their neighbourhood and society and teach them the duties and responsibilities of citizenship in a democratic society.

The development of respect for self and others has long been a major target for schools. Developments in this area will help to identify key areas of the curriculum where pupils can develop Core Skills such as Working with Others and Communication. Pupils will be given opportunities to put these skills into practice through working on joint projects, working in small groups and taking a more active role in the life of the school through Pupil Councils. A key element of the Health Promoting Schools Strategy will be to involve older pupils in buddying and mentoring schemes where older pupils can support and help younger pupils in playground games, in sports and in studying. Enterprise in Education activities also have a crucial role in developing the relevant skills and attitudes for future citizenship. The development of such skills will lead to Dundee's young people becoming more capable and involved citizens.

A major objective of the Education Department is develop its communications with parents and their involvement in taking forward learning and teaching in Dundee. A new Communications Strategy will be developed with the involvement of staff, pupils and parents to ensure that all stakeholders in the education process are well informed about and closely involved in the development of Dundee's schools.

Consultation and Communication

The Consultation and Communication Strategy "Involved and Informed" was launched in 2004. Ongoing communication has taken place with Parent Consultative groups to consult on policy development. Pupil participation is a key element in our approach to developing citizenship.

Parental Involvement

The Consultation and Communication Strategy outlines the importance which the Department puts on openness, responsibility, and honesty. A number of events have been organised to give parents an opportunity to gather information and voice opinions. These include Open Voice, consultation evenings, curricular evenings to support parents in their involvement with their child's education and meetings organised for PTA and School Board Chairs. The Advice and Conciliation Officer works hard to ensure that concerns raised by parents are addressed.

Pupil Participation

All schools have established effective and inclusive pupil councils. All primary schools send representatives to cluster councils and all secondary schools send a representative to the City Wide Pupil Council (CWPC). These provide an excellent forum for listening to the voices of young people.

The CWPC organised a Pupil Conference for P6 - S6. Part of the conference took the form of an Open Voice event, which allowed young people to offer solutions and ideas to improve the learning experience

Staff Consultation

Staff opinions and considerations are sought through consultation groups, school review meetings and staff surveys.

Eco-schools

All schools have or are in the process of registering as eco-schools. Some of the schools are working towards accreditation. Much of the work is cross-referenced with Health Promoting Schools.

Learning for Life

National Priority 5 To equip pupils with the foundation skills, attitudes and expectations necessary to prosper in a changing society and to encourage creativity and ambition.

The Education Department and schools work to ensure that all young people have an appropriate range of experiences which equip them for a healthy and fulfilled life. To this end the Department will seek to ensure that all pupils leaving school had an appropriate range of experiences in Sport, Outdoor Education and the Visual and Performing Arts during their school career.

Equally important is the need to ensure that pupils have the skills for future employment and make a good transition from school to work, to college or to university as appropriate. It is a key part of the Scottish Executive's Determined to Succeed Strategy for Enterprise in Education, Dundee's Community Plan and the Council's Corporate Plan that the Education Department works with colleges, universities and employers to develop initiatives to support young people into work and continuing education. This will see the Education Department take forward its existing initiatives in Summer Schools and Access Projects with Dundee College and the Universities. There will also be an expansion of the Vocational Programme where young people can undertake work skills training while continuing their school education in line with the national developments in Skills for Work. Our Enterprise in Education programme throughout the primary and secondary school experience help equip the young people for the world beyond school.

Arts and Cultural Activities

The organisation and management of Arts and Culture within the Education Department have provided opportunities to promote achievement and attainment through cultural activities within and outwith schools. Some notable developments have impacted very positively on pupils' experiences and have promoted very good partnerships.

Cultural Co-ordinator Programme

The Dundee City Council Education Department approach is based on the intention of animating the whole curriculum with cultural activities. Working with professionals, pupils and parents across Dundee City, the Cultural Co-ordinators have devised a complex programme of creative learning opportunities that impact across the school, the curriculum, and the wider community.

Since 2002 art-in-schools initiatives have been enjoyed by every school in DCC with over 5000 pupils having access to innovative and creative activity. The Scottish Executive has announced that there will be a continuation of funding for two years beyond 2006.

Youth Music Initiative

Four choirs and twenty guitar groups have been successfully established throughout the city with high levels of enthusiasm and regular numbers attending. A consultation exercise with pupils and parents showed that the children had developed not only in their abilities but also in broader educational aspects such as confidence and self-esteem.

Wild West (Writing) - A Literary Link Project

This project, which encompasses music and literacy, was created by Paul Rissman. It is currently being piloted in four primary schools. The literacy units provide tasks and activities linked to reading and writing and are particularly suited to extending the children's experience of the Writers Craft. Following the pilot and evaluation, a roll out programme will be established.

Music Technology

An SEN Music Technology project is being developed in Kingspark School This focuses on sound engineering and creative music making using digital technology and ICT. The project will make use of ultrasonic sensors that will detect at a distance the direction, speed and distance of body movement and translate it into electronic music.

Dundee Schools Music Theatre

Dundee Schools Music Theatre continues to expand and develop. There are now three distinct groups, Junior, Senior, and Post Development. The confidence and self-esteem instilled in the young people whilst taking part in productions is apparent whenever they appear in public. In addition, they learn skills through working together as part of a team to achieve a common goal will undoubtedly serve them well in later life.

A further project, "Step in Time" which involves pre-school children was launched in November 2005. It is aimed at children in the year prior to their entry into P1 and is designed to enhance their awareness of rhythm, movement and other related concepts.

Instrumental Music Service

The continuation of Quality of Life funding has enabled the service to acquire a significant number of new instruments. This has seen a marked increase, particularly in strings, in the number of young people learning to play. The Senior Wind Ensemble achieved a gold award at the National Concert Band Festival and many of our pupils are members of National Bands and Orchestras. Recent innovations include the introduction of a leaflet to all parents in the starting year groups describing the advantages of learning to play a musical instrument, the establishment of a band class in Baldragon Academy and the creation of a new ensemble "Fiddlers Bridge" to give our senior violinists the chance to play some Bluegrass/Cajun/Celtic based music.

Sports Development

The Active Schools programme was fully established in August 2004, with the appointment of an Active Schools Manager and eight full time Active School Co-ordinators (Primary) and fourteen Active School Co-ordinators (Secondary). The co-ordinators work in partnership with the Leisure and Communities Department's N2:Sports team.

The programme has been received favourably and many schools have commented on improved behaviour and co-operation in the playgrounds. The Active School Co-ordinators have been involved in girls' football, rugby, yogabugs, basketball, aerobathons, health weeks, athletics, Walkwise, cycle training, Active Advent and Scottish Country Dance.

An Active School calendar have been produced for all primary schools. This outlines a different activity for every day of the school week. The Health Education Board for Scotland have shown an interest in developing the calendars for use across Scotland.

The Induction Programme developed by Dundee for all primary co-ordinators has been highlighted by **sportscotland** as an example of good practice and has been adopted by a number of authorities.

Audits of all of the programmes carried out by the Active Schools staff have taken place.

Many new and exciting projects are now being developed, two of which are highlighted.

Y Dance (Scottish Youth Dance) is involved in all 10 secondary schools and soon to be involved with all primaries.

An agreement with The Factory skatepark is nearing completion which will allow schools to make use of their excellent facilities currently regarded as the best in Britain.

Enterprise

The publication of "Determined to Succeed" provided the outline for Enterprise in Education. A wide range of activities is supported both nationally and at local authority level by dedicated staff. Activities include Continuing Professional Development for teachers, science based activities for primary pupils and Enterprise challenges for secondary schools.

Enterprise developments have occurred in linking the agendas of enterprise, health promotion, citizenship and Eco-issues and an emphasis on enterprising learning and teaching is now taking place to embed Enterprise in Education in the curriculum within Learning Together in Dundee.

Pupil success in ECDL

This is the first year in which the European Computer Driving Licence has been available for pupils in all Dundee secondary schools. It has been a great success across the city with pupils in our schools achieving certification in record time.

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EARLY YEARS

The ongoing development and delivery of early years and childcare services is central to the work of the Department. Supporting the integration of services to improve outcomes for children and families is a key focus. Related to this has been the strengthening of support and services for parents and carers and the expansion of services to meet a wider and increasingly diverse range of need.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Sure Start

The delivery of Dundee's Sure Start Strategy is co-ordinated by the Education Department and involves a range of partners in Social Work, Leisure and Communities and Health and the Voluntary Sector.

In addition to the ongoing delivery of the wider Sure Start services, key development areas this year were:

- The development of physical activity programmes (The One to One Programme) for children aged 0-3 with additional support needs. These are offered to children's whose needs or disabilities make it difficult for them to access group services. A key focus within these programmes has been to support the involvement of parents and to work with children develop their social confidence and group skills. 4 children were involved in these programmes during the first year.
- The development of services for children aged 2 at Woodlea Children's Centre. Up to 30 children and their families accessed sessional care and a range of parent and child services each week. The focus has been on supporting children's learning and all round development and in particular programmes have been developed to support children's language and communication and emotional, personal and social development.
- A Sure Start Speech and Language Therapist was appointed in April 2005, to:
 - Promote the and raise awareness of the importance of early speech and language development
 - Support access to Speech and Language Therapy Services
 - Support improved links with Speech and Language Therapists
 - Develop the capacity of early years service providers to support children's speech and language development

Pre-School Education

2,198 children accessed pre-school education within local authority nursery schools and classes and 789 in partner provision. All nursery schools continue to provide wrap around care for children whose parents are in employment or training. In addition 83 children in need accessed free full time places.

12 local authority nursery classes, 2 nursery schools and 6 partner providers underwent HMIE and Care Commission Integrated Inspections. The inspection process was supported by central support visits pre and post inspection focused on continuous quality improvement and development.

A comprehensive range of CPD opportunities were available for local authority and partner staff through the deliver of the Department's CPD Calendar and the Early Years and Childcare Partnership's Training Strategy. A number of staff have been supported on post qualifying programmes. 4 local authority and 3 partner sector nursery nurses are working towards the BA Early Childhood Studies.

ICT development continues to be a key focus. Dundee now has 8 trained Early Years Master Classers and 31 staff have undertaken core training. Updated ICT Guidelines are in place for all pre-school education providers.

A new framework to promote the development of Science aspects within the Knowledge and Understanding of the World element of the Curriculum Framework 3-5 was developed by a working group and has been supported into implementation by staff development programmes.

Health Improvement continues to be a key focus for development and during this year there has been a renewed focus on outdoor play and learning throughout the year. This also aims to ensure that children have daily opportunities for energetic physical play outdoors.

