

CAMPBELTOWN GRAMMAR SCHOOL: ACHIEVEMENT REPORT 2011

1. SUMMARY

A report on the performance of all Argyll and Bute pupils in the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) examination results was presented to the Executive on the 29 September 2011.

This report, presented by the Acting Head Teacher, Mr Mike Casey, outlines the major achievements of the school in 2010/11 and includes the SQA examination results for pupils who sat examinations in May/June 2011. The results are based on pre-appeal data.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Area Committee are asked to note the strong performance of pupils and the commitment of staff in their examination successes and in the wider aspects of achievement across the school.

3. DETAILS

The details are included in the attached report from the school.

4. IMPLICATIONS

Policy:	None
Financial:	None
Personnel:	None
Equal Opportunities:	None

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Campbeltown Grammar School

Report on Achievement

Introduction

Session 2010/11 was another year of significant success for Campbeltown Grammar School, with attainment as measured by SQA examination results showing improvement in several areas. In addition, the school's emphasis on providing pupils with a wide range of opportunities for achievement both within and beyond the classroom continued to be very successful.

What we aimed to improve in 2010/11

In 2010/11 we aimed to:

1. Make significant progress towards implementing the "Curriculum for Excellence" with particular reference to:
 - Engagement of staff with the experiences and outcomes, and new forms of and structures for assessment;
 - Development of literacy, numeracy and health and well-being across the curriculum;
 - Continuing engagement with primary colleagues in developing the curriculum from P5 to S3 with emphasis on P7 to S1; and
 - Development of option structures with emphasis on Third Year and the Senior Phase
2. Further develop the policy for self-evaluation through use of a computer package designed to support it (SIRIUS), by a programme of classroom observation throughout the school, by involving subject departments in producing their own standards and quality reports, and by involving pupils and parents in the evaluation of the work of the school;
3. Continuing development of personal learning planning with particular reference to tutor group structures.

By the end of the session, the following had been achieved:-

- staff had further in-service training on the development of “A Curriculum for Excellence” and were becoming familiar with the experiences and outcomes and cross-cutting themes, draft curriculum structures for implementation in Session 2012/13 are being consulted on;
- All staff now use SIRIUS computer programme for self-evaluation; all departments produce their own standards and quality reports, pupils contributed to their work of the school through a number of school surveys, and 25% of parents were surveyed on the work of the school
- the programme of classroom observation, devised in 2009/10 is now implemented.
- the school introduced a programme of tutor groups for all students. The main focus of these groups is to enhance the work on personal learning planning and the tracking and monitoring of pupil performance

In addition to the foregoing, we developed

- expansion of the S3 Outdoor Education course, now available to all S3 pupils on a rotation basis;
- further use of the school’s ICT facilities for digital assessment, in which field the school continues to be a national leader.
- the re-design of part of the top floor of the school into a multi-purpose teaching and learning space for a Curriculum for Excellence. This is a National Pilot, a first of its kind in Scotland. Argyll and Bute Council along with staff and pupils are working directly with Architecture and Design Scotland in this innovative project

Attainment

Maximising pupils' attainment continues to be a major aim of the school and test and examination data are regularly analysed to help find areas for improvement.

For Information:

Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) levels:	
Level 7	CSYS at A-C; Advanced Higher at A-C
Level 6	Higher at A-C
Level 5	Intermediate 2 at A-C; Standard Grade at 1-2
Level 4	Intermediate 1 at A-C; Standard Grade at 3-4
Level 3	Access 3 Cluster; Standard Grade at 5-6

SQA results 2010 and 2011

The percentages of pupils gaining National Qualifications at the identified levels were as follows:-

In S4

	2010				2011		
	CGS	Argyll & Bute	Scotland		CGS	Argyll & Bute	Scotland
	%	%	%		%	%	%
5+ Level 3	94	94	88		96	92	92
5+ Level 4	83	82	73		84	78	78
5+ Level 5	33	38	33		41	36	35

The percentage of S4 pupils gaining 5+ awards at Level 3 and 4 was in line with the Authority averages in 2010 and above the National average in the same year. For 2011 the improving picture continued with the school now showing % rates above the Authority and National rates at all three levels. The most pleasing increase was the 8% increase at 5+ Level 5.

In S5

2010				2011			
	CGS	Argyll & Bute	Scotland		CGS	Argyll & Bute	Scotland
	%	%	%		%	%	%
5+ Level 5	53	53	49		53	55	50
1+ Level 6	46	47	43		39	48	44
3+ Level 6	20	23	24		23	26	26
5+ Level 6	5	8	11		10	12	12

At SQA 1+ Level 6 (higher) the overall % rate was disappointing and will be a focus for discussions with Heads of Department. The percentages for 3+ and 5+ Level 6 passes showed improvement but still lag behind the Argyll and Bute and National averages.

