

School Improvement Plan for Literacy

• School Strengths

- Doolin NS is an open inclusive school for children of all abilities.
- Our children have good word recognition and word attack skills.
- Children with SEN are working to their potential
- There is good communication between the home and the school.
- The class library is used by all.
- Our parents are very supportive of our mission.
- Middle & Senior Classes use Reading Pack Books.
- Visits to local Library are organized during the year.
- Children participate in the Setanta Book Club which is organized by the L.S. teacher.
- Willingness of staff to engage in CPD.
- Standardised testing indicates a high level of attainment overall.

Areas for Development:

- Our children's range of oral language needs to be extended and enriched.
- We want to improve our children's ability to understand what they read.
- There is an identified group of children who need to be helped to develop a love of reading.

These findings are based on standardised tests, staff surveys, parent surveys and pupil surveys carried out over the 2013/14 school year.

We have decided to prioritise the following areas of development:

- Reading comprehension skills.

- Oral language competence
- Making reading more enjoyable for all our children.
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- **Target:**
- An increase of 2% percentile ranking in **Comprehension** in standardised testing for randomly selected children per year for the next three years.
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- **Action:**
- Up-skilling staff through in-service training and dissemination of teaching skills and strategies through staff meetings.
- Use of task-specific reading material i.e. Read At Home Series for 4th Class (trial basis) and Prim-Ed Comprehension Boxes in senior classes. In-class support for all Classes using the expertise of our Learning Support department.
- Increased use of Cloze Procedure exercises.
- Using scholastic Literacy Skills Vocabulary Books on a regular basis.
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- **Evaluation:**
- Through analysis of standardised test results.
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- **Target:**
- An increase of 2% percentile ranking in **Vocabulary** in standardised testing for randomly selected children per year for the next three years.
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- **Action:**
- Up-skilling staff through in-service training and dissemination of teaching skills and strategies through staff meetings.
- Promote more class debate and discussion for topics of interest to the children.
- Increased emphasis on presentation of project work by children to class mates.
- Use of educational technology and vocabulary-related applications such as 'Free Rice'.
- Teachers read to their children more.
- Use of book clubs for discussions and debate with ongoing review and development of school library stocks to maintain interest and stimulate desire to read.
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- **Evaluation:**
- Through analysis of standardised test results.
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- **Target:**
- Making reading more enjoyable for all children.
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- **Action:**
- Teachers read more to their children.
- Promoting personal reading time in class.
- Use of book clubs.
- Advising parents on appropriate reading material.
- Investment in and use of class novels.
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- **Evaluation:**
- Run pupils' reading survey and compare with trends from previous year.