Out of School Childcare

Considerable work has been undertaken to support the infrastructure and sustainability of Out of School Childcare. A new Business Management Tool has been developed and a first group of 8 Clubs implemented this to improve the management of their financial, capacity building and staff deployment system. A key focus has been to support the skills development and status of Club Supervisors and reduce the demands on parent led management committees. Childcare Strategy Funding has therefore been deployed to support Club Supervisors to undertake training and to manage business aspects of their Clubs.

Parents' Services

The Early Years Parents' Services Initiative collaborates with staff from social work, leisure and communities, health and the voluntary sector as well as Education Department services and Sure Start to provide a range of services to involve and engage parents. In 2004-5 key achievements have been the development of:

- The Ardler Village Shop- to provide school clothing, baby wear and safety equipment
- The St Andrews Project in partnership with a city centre church group to provide support for young mums and their children (18 parents aged 16-21 and their children)
- The expansion of Baby Rhyme Time Sessions and the introduction of Toddler Rhyme Time (246 children involved across 2004-5)
- The development of family sessions within nurseries
- The development of Health Resource Boxes for use in nurseries and centres to support health promotion

An important new focus has been on involving Dads and a Dad's Project has been developed to involve young children and their Dads in a range of activities including photography.

SECTION 2: HOW IS THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT PROGRESSING?

QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN EDUCATION

“Quality Management in Education” was published by HMle to indicate their view of quality in the provision of education services by local authorities. There are 11 Quality Indicators within “Quality Management in Education” that are used by HMle to evaluate the work of local authorities. These indicators are grouped under 5 themes as follows;

- **Strategic Management**
- **Consultation and Communication**
- **Operational Management**
- **Resource and Financial Management**
- **Performance Monitoring and Continuous Improvement**

In Dundee City Council a Quality Development Team is responsible for evaluating progress in each of these areas. Quality Development Teams drawn from senior management, teaching staff, support staff and education services.

Quality Development Teams use a range of evidence to monitor Department performance. This includes staff and parent surveys, the European Foundation for Quality Management Survey and HMle Inspection Reports.

The evaluations made by the Quality Development Teams are given on the next pages. These evaluations are used by the Education Department to monitor progress, to identify issues and to amend and update the Department Development Plan where appropriate.

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

Quality Indicator 1.1 – Vision, Values and Aims

Overall Summary of Performance

Overall performance in this area is very good

A clear revised vision has been set for the education service and the authority is highly committed to Learning Together in Dundee and the broad goals of “Achievement, Ethos, Partnership”. This vision and its attendant aims, objectives and priorities reflect fully the Council's corporate values. All establishments are aware of the authority's vision, aims and objectives and these will influence the direction which they take in their own working practices.

The visions, values and aims focus on improvement, and the authority has endeavoured to promote effective learning & teaching, raise attainment, place due emphasis on quality improvement, and promote an ethos of social inclusion through three key objectives:

- supporting and developing learning and teaching
- supporting children and young people
- supporting and developing strategic, professional and resource management

An established programme of annual and extended school reviews allows managers to monitor closely the extent to which the department's objectives and goals are being achieved.

Key Strengths

The authority's overall revised vision, values and aims and the way in which these have been communicated to schools and the public

The creative vision, which accords with national and local agendas and is sufficiently flexible to allow for changing priorities

The Council's aims which influence the department's aims and vice-versa

The improvement culture, using Quality Indicators, which is the focus of the work of the department

The use of statistics and benchmarking to analyse the quality of the service

Almost all staff aware of the links between the vision, values and aims and the quality improvement strategy

National Priorities assimilated into the quality improvement strategy, via School and Department Development Plans

The culture of consultation with the primary and secondary pupil body in the revision of the aims

Next steps

Continue to ensure the participation of support staff in strategic development

Continue to develop collegial culture and an emphasis on a new professionalism in keeping with the agreement 'A Teaching Profession for the 21st Century'

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

Quality Indicator 1.2 – Effectiveness of leadership and management

Overall Summary of Performance

Overall performance in this area is very good

The authority has a clear sense of direction which accords with the corporate framework.

The Director and the senior management team are fully committed to delivering and further developing the aims and objectives of the authority within the corporate framework. They continue to have a strong commitment to evaluating progress in all aspects of provision with a commendable emphasis on self-evaluation through processes of staff development and review, annual and extended school review and quality improvement.

The Director and the SMT have given a high priority to the development of effective relationships with children and young people, parents/carers and all staff, and have established and encouraged the use of effective lines of communication.

The authority contributes to the Council's corporate plan and regularly audits aspects of its provision to ensure a best value approach.

Pupil attainment and achievement are actively promoted and the achievements of pupils and staff in schools are recognised.

The authority has well-established partnerships with a wide range of other organisations and agencies within and outside the Council, and increasingly contributes to the delivery of integrated children's services.

Key Strengths

The Director has a clear vision of what the authority seeks to achieve and forms good relationships with all stakeholders.

The SMT, Head Teachers and officers participate in a system of self-appraisal. ESMs establish positive contact with schools and services; they are accessible and respond timeously to requests for advice and assistance.

Regular meetings of the SMT themselves, and with key groups, ensure a good mix of ongoing review and strategic discussion.

An effective communication and consultation policy and strategies are in place across the authority.

Open Voice consultation events have taken place with a range of stakeholders.

Staff are encouraged to participate in the production and review of policy.

There are positive and continuously developing partnerships with a range of outside individuals and parties.

Almost all teaching and support staff participate in the Staff Development & Review programme.

Next steps

The authority's quality improvement strategy should be reflected in the framework for quality improvement in schools.

The implementation of Staff Development & Review for all teaching and support staff should be pursued.

Continue to promote and strengthen the concept of distributed leadership, through the development of enhanced leadership skills and programmes.

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

Quality Indicator 1.3 – Policy development

Overall Summary of Performance

Overall performance in this area is good

The authority has a good and appropriate range of key policies, covering the curriculum and support for learning, which set the framework for improvement and inclusion.

The authority has issued a Quality Improvement Manual outlining all the arrangements which together constitute a clear framework.

There is a clear emphasis on the contributions which all staff can make to policy development, through membership of development groups and participation in the consultative process.

The policies devised by the authority clearly link to the Council's vision and stated priorities.

Significant progress has been made in implementing the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004, and in ensuring the inclusion of young people with a range of additional support needs.

The 'Learning Together in Dundee' programme underpins the Department's development work and, as Council policy, applies to all staff and services.

Revised guidelines have been produced and issued on 'Managing Disruptive Behaviour'.

Key Strengths

There is a comprehensive and appropriate range of policies and position statements. These are reviewed regularly.

Policies are set against a background of social, environmental and legal factors.

Relevant and comprehensive information is used to devise policies which lead to improvement.

The consultative process is strong.

The authority's policies link to the Council's strategic vision.

Next steps

Sample authority and establishment policies to ensure they lead to positive outcomes.

Updating and reviewing of policies needs to be more systematic, evaluative and take account of improvement objectives.

There remains a need to produce a list of policy statements, and disseminate these to all schools and services using different media including the intranet.

The Department's intranet should be updated.

The authority should continue to promote discussion of curriculum design and delivery at all stages in the secondary school to maximise the potential of every pupil.

There is a need to produce a Support for Learning policy and inclusion statement, as the introduction to a revised Support for Learning manual.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Quality Indicator 2.1 – Mechanisms for Consultation

Overall Summary of Performance

Overall performance in this area is good

The Education Department continues to ensure its commitment to effective consultation, communication and partnership with all stakeholders.

“Open Voice” events were held for parents to establish their priorities for future developments within the Department

A number of local events have been held to consult and inform parents on progress with the national Parental Involvement Bill. A Citywide Pupil Council conference for p6 to S6 pupils was held.

Policy development has been informed by parental consultation in a number of areas such as Additional Support for Learning, Race Equality and Religious Observance.

Cluster pupil councils for primary school pupils are well established and meet regularly.

The secondary Citywide Pupil Council made important contributions to a range of local and national consultations.

The Department’s Consultation and Communication Strategy “Involved and Informed” is being implemented.

Key Strengths

The Senior Management Team regularly meets Head Teachers to discuss and make decisions about policy.

The Director of Education continues to meet annually with staff in every school. All members of staff are given the opportunity to bring forward issues

Teachers are involved in discussion of Department policies and strategies through regular curriculum network meetings.

The Citywide Secondary Pupil Council continues to comment on policy and other important issues.

“Open Voice” events are used to determine issues of priority to staff, parents and pupils.

The Advice and Conciliation Officer continues to deal effectively with enquiries, complaints and concerns.

The Advice and Conciliation Officer regularly updates members of the Senior Management Team on levels and types of issues raised and potential courses of action to reduce future incidents.

Next Steps

A full EFQM Review of the Department is scheduled to take place in March 2006.

Citywide surveys of parents, staff and pupils will take place during the 2005-2006 school session.

Schools to be encouraged to hold their own “Open Voice” events for parents to determine local priorities.

Support implementation of the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Bill when assent is given.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Quality Indicator 2.2 – Mechanisms for Communication

Overall Summary of Performance

Overall performance in this area is very good

The Education Department's Development Plan identifies a clear commitment to effective consultation, communication and partnership with all stakeholders.

The Department's intranet site continues to develop providing members of staff with an easily accessible, wide range of information at their place of work.

The Department's Consultation and Communication strategy "Involved and Informed" clearly sets out a framework for the development of communication with all stakeholders within all establishments.

A weekly job vacancy bulletin is e-mailed to all establishments, and has reduced the time between posts being declared vacant and the appointment of a new postholder.

The induction programme for Newly Qualified Teachers is well regarded by staff.

Leaflets for parents have been prepared outlining the Learning Together in Dundee programme, attendance issues and the formation of composite classes.

Citywide surveys of parents, staff and pupils will take place during the 2005-2006 school session.

Key Strengths

Dundee Education News continues to be the main source of information for staff.

An evaluative Standards and Quality Report is regularly produced describing the work of the Department.

The effectiveness of communication within the Department is monitored and evaluated through EFQM and surveys of staff

School successes continue to be highlighted through the local and national media.

The Focus on Achievement Awards recognise the achievements of schools, staff and senior pupils.

Staff continue to value the Director's programme of meetings with staff.

Access to information by parents and staff continues to improve.

Regular conferences and seminars are held to discuss and disseminate information to staff.

The Senior Management Team have greater access to information from staff in schools.

Next Steps

A full EFQM Review of the Department is scheduled to take place in March 2006.

Develop a leaflet for parents outlining the Health Promoting Schools programme and the ways in which parents can contribute to the promotion of a healthy lifestyle.

Continue to develop appropriate induction procedures for groups of staff across the Department.

OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Quality Indicator 3.1 – Service Planning

Overall Summary of Performance

Overall performance in this area is very good

Planning is well integrated across all sectors of the Department and also with the Council Plan. Overall the planning format was found to be well designed and coherent, linking well with the various planning tiers of the council.

Generally clear guidance to schools allows them to take an active part in the continuous improvement process of Department Planning. Cognisance has been taken of National Priorities and these are very well incorporated into the planning process. Across the Department support for the improvement agenda was found to be consistently good.

The action planning process is consistently good and the training of teaching staff links well with development priorities.

Multi-agency working is effective in a number of areas of the Department's work, and very good with regard to the implementation of the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004.

Key Strengths

A strong focus on local and national priorities in our key objectives

Very effective communication on planning was found across the Department

The Quality Improvement Manual and Timeline for Quality Improvement Processes makes clear the roles of the various sectors in identifying and implementing agreed priorities

Key Strengths (cont.)

The Dundee City Council Education Department Plan makes clear the relationship between national and local priorities, and the key issues to be addressed in the next cycle

Staff Development and Review is in place across the organisation and all staff are aware of the Department's development opportunities.

Audit mechanisms are aligned to the review and planning cycle and key stakeholders are aware of their part in the system

Next steps

A clearer link should be developed between service planning, the capital building programme and PPP

The plan should include a clear identification of the resource needs of planned projects where appropriate

More work needs to be done to systematically identify, analyse and co-ordinate the professional development needs of support staff and teaching staff

A revised formula for the allocation of Support for Learning staff to secondary schools, currently under discussion, will be agreed and adopted.

Consideration will be given to the level of support necessary, from teaching and support staff, in schools in areas of deprivation.

OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Quality Indicator 3.2 – Deployment and Effectiveness of Centrally Based Staff

Overall Summary of Performance

Overall performance in this area is good

Deployment of staff across the Department is clearly aligned to support quality assurance and improvement objectives. Schools and establishments know the roles and responsibilities of staff and generally feel well supported by them in achieving aims and planned priorities.

The role of the Educational Development Service in supporting continuous improvement is seen as positive by schools.

Administrative staff generally work well with schools and are well integrated in the Department's quality improvement and planning processes through membership of groups such as Quality Development Teams and the EFQM Team.

Key Strengths

ESMs and EDS staff are effectively deployed and managed

ESMs and EDS have well defined remits with respect to the quality improvement agenda including the Quality Improvement Timeline, Quality Development Teams, EFQM and Development Planning processes

Key Strengths (cont.)

The Staff Development and Review process is now in place at all levels supported by a full range of online CPD opportunities.

Very good support from EDS for schools' quality improvement.

Collaborative working with other Departments to achieve strategic aims and priorities eg. Early Years and Childcare Partnership.

Involvement of a range of staff in the development and delivery of key strategies such as MIS Strategy.

Next steps

Review the role and remit of HSSS staff in the light of the development of a co-located model of multi-agency support.

Review of senior management and central support services structure to focus on raising pupil achievement.

Replacement of current school based Management Information System (MIS) with a single, integrated system offering greater flexibility and functionality.

RESOURCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Quality Indicator 4.1 – Resource Management

Overall Summary of Performance

Overall performance in this area is good

The Council has continued to make maximum use of available specific grant funding to enable the department to address the targets agreed in its Development and Service Plans.

Funding available through the Public Private Partnership Initiative is enabling the department to further improve and rationalise its school stock while addressing the impact of a falling school population. It has been possible to continue to provide additional support staffing in schools in the areas of promoting health and behaviour management.

Over 80% of the department's expenditure has been subject of Best Value Review. The reviews cover all areas of major activity and the monitoring of success criteria shows clear improvement in performance in these key areas.

A pool of permanent supply teachers has been set up for the primary sector to address some of the problems related to staff cover/shortages in this area.

Central purchasing arrangements have been improved to provide ready access to all schools.

The Devolved School Management Scheme continues to assist schools to make best use of the financial resources which are available to them.

Key Strengths

Roll related staffing allocations are at national standards or above.

Department funding of early intervention, pre-school and ICT development in excess of available specific grant.

Three year budget projections are considered by officers and members.

Comprehensive Best Value Review Programme.

A comprehensive range of quality indicators linked to benchmarking with other authorities.

School occupancy levels are subject of regular review.

Next Steps

Continued support to help schools improve links between school development planning and the budget setting process.

The greater flexibility available in the application of external funding should be fully exploited.

Links between Corporate and Energy Management Policy and Devolved School Management Scheme should be continued.

Improved use should be made of IT in the management of resources.

Continue Improvement in the performance and monitoring of maintenance work.

A clear asset management plan should be developed.

RESOURCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Quality Indicator 4.2 – Financial Management

Overall Summary of Performance

Overall performance in this area is good

The Department continues to deliver services within the targets set for it within the three year Revenue Budget and Capital Plan which are produced in line with Council guidelines.

Budget planning and financial management is clearly aimed at the delivery of national and local priorities.

Expenditure is monitored on a monthly basis and progress is reported to budget holders, Senior Management Team, Chief Officers and Finance Committee. All reports to the Education Committee include a section on the financial implications of approving recommended actions. All primary, secondary and special schools participate in the Devolved School of Management (DSM) which covers approximately 80% of expenditure incurred by schools.

The Department's DSM is subject to regular review. Emphasis is placed on improving professional support, training and induction on financial procedures for all staff involved with financial process.

Financial procedures are clearly set out in the Council's Standing Orders and the Department's DSM Scheme and Admin Manual.

There is an excellent and effective working relationship with the corporate department of finance including internal audit.

Key Strengths

Monthly monitoring of budget/expenditure by Departmental Senior Management Team, Corporate Chief Officers and Elected Members.

Regular budget/expenditure monitoring is carried out with budget holders across the Department.

The DSM Scheme successfully gives opportunities for staff consultation and participation.

Strong central financial support is available to schools

School self-assessment financial audits are carried out and acted upon.

An accounting team from the corporate finance department is outposted within the education service.

Next Steps

Review DSM procedure in light of new guidance from the Scottish Executive

Increase staff involvement at all levels in the DSM budget decision-making process.

Continue to develop improved direct access to relevant corporate financial management information for all Departmental budget managers.

Continue to raise understanding of financial procedures across the Department.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Quality Indicator 5.1 – Measuring, monitoring and evaluating performance

Overall Summary of Performance

Overall performance in this area is good.

The processes for collecting information to measure establishment and department performance have been further developed in a number of key areas.

School Review is now well established and has been made significantly more rigorous with Extended School Reviews lasting over three weeks. This process is now being rolled out to all schools in a phased programme.

At school level considerable work has been to improve the accuracy of self evaluation by the use of more rigorous and robust evidence including classroom observation and feedback from key stakeholders.

A regular programme of monitoring and evaluation of performance data is now well established at Authority level and is being developed at school level.

Key Strengths

An analysis based on a comprehensive range of attainment data and benchmarking information is provided to all secondary schools annually. Each Primary school receives benchmark data on all other city schools.

Extended school reviews were piloted in 8 schools and all schools are now part of a rolling programme of extended review. HMIE report that reports by the Education Department on school progress are now more accurate as a result.

School Reviews show improvements in school processes for performance monitoring and evaluation. Schools now have self-evaluation schedules and quality improvement calendars. The evidence base for schools' self evaluation is becoming more robust.

Key Strengths (cont)

In collaboration with HMIE the Education Department has successfully undertaken follow-through visits after HMIE Inspection and published their own Follow-Through Reports on school progress.

CPD Online has been successfully introduced. This allows online booking of CPD by staff and gives improved tracking and feedback on CPD to School Co-ordinators and to EDS.

The process for Head Teacher Review has been revised to focus on the Standards for Headship. This gives Head Teachers better information about their performance and areas for personal development. The Education Department has also put in place a number of initiatives to develop leadership skills of middle and senior managers and to develop senior management teams in schools.

Review of department performance in key areas is monitored through EFQM, annual evaluation and is a focus for Review and Planning Days and the Management Calendar.

Next Steps

All schools should continue to develop their Quality Improvement Strategy and ensure that all key elements are implemented.

It is proposed to move to a new and more effective web based Management Information System in 2006.

The ICT package used for school development planning (ELVIS) is to be replaced with a new customised school development planning programme. This will give better information about progress on key development priorities at school and Authority level.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Quality Indicator 5.2 – Continuous improvement in performance

Overall Summary of Performance

Overall performance in this area is good.

The Education Department continues to focus on improving its performance across all areas of its operations. Schools are challenged to monitor their own performance and to look critically at how this might be improved.

A focus for the Authority is to improve attainment by improving learning and to this end it has developed a major strategic initiative around Learning Together in Dundee. This incorporates earlier work on Formative Assessment and aims to see learning improved in all Dundee classrooms over the next three years.

In the key area of 5-14 considerable work has been done in Environmental Studies and this programme is now well established in schools.

The Early Intervention project READ continues to impact on pupils by reducing the impact of disadvantage on attainment in primary schools.

To date XX senior staff have gained the Scottish Qualification for Headship and an extended programme of CPD for senior and middle managers is now being developed.

Key Strengths

Learning Together in Dundee has been identified as the key strategy to improve learning and attainment in the City. It has now been adopted as Council Policy and is being introduced in all schools. This has been supported by an ongoing programme of staff development and support. Over 50% of teachers have now undertaken training and there is an observed impact on the quality of lessons and on attainment, particularly in Primary Schools.

Schools which need to significantly improve their performance are being engaged through the Extended School Review process. Where appropriate this results in an action plan which identifies key improvement objectives and identifies support strategies which need to be put in place at school or EA level.

Key Strengths (cont)

Ongoing monitoring by the EA is now a feature where significant issues have emerged as a result of HMIE inspection or Extended School Review.

All Secondary schools continue to receive a detailed analysis of their performance in National Qualifications. Schools are required to monitor their performance against specific benchmarking data and track performance against similar schools. Evaluations are discussed at School Reviews and the Director of Education meets each Head Teacher to discuss issues.

Monitoring and analysis of attainment data shows improvement in a number of areas at Standard Grade and continued improvement in primary schools.

Apprentice training initiatives in the four vocational areas Construction, Catering, Care, Motor Vehicles and Hairdressing are impacting on the achievement and employability of an increasing number of young people.

Schools are using curriculum flexibility and the removal of age and stage restrictions to offer more appropriate courses at Access and Intermediate Level and through awards such as ASDAN which better meets the needs of young people. In some cases pupils are able to begin work on Standard Grade before S3.

An expansion of the Arts and Health programmes has resulted in a rising number of young people achieving in music, dance and sports.

A Best Value Review Group of Councillors, Head Teachers and officials has been set up to review issues affecting attainment in schools.

Next Steps

Curriculum flexibility should be further developed to provide greater challenge and opportunities for earlier success to more pupils.

All schools should focus on how to improve learning and teaching and increase pace and challenge as a means of improving attainment.

Attainment and Achievement 2004-05

Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF)

The attainment of pupils in National Qualifications is expressed as a level within the Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF). The levels are outlined below. Therefore the statement of "English and Maths at level 3 or better" means the percentage of S4 pupils who have achieved Access 3 or Standard Grade 5-6 in English and Maths by the end of S6.

Level 7	Advanced Higher at A-C
Level 6	Higher at A-C
Level 5	Intermediate 2 A-C or Standard Grade at 1-2
Level 4	Intermediate 1 at A-C or Standard Grade at 3-4
Level 3	Access 3 or Standard Grade 5-6

The National Priorities in Education

The National Priorities in Education set out a range of indicators surrounding attainment. These are based on three-year average scores in each of the measures. All measures are made by the end of S6.

	2003-2005
English and Maths at level 3 or better	85
5+ awards at level 3 or better	83
5+ awards at level 4 or better	67
5+ awards at level 5 or better	36
1+ award at level 6 or better	35
3+ awards at level 6 or better	22
5+ awards at level 6 or better	12

Attainment in Primary Schools

The overall quality of attainment in primary schools shows continuous improvement. Most schools have met or exceeded the average for their comparator schools.

Very good progress is being made by pupils in the early stages of primary schools. This is largely due to the success of the Early Intervention programme and the good use that schools are making of baseline assessment.

Attendance

The Attendance Initiative continues to impact positively on Attendance Figures. Authorised absence is broadly in line with national figures whilst Dundee's rate of truancy (0.2%) is one quarter of the national average (0.8%)

Attendance 2004/2005: Overall

	Attending	Unauthorised Absence %	Authorised Absence %	Temporary Exclusion %
Dundee City	88.9	3.2	7.7	0.2
Scotland	91.4	1.3	7.2	0.1

Transfer to Further and Higher Education

Transfer rates to Further and Higher Education continue to show a higher proportion of pupils moving on to Further Education than the national average, but less than the national average moving on to Higher Education. This is entirely appropriate based on the level of pupil attainment in National Qualifications, and the value that Dundonians place on Dundee College.

Overall, Dundee's rate of transfer to Higher and Further Education is above the national average.

Transfer to Further Education

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Dundee City	28	27	30
National	21	21	21

Transfer to Higher Education

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Dundee City	24	24	26
National	31	29	31

Combined Transfer to Further/Higher Education

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Dundee City	52	51	56
National	52	50	52

SECTION 3: SCHOOL, PUPIL AND STAFF SUCCESSES

FOCUS ON ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS CEREMONY 2005



All of the award winners at the end of the ceremony

Over 400 guests attended the annual Focus on Achievement Awards ceremony, held in the Caird Hall on Thursday 15 September 2005. Guests enjoyed a meal, the awards ceremony and entertainment provided by pipers from Dundee schools, Dundee Schools Wind Ensemble, Dundee Schools Big Band, Dundee Schools Music Theatre and the Youth Music Initiative.

Entries were sought from all establishments in May 2005 and were then shortlisted by a panel of Quality Improvement Officers. Final judging was carried out by a panel comprising Councillor Kevin Keenan (Convener of the Education Committee), Liz Gillies (Dean of the Faculty of Education and Social Work, Dundee University), Deirdre McVean (Quality Improvement Manager) and Andrew Argo (Education Correspondent, Dundee Courier).

A healthy entry was received for all categories, and the final judging was extremely difficult.

THE AWARDS PRESENTED WERE AS FOLLOWS:

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LEARNING AND TEACHING AWARD



**Harris Academy Cluster Early Education Group – Assessment is for Learning:
Problem Solving Nursery/Primary**

The other shortlisted entries were the Early Years and Childcare Partnership (Masterclass ICT), Kingspark School (A Fishy Tale), Kirkton Nursery (Use of Digital Cameras), St Clement's Primary School (Improved Learning and Teaching Through Use of Interactive Whiteboards), St Saviour's High School (Online Chemistry Revision) and Sidlaw View Primary School (Peer Reading).

REMOVING BARRIERS TO LEARNING AWARD



Sidlaw View Primary School – The Colour Purple

The other shortlisted entries were Kingspark School (Sensitive Stories) and Kirkton Nursery (Playdays Group).

DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS AWARD



Brackens Primary School – Partnership for Prevention

The other shortlisted entries were Baldragon Academy (Introduction to Industry in S2), Kingspark School (Future Needs Planning) and Menzieshill High School (Information Skills with the University of Abertay).

CREATING A POSITIVE ETHOS – BUILDING SELF ESTEEM



Whitfield Primary School – Badges of Responsibility

The other shortlisted entries were Brackens Primary School (Paired Play), Douglas Primary School Nursery class (Enterprise Project), Morgan Academy (Fantasy Football League) and Quality Contact (Johari Window).

DEVELOPING A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT



Craigie High School – Health Promoting Schools Award

The other shortlisted entries were Fintry Nursery (Outdoor Play, Whatever the Weather), Kingspark School (Health Promoting Schools Award) and Powrie Primary School (Developing a Healthy Environment).

THE LORD PROVOST'S AWARD FOR CITIZENSHIP



**Primary Schools – St Ninian's Primary - Helping Others
Secondary Schools – Morgan Academy - Charities Committee**



The other shortlisted entries were:

Primary Schools – Longhaugh Primary School (Tartan Project) and St Vincent's Primary School (Citizenship in Primary 4).

Secondary Schools – Lawside Academy (Charities and Citizenship) and Menzieshill High School (Citizenship in S6).

AWARDS FOR PUPILS



The Awards for Pupils recipients are pictured with Depute Lord Provost Charles Farquhar, Convener of Education Councillor Kevin Keenan, Dundee City Council Chief Executive Alex Stephen and Director of Education Anne Wilson.

The following awards were made to senior pupils:

THE MCMANUS AWARD FOR CITIZENSHIP	Priya Sahi	Grove Academy
THE MCINTOSH PATRICK AWARD	Alisdair Chisholm	Harris Academy
SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR	Owen Whyte	Lawside Academy
SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR	Ashley Kinloch	Grove Academy
MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR	Ross Lesslie	St John's High
FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR	Leanne Bell	Morgan Academy
INSTRUMENTALIST OF THE YEAR	Joseph Sloan	St John's High

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN THE SQA EXAMINATIONS

Kaya Chatterji	Grove Academy	Michael Heilbronn	Harris Academy
Katherine Devlin	Grove Academy	Lindsay McFarlane	Harris Academy
Hellen MacLeod	Grove Academy	Liam Sturrock	St John's High
Christopher Wakefield	Grove Academy	Campbell McNally	St Saviour's High
Marc McBride	Grove Academy	Georgi Georgiev	Harris Academy
Yasmeen Ahmad	Morgan Academy		

In addition Yasmeen Ahmad was named winner of the UK Axios "A Star" Award for the best female computing student in the country. This was the first time that this award had been won by a Scottish student.

THE AWARD FOR SERVICE TO EDUCATION IN DUNDEE



BROTHER DOUGLAS – LAWSIDE ACADEMY

From the many outstanding individuals nominated by schools and services across the City and after much discussion, the Panel selected the nomination by Lawside Academy, Brother Douglas Welsh.

Brother Douglas is special because he makes everyone else feel special! In the morning staff meet in the Recovery Unit as it is known and Brother has breakfast ready for staff and pupils. He quietly listens to staff's problems, counsels them in a particular way and encourages them.

In relation to young people, he works tirelessly for them. Brother encourages and inspires young people by always giving them the extra chance.

He is involved in all charity work, Cyrenians, Turrif House, SCIAF, the Tsunami Appeal and runs the big school raffle.

He is a calming presence in the school, nothing ruffles him. He is a steady influence on the more challenging pupils and influences the 6th year pupils at a critical stage in life.

His ability to reach out and touch some of our more vulnerable and challenging young people is unique. He has opened the door for so many young people to choose a different path.

His strength of character, sense of humour coupled with his faith makes him an excellent role model within our community.

He never gives up on young people and brings out the best in everyone he meets.

SCHOOL AND PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

Listed below is a selection of the achievements of Dundee City Council's schools and educational services during the 2003-2004 school session.

Each school was asked to submit details of a few achievements of which they were particularly proud. A selection of those received has been included below – and these reflect only a small proportion of the successes that our schools can demonstrate. However, it is hoped that the wide variety of achievements listed indicates the broad view of achievement that schools and the Education Department takes, and the many areas in which schools and educational services are active.

Ancrum Road Primary School

- Our P6/7 athletics team won the citywide 'Fun in Athletics' competition and went on to win a handsome trophy in the Regional Final in which there was an entry of 60 other schools.
- P5 pupils won the citywide Rotary Sports event.
- The P4 team won the 'mini highland games event at Caird Park
- The P6/7 team won the Cluster swimming gala
- The P6/7 team did exceptionally well at the Camperdown Cross Country event and the Caird Park Athletics event- 2 team gold medals, 2 individual gold and one individual bronze medals were attained.
- Our football team gained the highest accolade ever by winning the 'triple' i.e. – they won the league, the League Cup and the Linton Cup
- Our secretary Helen Smith was awarded the O.B.E. for services to education
- Cluster Nursery P1 Transition Project won Focus on Achievement Award

Ardler Primary School

- School Board and PTA formed
- Involvement in Templeton Woods Tile project and planting trees for the Admiral Duncan Wood
- School ground improvement work with the Urban Ranger
- Staff and p5-P7 pupils performed the pantomime Hansel and Gretel

Baldragon Academy

- Baldragon were Dundee Schools Chess Champions for the third year in a row
- Innes Murray and Ross Ferguson (both S5) won places on the Scottish Space School in Glasgow
- Our first pupils, as part of the Dundee pilot, enrolled for and completed the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL)
- At U16 football we won the Dundee United Cup
- Our Pupil Council Policy has been used as an exemplar for good practice locally and nationally
- The Junior Sports Leader Award was completed twelve pupils
- This year we are very proud to have ten pupils at the international level. Lynsey Murray (S6 Athletics/Cross Country), Scott Anderson (S4 Speed Skating), Michael Bruce (S5 Ten-Pin Bowling), Todd Crozier (S4 Ice Hockey), Craig Cummings (S2 Badminton), Marc Leggatt (S3 Roller Hockey), Danny Low (S4 Football), Elliot McCandless (S4 Ice Hockey), Elliot Robertson (S3 Water polo), Stuart Urquhart (S1 Figure Skating)

Barnhill Primary School

- Rotary Quiz - Barnhill's team were successful at the local and regional competitions and therefore qualified for the national final at Stirling where they did their best
- A very positive report was given by the HMle/Care Commission following their inspection of the Nursery
- The Nursery performed the Christmas play to parents friends and the Senior Citizens in the community
- The P7 pupils had a very enjoyable and successful week at Dalguise Activity Centre near Dunkeld
- 253 Shoe Boxes were filled and sent to this Christmas Appeal as well as many charities benefiting from various fund raising activities
- Scottish Heritage was marked by a Burn's Supper organised by the P7's, a Burn's poetry competition and the annual St Andrew's Day Concert
- A 'Health Day' was organised by the Active Sports Co-ordinator involving all the children and Staff
- The basketball team won the N.C.R. Fair Play Award

Bellfield Nursery School

- Won as part of our cluster a Focus on Achievement award for formative assessment transition
- Family craft nights when over 70 people attended and took part in making craft
- Advanced master class two members of staff working towards this

Blackness Primary School

- Staff and Primary 7 pupils attended performances of "Barnum" and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at the Whitehall Theatre and met the cast and crew backstage
- A climbing wall was built in our playground encouraging active pursuits at play and lunch times
- A group of P6 and 7 pupils travelled to Glasgow to take part in BBC Television's 50/50 children's television programme. They were commended by BBC for their contribution
- P3/4 published and sold a cook book and P1/2 organised a toy sale as enterprise activities. They used the money raised to buy a cow, a goat and 50 fruit trees
- Our Netball Team were the champions of the Summer League (West)

Brackens Primary School

- In September we were awarded with the Education Department's first ever 'Improving the Quality of Learning and Teaching' award
- The school gained Bronze Eco School Status
- At the end of the session we were informed that we had been awarded Silver Health Promoting School Status
- We held a very successful Health Week where all pupils took part in a range of healthy activities. During the week we also had a Health Fair for parents and the local community. This was well attended and parents had the opportunity to have health checks, find out about healthy school meals and speak to a range of health professionals
- At Christmas time as P6 and P7 pupils entertained the school and local community with Jack and the Beanstalk. The Early Years department delighted young and old alike with their version of the nativity story
- At the end of session we had a celebration to mark the moving out of the Laird Street Site. Each class participated and we had a morning of song, laughter and good cheer

Braeview Academy

- The school became a School of Ambition in June and secured substantial funds to enhance our drama facilities
- Gregor Murray was runner-up in the Provost McManus Citizenship Award
- Braeview put on a summer show called "Strike a Chord"
- We held our now annual Pop Wide-o concert at Christmas

Charleston Primary School

- We were invited to open the new South Road Tesco store and Tesco donated £1000 to the school and that helped with the purchase of our new Reading Resources.
- Very successful outings were made to Sensation, Riding Stables near Brechin, Science in September, Exploring Dundee, Verdant Works, Safe Taysiders, local churches and the RSNO Concert.
- We held a successful Health Week with an Open Day at the end of the week followed by an in service day with healthy options.
- One of our children won the art competition connected to the Energy Visit to Pitlochry Dam.
- At Christmas, we performed Holy Joe! Some of the children sang songs from the concert at Tesco and also at a concert in Meadowside St. Paul's church.

Claypotts Castle Primary School

- Winner of Bronze Award for Health Promoting School
- Winners of Balgray Cross Country Road Relay for both boys' and girls' teams - Gold
- Winners of poster against racism challenge in Craigie High School cluster
- P5 pupil winner of Burns' singing competition medal and cup
- Signing choir performed before Duke and Duchess of Wessex at Craigie High School

Clepington Primary School

- Fundraising
 - Parents of children in the Autistic unit raised £2000 for sensory equipment
 - Children collected small change and raised £520 for 5 tents for those affected by the earthquake in Pakistan
 - Pupils in P7 raised over £2000 from their Enterprise Project in January this Year. The money went to the survivors of the Tsunami
 - Pupils and staff practised their skipping skills and raised £2400 for the Heart Foundation
- Health Promotion
 - During our first health week pupils and staff were given the opportunity to try various sports and activities to improve their fitness. A teachers choir has been formed to relieve stress and provide some fun!
 - Healthy eating was an important part with many activities organised to promote a healthy diet. Ready Steady Cook provided opportunities for children to make soup, smoothies, baked potatoes and healthy sandwiches and pastas
- Concerts
 - P1-3 held a successful Scottish concert. Parents were entertained with dance, songs and poetry
 - P7 pupils produced and performed the pantomime Dick Whittington to a packed audience. It was a huge success!

Craigie High School

- 26 S3/4 pupils took part in the Mathematical challenge. They gained 23 silver and 3 bronze awards.
- Craigie Under 15 football team won the senior football sports cup beating Monifieth HS 3-2
- Vicky Paterson one four silver medals in the National Disability Sports Swimming Gala last session.
- Katherine Murphy was placed third overall in the prestigious annual secondary school art competition organised by Angus College

Craigiebarns Primary School

- We became the recipients of the Eco-Schools silver award in February 2006.
- The 'Craigie Crushers' were the overall winners of a rugby tournament organised by the Dundee Eagles in November 2005.
- The P7 enterprise project, Operation Christmas Child, culminated in 197 shoeboxes containing gifts for children in Eastern Europe and further afield.
- Last session the football team won both their league and the Burgess Cup.
- Sean Dyer, a P6 pupil, has been selected to play for the Scottish U12 Ice Hockey team.
- 16 members of staff have gained the Professional User Certificate for the Promethean Whiteboard.
- Gail Smith, Depute Head Teacher, received the Institute of Safety and Health certificate.

Dens Road Primary School

- Winners of the NCR Dundee Schools Basketball Tournament
- Previous P7 pupils worked collaboratively to design playground markings for all pupils including nursery
- School held a very successful Health Week involving a wide range of physical activities for pupils and staff. This culminated in a Health Promotion evening which was well attended by parents and carers
- School successfully took part in a very wide range of sporting events including football, netball, rugby, cross country and athletics

Downfield Primary School

- The school 'Health Week' in the summer term was a great success for pupils, staff and parents. Many different people and agencies contributed to this annual event
- Our Healthy Eating Tuckshop website went live!
- Johan Lamont, Deputy Minister for Communities visited the school to launch the 'Save by the Bell' savings scheme for pupils as part of the Credit Union initiative
- At the Scottish Schools Gymnastics Competition, our school team finished fifth and was top Dundee school
- At the end of the summer term a barbecue, organised by P6/7 as part of their Enterprise topic, was held for pupils, parents and staff in the annexe grounds. The stalls, games and activities and of course the food made this a very popular and successful event.

Eastern Primary School

- Caring for others - money raised for different charitable causes - Tsunami appeal, British Heart Foundation, Leprosy Appeal, supporting a swimmer in the Special Olympics, Fair Share, Barnados and the DADDY group which support children with diabetes. A grand total of £7073 raised over the year

- Another very successful school show - involving pupils, parents and staff working together to produce 'The Adventures of Pinocchio'. This was performed by P6 and P7 children to capacity audiences at the Gardyne Theatre over two nights
- Launch of 'Health Week' in September 2004. Classes were timetabled to take part in many different events inside and outside the school. Different activities included Tai Chi, fruit tasting, police and health visitor talks, aerobathon (parents included!), football, dancing and a 'skipathon'

Fintry Nursery School

- Our Mini Olympic Event in September 2004 raised £2200. We donated half the proceeds to Dundee Disabled Children's Association and bought waterproof suits/resources for outdoor play.
- Three parents and a grandparent attended a two hour workshop run by the Heart Start programme and received certificates for their efforts.
- In May 2005 we received national recognition for our Outdoor Play initiative when we appeared on BBC Scottish News. We were also featured in the winter edition of Care News and short listed for the Focus on Achievement Awards.
- We staged two end of year shows for parents/carers - Rumble in the Jungle and Billy No Buzz with costumes/props and marked the occasion by presenting graduation certificates to sixty children moving on to primary 1.

Fintry Primary School

- P6a organised a 'Bring and Buy' Sale in aid of the Tsunami disaster fund in February 2005. They showed enterprising skills and excellent teamwork and raised £540.
- Our FLU Enterprise group 'Kids in Action' organised, resourced and set up a Quiet Area in the playground. This was for the use of all pupils in school. This was set up in May 2005 and can still be enjoyed on sunny days.
- For the first time, we held a P7 'prizegiving/graduation' in June 2005, celebrating the success of the pupils. This was enjoyed and attended by many parents and friends.
- The PTA has been very supportive to school. We held our first Christmas Fayre in December 2004, raising over £600. This money has been spent on colourful tables and chairs for the upper corridor, creating a more stimulating environment for our pupils and staff.

Forthill Primary School

- In recognition of the high level of commitment to the development of Information and Communications Technology (ICT), Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education invited Forthill staff and pupils to make a presentation at a conference in Dunfermline in June 2005 to celebrate good practice in ICT. The children participating did so with enthusiasm and confidence and were a credit to the school. This session also saw the publication of "Ernist ICT School Portraits" which details 20 school portraits of innovative use of ICT in six European countries of which Forthill is one. This delighted us greatly. More information can be found at <http://schoolportraits.eun.org>.
- Members of the web group have continued to work with enthusiasm throughout the session to keep the website up-to-date and to bring a freshness to it by adding new pages. The website is enjoyed by visitors to it and is another way of keeping parents and the community informed about school life and its many activities. Read more about us at <http://forthill.ea.dundee.city.sch.uk>
- Winning the Craigie High School's Primary Schools Swimming Gala was another success. In addition the P.6 and 7 boys' and P.6 girls' teams won gold medals in the Dundee Primary Schools Cross Country Championship with one pupil acquiring a gold medal for individual performance. In the Balgay Road Relay the girls' team

won a gold medal. We were just as successful in the Dundee Schools Athletics Competition with P.6 and P.7 pupils winning gold, silver and bronze medals in a range of events. All in all it has been a very good session for us in terms of sports events.

Frances Wright Pre-School Centre

- The nursery has purchased additional books and set up a lending library for the children
- Children, staff and parents raised £2,500 through a sponsored obstacle course, a Christmas Fair and donations, to purchase wooden play houses, a boat and picnic tables as well as physical play equipment for the outdoor play area
- Some of the children entertained the pensioners at the Five Ways Club Christmas party
- The children and staff have been developing their ICT skills through the use of digital cameras, movie maker and microscope
- The school house has been decorated and opened as 'The Parents Place' to provide a meeting room and an information library for parents of children with additional needs
- Staff have shared their knowledge, skills and experience with colleagues in other nurseries through the development of the Outreach Support Service, which has been very well received

Glebelands Primary School

- Maintain and develop links with parents - series of open afternoons and two sets of parents' evenings
- Successful integrated inspection of the nursery class.
- Continuing to build links in the community by building in visits to mosque, Sikh temple, local church.
- As part of piloting the new social subjects curriculum, a study of Peru led to a fund raising which supported a class of children through the year. Education is not free in Peru and without our efforts, these children would have been on the streets. Part of the effort involved writing a Christmas carol, producing a cd and selling it; having 'fair trade' events etc.
- Other fund raising included support for the Asian tsunami appeal.

Gowriehill Primary School

- Red House Children's Book award - Gowriehill are recognised as one of a number of schools who participate as a testing centre. The infants read and vote for picture books whilst pupils at the upper stages do the same for short novels. This is ongoing throughout the session

Grove Academy

- At Dundee's Focus on Achievement Award ceremony: Priya Sahi was awarded Dundee's prestigious McManus Prize for Citizenship, Ashley Kinloch won the Dundee Sportswoman of the Year Award, Kaya Chatterji, Katherine Devlin, Marc McBride, Hellen McLeod and Christopher Wakefield received awards for Outstanding Achievement in 2005 SQA Exams
- Chris Wakefield attended the NASA Space Camp, Houston, Texas
- The Grove Team won the National Final of Cars in Motion at the Jaguar factory in Birmingham
- The Senior Basketball Team won the Scottish Open Girls B Cup competition
- The Senior Netball team won the Dundee Schools' Senior Netball Tournament and reached the final of the Scottish Cup

- Graham Cameron broke five Scottish Archery records, and was placed 7th in the British under 18 and 4th in the Junior Euronations Championships
- The Grove team was first in the Dundee University Technology and Engineering Challenge
- Netan Dogra, and Mhairi Murdoch reached the finals of the Oxford Union Senior debating competition. Claire Richardson, Ashley Smith, James Anthony Kenny Nicol reached the finals of The National Competition for Young Debaters held in Birmingham University. Margaret Nicoll and Clare Richardson were runners-up in the Chartered Institute of Bankers/Courier Junior Debating Competition.
- Hannah McLeod, Rhona Livingstone and Lizzie Findlay reached the finals of the Scottish Schools Team Tennis Championships
- Chris Lavery was selected to represent Scotland in the British Schools International Athletics Match in Dublin.
- The Midlands under 15 Tennis championship was won by Hannah McLeod and Lizzie Findlay
- Ross McIntosh and Scott Blythe were selected for the Scottish under 14 Ice Hockey squad. Sam McCluskey was selected for the under 16 squad.
- Graham Yuile and Jillian McAvoy reached the final of the Dundee schools 'Male and Female Vocalist of the Year' competition'
- Amy Strachan and Hellen McLeod reached the final of the Dundee schools 'Young Musician of the Year' competition
- In the Dundee & Angus Schools' Badminton Competition Neil Cuthbert was runner-up in the under 19 boys' singles and Lizzie Finlay was runner-up in the under 16 girls' singles. Stephen Devlin & Mo Chatterji won the boys' doubles. Lizzie Findlay & Rebecca Hodge were runners-up in girls' doubles and Stephen Devlin & Lizzie Findlay were runners-up in the mixed doubles.
- The boys' under 18 hockey team reached the semi-final of the Scottish Schools' 18 Competition and the semi-final of the Scottish Youth Hockey Board Indoor Tournament. The boys' under 16 hockey team reached the final of the Scottish Youth under 18 Reserve Cup. The senior boys' hockey team reached the semi-final of the Scottish Youth under 18 Cup
- Nine pupils won Merit Certificates in the 'Great Minds' Poetry Competition: their poems were published in the 'Great Minds Anthology'. Joanne Findlay won a gold award in a competition organised by the Dundee Youth group "Kenart". Joanne's poem was published in a poetry booklet sold in aid of the Tsunami appeal.
- In the Midlands Swimming Championship Ashley Williamson won the girls 100m freestyle; the girls relay team picked up a silver medal. In the Tayside Schools Swimming Championships Grove pupils won 5 gold, 2 silver and 3 bronze medals. Five Grove swimmers reached the finals in the Scottish Schools' Swimming Championships. Laura Herd was 3rd in the Girls' Breast Stroke. In the Scottish Schools Team Swimming Championships the S1 girl's team won bronze medals in the 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay and the 4 x 50m Medley.
- Mhairi Murdoch was selected by Global Vision International as a volunteer to work in Guatemala
- Zen Butt attended the NASA summer school in Glasgow
- Craig Johnston won the 13-16 age group gold medal in the Scottish heats of the 40hp powerboats.

Harris Academy

- Harris Young Enterprise Company represented Tayside in the national finals in Edinburgh. Company profits of over £200 donated to Maggie's Centre
- Harris under 15 Rugby team reached final of annual tournament in Orléans
- Under 14 football team swept all before them winning Dundee cup, Dundee league and Scottish shield

- Girls football team won the national Coca Cola 7's football final at Hampden Park
- Elizabeth McLeish represented Scotland at cross country running
- Lucie Cook selected for Scotland Under 15 football team
- Pamela Johnstone selected for Scottish Commonwealth Games team in water polo
- Ross Clark selected for Scottish Commonwealth games swimming team
- Alisdair Chisholm won Macintosh Patrick Award for art
- Ross Bell won the individual scratch prize in the Dunhill Links golf tournament
- The Harris team won the Scottish heat of the Jaguar Formula 1 challenge and were runners up in the National finals in Birmingham

Hillside Primary School

- The "Maths Bags" scheme was introduced for P2 pupils following the "Book Bags" success for P1 pupils. Parents and a Classroom Assistant run the lending service
- The Active Schools initiative, in conjunction with N2Sport, has led to a number of opportunities being available for pupils. Activities include daily physical activity, super buddies and playground games and karate
- Another successful open afternoon and evening was held when particular school developments were "showcased" – Scottish Heinemann Maths, Autism Provision and Learning in the Community, TASK Team (Thinking Skills Group), MLPS – French and German, as well as a range of extra-curricular activities i.e., Chess, Heroes' Club, Basketball and the Secret Garden Project
- The PTA fund-raising events – Summer Fayre, Bingo Night and Santa Drive etc – provided new curtains throughout the school halls in addition to a superb new sound system
- The enterprise project this year saw P7 pupils produce and sell 156 school calendars

Jessie Porter Nursery School

- Fund Raisers - We have had a number of successful fund raisers through Sponsored Events such as Sponsored Obstacle Course and Sponsored Sing, raising over £1500. The proceeds have been used to purchase a variety of resources for the school.
- ICT Masterclass - One member of staff has completed both the Masterclass and Advanced Masterclass programme. Another staff member has completed "Masterclass" and is currently taking part in "Advances Masterclass". Their enhanced knowledge will be cascaded to other staff members and this will ultimately benefit the children's IT skills.
- Joint Working - We have been working closely with many agencies in the Kirkton area under the banner of "Working Together for families in Kirkton. This involves meeting with representatives from Social Work, Health, Education and Communities in order to provide a more joined up service to families in the area.
- Youth Sports Development Team - We have had weekly input from a member of the YSP which has been fun for the children and a very useful staff development activity for staff

Kingspark School

- *Sensitive Stories*: Work continued with PAMIS (Profound & Multiple Impairment Service) in developing Sensitive Stories with two pupils in the school. The topics were Menstruation and Respite. The purpose was to help the pupils understand these sensitive issues in a way that was appropriate to their cognitive ability. In developing their own stories their understanding was at a personal level and their anxiety was reduced. This was short-listed at the Achievement Awards' Ceremony in September, overcoming "Barriers to Learning".

- *Scottish Dance*: A group of our most disabled pupils took part in the Scottish Dance Festival in Perth last year. This was so successful that they were invited back again this year and in intervening period they have also participated in local events involving mainstream schools.
- *"A Fishy Tale": Animated Film Project*: Last Session we liaised with one of the City's Cultural Co-ordinators, to bring a Scottish Arts Council "Culture in Scottish Schools" project entitled "Dundee is Animando", to Kingspark. The project involved Post-16 pupils working with professional animators and cross curricular subject staff to produce a short animated film. The film features a fish called Sunny, who overcomes prejudice and ignorance to achieve his lifetime ambition. The project culminated in a "Film Premiere" event at the DCA in June 2005 and was short-listed for the Education Department's "Focus on Achievement" Awards in the "Improving the Quality of Learning and Teaching" category. The film has been produced as a DVD and is currently being considered for submission to both national and international film festivals.
- *African Residency Project*: In June 2005, under the auspices of the "Culture in Scottish Schools Project", we organised a very successful African Residency week. Three African drummers/artists worked with staff and pupils from every department to practice drumming and drama skills, produce stunning African batik work. Under the exuberant direction of the Nigerian project leader, pupils rehearsed and enacted a traditional African dramatization of the Yoruba Creation Story. The week ended with a dramatic musical and artistic production, with pupils and staff dressed in colourful tribal robes, to an invited audience of parents and other VIPs, showcasing the African drumming, dramatic and artistic skills that the pupils had learned during the interactive workshop sessions during the week. Pupils were also involved in the production of a short radio programme about the African Residency event, for "Radio Waves", the Dundee schools radio service.

Kirkton Nursery School

- The "Playdays" support group for children with additional support needs and their parents ran three very successful programmes of activities
- One member of staff completed the Advanced Masterclass in ICT and two staff members completed the Masterclass in ICT
- The staff in the Yellow Room piloted the use of the Promethean whiteboard and the SMART board in nursery. The children's successes using this equipment has been celebrated in a case study on the intranet
- The work of the nursery in supporting 20 children with additional support needs was praised highly by HMIE in a recent inspection. The nursery has been visited in early March by further HMIE, keen to gather information on good practice

Law Nursery School

- One member of staff successfully completed the Early Years Masterclass in ICT
- Our nursery teacher was part of the Early Years Cluster Group team which won an award at the 'Focus on Achievement Awards' in the category of 'Improving the Quality of Learning and Teaching'
- A very successful book fair was held
- Our parent and toddler group was recently relaunched

Lawside Academy

- Winner of Services to Education in Dundee Award - Brother Douglas (second time school has been nominated and won)
- Nominated for ethos award and won it year before
- Diana Awards for a number of S5/6
- Investors in People Award for all

- Success at debating competition
- Amy Stott S5 pupil won place at NASA Space School
- Citizenship activities
- Ran citizenship conference for S2 pupils
- "The Learning Game" for S1/S2
- All staff participation in Health Promoting School
- Proposal to look at nurturing school

Lochee Primary School

- The parents group, Lochee Primary School Partnership organised events such as a ceilidh, beetle drive, dress as you please day, discos and participated in the Menzieshill High School Festival
- Health Promotion was a major topic. The Active Schools Coordinator organised a variety of sporting and healthy events in and out of school. The Healthy Muncher tuck trolley is a great success, encouraging children to choose healthy options from a creative variety of snacks. An award system started which gives deserving children a tuck shop voucher. The school shared an award for Health Promotion
- A variety of sports and activities were promoted throughout the session including basketball, football, athletics, skipping, dance, martial arts and circus skills
- A very successful Health Week saw some of the above activities introduced as well as cycling, road safety, peer massage inter-school athletics and a busy Health Fayre
- An Internet Cafe was held on parents' evenings. This catered for children of all ages whilst parent and teacher met. This success is likely to be a feature of future parents' evenings
- Primary 7 had a wonderful time at Teen Ranch where they were very active and had a harmonious time. They deserve great credit for raising a large amount of money to offset the cost of the trip. They worked well together
- A large number of staff are now trained to use the interactive whiteboard and this technology will soon be common in all classes

Longhaugh Nursery School

- Promotion of community links - children delivered trays of fruit to the 50+ Lunch Club (Whitfield Activity Complex) and entertained the members with Christmas songs
- Environment - Camperdown Rangers talked to children about mini-beasts to be found in leaf litter. There was a lot of interest which resulted in the Rangers helping us to construct a logpile to attract wildlife
- Children have participated in visits to DCA cinema (Laura's Star), Sensations (Roborealm) and Little Gymtime at Douglas Sport's Centre
- Fundraising - children took part in a sponsored sing. A range of software was purchased with the proceeds
- One member of staff successfully completed the Advanced ICT Masterclass for Early Years

Longhaugh Primary School

- Fund raising for Children's Ward at Ninewells Hospital of £670 to be put towards the cost of an infusion pump
- Local senior citizens were invited into the school as guests at our Christmas concert. On leaving, pupils presented them with bags of groceries donated by pupils across the school
- P4/5 designed the Longhaugh Tartan, with assistance from Brian Wilton of the Scottish Tartans Authority, as part of their enterprise work. This project was short

listed for the Lord Provost's Award for Citizenship at the Focus of Achievement Awards

- P7 pupils worked with artist Mary Ann Chatterton to produce wall plaques on a Fair Trade theme for the dining hall
- Children continue to participate in musical and sporting activities

Macalpine Primary School

- Baldragon Academy Enterprise Challenge
- Wave 102 Carol Competition for Dundee Schools
- Football League
- Road Relay Champion Dundee Schools
- Anniversary Concert - £7500 raised in 50th anniversary year – 2 concerts and a fun day for the local community
- Successful bid for ASL funds to create a CAMA (Creative Alternatives at Macalpine for All) room at Macalpine
- Pupil Council raised £2000 to build a house for needy Rwandan family as part of their Citizenship projects
- Member of staff gained SQH
- Member of staff gained Diploma in Support for Learning
- Five members of staff gained Keys to Management
- Member of staff gained H N C in Office Administration

Menziesshill High School

- We are the first school in Dundee to achieve a bronze award from Scotland's Health at Work
- The work done by Robert Thompson in developing our xl clubs was recognised by the Prince's Trust when he was awarded Volunteer of the Year in Scotland.
- Our charities group raised over £1800 for CHAS
- We hosted 16 soccer players from Carrol, Iowa and a coaching team of parents and staff
- Phillipa Goldstraw, Gillian Smith and Fiona McArra took part in a "Sounds for Silents" project that involved them in composing and performing music for a silent film
- Scott Smith and Michael Crabb produced a DVD that explained the school's aims and values that was used at assemblies

Menziesshill Nursery School

- Fun Day 200 May 2005: parents/carers/friends came together to raise £800 for a very successful school trip to Edinburgh Zoo
- Community Gala Day June 2005: held in Menziesshill High School as part of solid cluster arrangement, raised a substantial sum of money for local projects
- Garden Party June 2005: to celebrate the retirement of Head Teacher - Avon Bartlett & Teacher Isabel Codd became a community event with many friends, parents, colleagues and staff coming together to celebrate the life of the school
- Award Winning Garden and Outdoor Play Space: Nursery erected an outdoor play room/bird garden with the Grounds for Learning Team
- Tesco Computer for Schools Award: 1PC, Software, digital camera and microscope were awarded to the school after a marvellous effort by parents and staff
- Tesco Sports for School: Various sport equipment was chosen by parents and children after we collected an impressive number of vouchers
- Health Promoting School: Focus on achievement nomination: included Sport Development, Kiddie Kickers Project, Class Moves, Tooth brushing, Healthy Eating Project and Brain Gym

- Care Commission Report 2005: Excellent Report with no requirements

Mid Craigie Primary School

- A choir of P7 pupils won the Dundee Wave 102 carol competition. Prize - £100 in vouchers and a school disco
- P7 performed "The Bumblesnouts Save the World" for parents and pupils
- Enterprise
- P7 ran a card making business at Christmas to raise money for their Dalguise trip
- P6 organised the school sports day
- P 5 children reorganised the school library as part of their enterprise project. They participated in an Enterprise conference in Dundee, setting up a display and answering delegates' questions and also had a trip to DC Thomson's to collect books for the school library

Mill of Mains Primary School

- Our Primary 6 pupils took part in a Robolab challenge in school with their parents. This proved to be a very worthwhile experience. The winning pupils went on to win the East Dundee City Challenge
- In June Beth Wales won the Scottish Water Safety poster competition. Her poster is now displayed around school
- Our football team was again very successful, winning the Neil Glen Memorial Trophy, The Thompson Cup and the Forbes Shield
- In the summer term our senior pupils worked with local artist Liz Rowley to create three beautiful stained glass windows for our covered walkway

Morgan Academy

- Yasmeen Ahmad S6 won the Scottish heat of the Axios 'A' Star Award for her Advanced Higher Computing Mark – the highest in Scotland. Yasmeen then went on to win the UK Final in London.
- Our Charities Group won the Lord Provost Award for Citizenship in the Dundee Focus on Achievement Awards
- Leanne Bell won the Female Vocalist of the Year Award in the Dundee Focus on Achievement Awards.
- Sports internationalists are – Ross Stott selected for U18 Boys Scottish Hockey Team; Becky Ward selected for the U18 Girls Scottish Hockey Squad; Fiona McNicoll represented Scotland U17/U19; Rachel McLean is World Champion Highland Dancer at U15 level; Jenna McGurk won the individual cheerleading competition in the UK Championships at the senior age level
- Yasir Ahmad, Alan Anderson and Kirsty Taylor in S4 recently won the Claverhouse Powerpoint Challenge in Modern Studies
- Three senior pupils, Melanie Doig, Gavin Nicol and Jennifer Bennet have gained substantive roles in Dundee Schools' Music Theatre productions in 2006
- Morgan Academy hosted a very successful Careers Convention for Grove Academy, Craigie High School and Morgan Academy pupils
- We have an effective Peer Education Programme recognised for its innovative and successful approach to health education and primary/secondary liaison
- The School has held a number of very successful shows this year – a school Pantomime – Cinderella, a Fashion Show for Charity and a pupils Rock and Pop Award

Mossgiel Primary School

- Gold Award for being a Health Promoting School
- A 'Munchies Breakfast Club' was established for pupils

- We received a Bronze Award for being an Eco School
- Two staff have achieved their Prometheon Trainer Award
- Mossiel Nurture Group was established
- Pupils raised over £700 for charity by skipping during our Health Week
- P4/5 pupils as part of an Enterprise project Tickled Pink raised £300

Newfields Primary School

- Football team played in national 7-a-side finals and regional 6-a-side final
- Gymnastics club entered local competition and won gold award at level 1
- Basketball club took part in basketball festival
- P6 boys rugby team were part of tour to twin city of Orléans

Our Lady's Primary School

- Health Promoting School Bronze Award
- Very successful Family Health Week in March
- £2000 raised through various activities including aerobathon and other health related ideas - money sent to SCIAF to support projects in developing countries
- two P7 pupils involved in making of a promotional DVD to be used nationally by CAFOD and SCIAF
- a very successful basketball squad invited to play in inter-district festival and competed very well
- p7 hosted "World's Biggest Coffee Morning" - raised £550 for Macmillan Cancer Research
- successful bid for funds for Playground Pals - playground equipment bought for SEN pupils to allow happier, healthier playtimes
- successful KNEX challenge with winners participating in area finals
- P7 enterprise project - planned, prepared, organised and hosted Christmas Fayre for families and friends. Funds raised reduced price of residential week at Glenshee
- Excellent P6 visit to Scottish Parliament hosted by local MSP

Park Place Nursery School

- Grant from Awards for All to develop the Nursery External Physical Play Area
- Grant from Home Reading Initiative to develop a lending library with particular support for bilingual families
- Parent's Group very successfully started a weekly session for mothers and pre 3 years children
- ICT Coordinator completed Early Years Advanced Masterclass.
- The Scottish Evening and the Women's International Evening were exceptionally well attended and very successful.
- Charities such as 'Operation Christmas Child', the Tsunami appeal and the Big Healthy Breakfast (Cancer Research) were well supported and raised an excellent amount for all three charities.
- World Book Day saw a week of on going story telling and in many different languages.
- A Learning Together in Dundee joint project with Harris Cluster Early Years Group throughout the session culminated in a 'Transition Day' with all the pre school nursery children, the Primary one children and their 'buddies' from Primary 6.
- The Harris Cluster Early Years Group won the Learning and Teaching Award at Dundee City Council's Focus on Achievement Awards. (September 2005)

Park Place Primary School

- Caitlin Davidson won the Director of Education's Christmas Card competition
- Nursery/P1 Transition - Harris Early Years Cluster won Focus on Achievement Award

Rosebank Primary School

- A group of P.7 pupils gave a presentation at 'Tayside Enterprise in Education Conference' attended by representatives from across Scotland. Using 'Textease Presenter' they described the team-building activities they had undertaken with P.5 using 'Apodo' materials
- Atia Tasfiah P.5 and Fraser-John McKay P.2 won the 'BIN-IT' poster competition run by Better Neighbourhood Resources. The winning entries will be printed and distributed to local households to encourage a cleaner environment
- A group of P.7 pupils teamed up with S6 'buddies' from Harris for a dramatic presentation as part of the 'The Children's Charter Enterprise Challenge' at the Shore
- The new Rosebank Primary School Library opened after a huge co-operative effort involving support and fund-raising by parents, pupils, staff, Mrs Foley, Quality Improvement Officer and EDS Library Services

St Clement's Primary School

- Shortlisted for the Focus on Achievement Awards - Improving Learning and Teaching
- Christmas productions over two evenings both sell outs P1-3 "It's a Party" & P4-7 "Puss in Boots"
- Fundraising - £1250 for the Asian Earthquake Appeal, £1000 for the Holy Childhood, £1700 for Maggies Centre
- Hosted "Spring into Science", Traditional Scottish Music Workshop, and Goethe Institute German Concert
- Won £5000 grant for new playground benches and planters
- Football team won the Rock Cup

St Columba's Primary School

- A group of children from P1 – P5 accompanied several staff members and provided a short Carol Service for elderly patients at Ashludie Hospital
- Primary 7 pupils took part in a Forensic Mystery Workshop at Sensation Science Centre
- St Columba's football team were winners of the Banks Trophy
- Several pupils took part and were awarded medals at the Dundee Schools Gymnastic Competition

St Fergus Primary School

- Bronze Eco Schools award achieved
- P7 worked with Quality Contact on murals and stained glass windows which have transformed the upper school playground
- continued development of ICT facilities in the school with the purchase and use of additional interactive whiteboards and projectors
- healthy activity in school greatly enhanced by working with our Active Primary Co-ordinator on Daily Physical Activity and on playground games
- community partnerships continued to develop, including another very successful Ardler Fun Day held in the school playgrounds

St John's RC High School

- Our young people were very generous in their support for Charities: MacMillan Nurses (£1500); Tsunami Appeal (£1100); Local families (£600); backpacks for Liberia; Shoebox Christmas Appeal for Rumania; SCIAF (35,000); Lourdes Pilgrimage Trust (3500)
- Improving Pupil Achievement programme included college courses in Psychology, Law and Business Administration, Sports Coaching, Health and Beauty, Music Production, ECDL; work experience in Law firms, Primary schools, local nurseries and Ninewells Hospital, Young Enterprise and Year Book
- Simon Constantino visited the Houston Space Camp through the NASA Challenge and Stephanie Gardner went to the NAS Challenge summer event at Glasgow University
- Our Jaguar F1 Challenge team (Neil Buckney, Ross Lesslie, Alex Vasiev, Gurdjit Siddhu, Duncan Thow) won the Scottish Final and went to the UK final in London
- 4 of the former S6 (Stephen Flavahan, Ashley McCafferty, Lorin Bell and Vanessa Gray) went to India on voluntary service through Overseas Link Exchange
- Our XI Club successfully ran a number of enterprise activities, provided services to the school, including the running of the Battle of the Bands, and had a successful residential experience
- Karly and Christie Robertson came 1st and 4th in the British Junior Figure Skating Championships
- Stuart Halliday (S1) was chosen to represent Scotland in the Home Countries Table Tennis Championships and is now involved with the Scottish Seniors Development Squad
- Joseph Sloan (S5) won the Dundee Instrumentalist of the Year Award and Ross Lesslie won the Vocalist of the Year
- In the United Kingdom Mathematics Challenge 6 pupils won gold certificates, 15 gained certificates at intermediate level and 27 gained certificates at junior level.
- Marc Benedictus represented our Chef's Club, being the youngest entrant in the Future Chefs' Competition
- In June 2005, a party of 40 visited Florence, Pisa, the Amalfi Coast, Capri, Vesuvius, Venice and Rome, while Sixth Year had their final excursion to Loch Morlich

St Joseph's Primary School

- P7 class were winners in the "Their Past, Our Future" competition. Through developing part of the schools website with work from their topic study of World War II. Primary seven won a trip to the Battlefields of Northern France. The children gained so much from this chance of a lifetime which was thoroughly enjoyed by all participants
- Our level 1 gymnastics team won bronze in the Dundee Schools' Gymnastics competition
- A team from P7 came in third position in the Robolab challenge
- Primaries 4 -7 staged a production of Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat. It was extremely successful selling out at every performance

St Luke's and St Matthew's Primary School

- Every pupil planted a daffodil bulb in front of school helped by the Rangers and Parks Department.
- Pupils delivered over 20 food parcels to the elderly at Longhaugh Sheltered Housing complex.
- Primary 7 pupils took part in the Robolab Challenge for Winners at Craigie High School.

- Whole school attended Starlight Express at the Playhouse in Edinburgh for our annual theatre trip.
- Donations to Deaf Blind Scotland, Tsunami Disaster Appeal & Missio totalling £2218.
- Very positive HMIe Report.

St Margaret's Primary School

- St Margaret's P.S. marked its Fiftieth anniversary year by celebrations including a 50th Anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving; a 50th Exhibition/Fashion Show; an Open Day celebrating news items and events through the decades and a concert of music from the different eras. A balloon launch was also organised to mark the special occasion.
- The Pupil Council was involved in inviting present and past parents, pupils and staff.
- The Pupils also planned enterprise events including souvenir "Beanie Bears" sales and charity activities.

St Mary's Primary School

- Basketball Festivals, Dance, Jazzercise, Swimming, Cross Country Running, Potted Sports, Football, Netball and Tae Kwan Do
- We have joined hundreds of other pupils at the Bells Sports Centre on St Andrew's Day for Scottish Country Dancing
- We have joined with Ancrum Road and Lochee primary to raise funds for Cancer research by Carol Singing at Tesco
- We have gone bulb planting in the garden area at the end of Gray's Lane
- We have a Pupil Council that makes suggestions to improve our school
- Our parents have joined together with the staff to organise a Parents' Forum, a Bingo Night to raise funds for our Christmas parties, a Fun Day in the summer and help get a controlled crossing for the High Street!
- We have worked with our Parish to prepare our children for receiving the Sacraments
- We have achieved a very successful outcome to our Nursery Inspection by HMI Inspectors and the Care Commission
- We joined in the celebrations of the 60th Anniversary of VE Day at the Wellgate Centre
- With our parents and families we have fundraised to support a number of causes: Holy Childhood Society (Missio) £800.00, Cancer Research £157.23, Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund £1000.00, UNICEF £500.00, RNLI £100.00, Maggie's Centre, Ninewells £250.00

St Ninian's Primary School

- 1st place – Dundee Flower Show & Food Festival
- 1st place in Safetaysiders
- Winners of Lord Provost Award for Citizenship at Focus on Achievement Awards
- Dundee Energy Advice Centre – 3 winners in calendar competition
- Two Junior Road Safety Officers
- Coffee Morning held in September for Comic Relief raised £177.75
- Primary 5 attended Falkland Palace
- School Choir sang Christmas Carols at the Jean Drummond Centre, Royal Victoria Hospital, Wellburn Home and the Lawside Home for Retired Sisters
- Participated in Scottish Country Dance Festival
- Winners – Scottish Schools Triathlon Championships (age 9-10)
- School winner of EIS "Show Racism the Red Card" Competition
- Dundee Burns Club - 1st place – Recitation (P6/7), 1st place – Music (P4/5)
- Donations to Charity £2,410.61

SS Peter & Paul Primary School

- A team of four pupils attended a Robolab competition day at Morgan Academy where schools from across the city were invited to program Robolab around a circuit. The team from Ss Peter & Paul's was very successful but unfortunately they were narrowly squeezed into second place
- P6/7 again visited the residents of the Lawton Road Centre to entertain them with Christmas carols
- Our P7 pupils had a very successful visit to the Compass Christian Centre in October 2004 and this was followed by our current P7 pupils visiting the centre in September of 2005
- World Book Day proved to be a great success and pupils came in dressed as their favourite story character
- The Breakfast club is still proving to be very popular with our pupils
- The school raised £1770 for MISSIO last year

St Pius X Primary

- Very high attainment by our pupils in Reading, Writing and Maths
- Successful introduction of a Health Promoting Tuckshop
- Introduction of 'Education for Love', to establish a stronger programme in Relationships and Moral Education

St Saviour's High School

- Buddying Scheme - S1/2 pupils were involved with this project at lunchtimes in June. They made contact with world leaders, attending the G8 Summit at Gleneagles, to remind them of their promise that all children will be able to attend school by 2015
- Senior pupils continue to organise coffee mornings for charity and promote Fairtrade goods. They have also helped facilitate Open Voice events in our primary feeders
- A group of S4 pupils, as part of an enterprise initiative, run a "Stationery Block" shop. This involves them in stock control, accounting, advertising etc
- A member of the S4 XL Club won the XL Clubs Achiever of the Year in Scotland. She will take part in the Great Britain final early in 2006
- The Debating Group has reformed and is taking part in competitions

St Vincent's Primary School

- School choir reached the final of Wave 102 Christmas Carol Competition for the second year running
- School pantomime, run as an enterprise project by P6 and P7, raised over £900 and was thoroughly enjoyed and very well attended. The money raised helps to fund next year's residential trip
- P7 enterprise project raised £250 for their end of term trip
- Children raised over £500 before Christmas for SCIAF
- Last year's P4 was short listed for the Citizenship Award in Focus on Achievements Awards
- Robbie Lynch won a set of football strips from Tesco for the school by designing a strip
- Celebrated our school being opened for 50 years with a special Mass, celebrated by Bishop Vincent, and a packed school hall

Sidlaw View Primary School

- Our enterprise group produced a CD of all of the children singing and entered the project into the Sunday Herald Financial Education Awards. We came out on top and earned £5000 for the school

- The 'Purple Room', a behavioural support facility won the Removing Barriers to Learning Award at the citywide Focus on Achievement event
- We opened our family learning centre/computer suite
- The children held a sponsored sing and raised £500 which they gave to our local chaplain to support her recent trip to Sierra Leone

Wallacetown Nursery School

- Nursery implemented a range of re-cycling initiatives and achieved a Bronze Eco-School Award
- Staff have taken part in a National Project and working group, and achieved a range a certificated courses including Chartered Teaching Modules and ICT Advanced Masterclass
- Very well attended community events including Burns Supper, Fun Day and Christmas Nativity
- Distribution of old age pensioners Christmas parcels in the local community
- In collaboration with the Bilingual School Support Service the production of video entitled 'Learn Through Play the Bilingual Way' to support bilingual parents on entry to Nursery and to support their children's learning at home
- The compilation of "Count me In" bags and a music booklet by Adult Education Worker and Parent's Group to promote mathematical and musical activities with children at home

Whitfield Early Years Centre

- Development of Curriculum for our youngest Children
- Transitions programmes established with other feeder schools
- Carol Service held for residents of local shelter housing

Whitfield Primary School

- Our primary 3 class won the Primary 3 Fairplay Challenge Tournament, with one pupil the outright winner of the Fairplay Trophy Tournament Player Award, for displaying skill and talent as well as demonstrating excellent sportmanship
- Our primary 1, 2 and 3 classes pioneered the use of the school's internet radio network, Radiowaves, broadcasting their Scots poetry recitations across the airwaves "with gusto"!
- Primary 5 pupils raise £980 from the Christmas Fayre which they organised and managed, £200 of which they donated to the Tsunami appeal
- Primaries 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5/6 had winners in the Burns Federation Competition for Excellence in Recitation of a Scots/Burns poem, while Primary 5 had winners in both the Burns Federation Art and Burns Project categories

Woodlea Children's Centre

- Services for children aged 2 have been developed. Up to 60 2 year old children have access to 2 x 2.5 hour sessions a week.
- A fun games day in June raised £1300 towards a new sensory room which is to be created in the centre.
- Several groups for parents have been established. These include PALS, crafts, bingo and relaxation and massage.
- Another session of our successful parent and child group, with the continued support of our Sure Start Health Visitor, has been set up.

CONCLUSION

This report highlights some of the key developments and achievements of Dundee City Council's Education Department between July 2004 and December 2005.

In providing a concise report it is, of course, impossible to include all of the many initiatives which have been undertaken and are still being developed. The report should, however, illustrate the range and variety of our activities.

We hope that you have found this report enjoyable and informative. Also hope that this report demonstrates our commitment to continuous improvement in providing a high quality education service for the whole community.

If you wish to receive further information, or to comment on this report, please contact:

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