While there has been an increase over the 2010 figures in some of the measurements, nevertheless the results are disappointing in comparison to the Authority averages given that the school had been improving performance in recent years. The conversion rate from S4 to S5 still remains an issue.

In S6

2010				2011			
	CGS	Argyll & Bute	Scotland		CGS	Argyll & Bute	Scotland
	%	%	%		%	%	%
5+ Level 5	53	57	50		58	59	53
3+ Level 6	29	34	33		31	36	35
5+ Level 6	15	22	22		21	22	23
1+ Level 7	6	15	12		4	15	15

In S6 the number of pupils studying Advanced Higher (Level 7) remains low and lies well below the Argyll and Bute and National averages.

The percentage of pupils gaining 5+ Level 5, 3+ Level 6, and 5+ Level 6 all showed good signs of improvement and are now more in line with the % rates for the Authority and Scotland.

What did our pupils do when they left school? (Leavers' Destinations)

(Please note: At the time of writing the 2010/11 destinations rates were not available).

Number of pupils leaving school in school year 2009/10 and % with destination as:

	CGS	Argyll & Bute	Scotland
	%	%	%
Total number of leavers 102 (=100%)			
Full-time Higher Education	29	35	36
Full-time Further Education	18	19	27
Training	2	4	5
Employment	34	30	19
Other known	17	12	13
Not known	0	1	1

The number of leavers going in to the various destination categories is not significantly different from those for the authority or for Scotland as a whole. We believe the percentage entering Higher Education is understated, a reflection of the number of pupils leaving to take up employment prior to taking up courses for which they have unconditional acceptances. The lower than average percentage entering Further Education is a reflection of the lower availability of FE course opportunities in the local area.

Other achievements

Pupils have opportunities to gain certification for their wider achievements, recognising that attainment in examinations does not tell the full story. Pupils gained awards in the course of the year from the following bodies:-

- ASDAN awards
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme
- The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music
- Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland
- UK Maths Challenge
- Scottish Maths Challenge
- Mid Argyll Music Festival
- Kintyre Music Festival
- Argyll and Bute Youth Games
- Young Leaders Sports Programme

In addition individual pupils gained a number of National Awards. These and some of the other awards gained are detailed below

Musical Achievements

Kintyre Schools Pipe Band

- Participation by the Kintyre Schools Pipe Band in all five major Novice Juvenile pipe band competitions. The band won the British, European, and World championships at their grade. The drum corps were also judged to be best in Grade at the World Championships.
- Participation of the Kintyre Schools Junior Wind Band in the Mid Argyll and the Kintyre music festivals. The band won the top awards in their class in both festivals.

Mid Argyll Music Festival

- The school's Junior Wind Band won the top awards in their class in the festival.
- CGS Singers won not only their own class but were awarded the Gifford Bowl for gaining the highest mark of the entire week long festival.

Individual success

- Amongst a number of solo winners was an outstanding performance by Sally Chute (Baritone Horn). She presented a mature, confident solo performance and was the trophy winner of the brass section.

Kintyre Music Festival

- the Junior Band performed a very mature programme and carried off the trophy as overall winners of the Band Section, holding off competition from senior bands

Individual success

- Erin Mc Sporrán gained the final performing level Grade 8, and is now studying for her diploma. In addition Erin was awarded Young Musician of the year by the Rotary Club of Campbeltown.

Art and Design awards

Two pupils of the Art department took part in a competition to design a Scottish mascot for the London 2012 Olympics. Amy Shaw, took first place. Amy received her award from Olympian Shirley Webb at the school's Prize-giving in June 2011. The mascot will now appear on all Scottish merchandise celebrating the London Olympics

Pupils were also entered in a competition to design a new logo for the educational equipment manufacturer Coomber. Ashleigh Conner of First year took first place in the UK and won a new sound system for the school hall as well as a top-of-the-range i-Pod for herself. Ashleigh was presented with her award, and the school award, from Mr Tony Benentt, Managing Director of Coomber UK.

Building Design

As we await the development of our new school, Argyll and Bute Council is working in partnership with Architecture and Design Scotland and the Scottish Futures Trust to develop a new teaching area for a Curriculum for Excellence on the top floor of the existing Grammar school. This development is a national Pilot, it is the first of its kind anywhere in Scotland.

Skills for Work

Hot on the heels of the S4 Skills for Work group being awarded a National Enterprise Academy Award in August 2009, our S3 budding entrepreneurs were invited to showcase their social enterprise company at the prestigious SECC Scottish Learning Festival in September 2010. Pupils manned the Argyll and Bute stall, giving an articulate presentation of the social enterprise concept whilst busily selling fairtrade goods to the conference goers. The girls were commended for how well they conducted themselves and the enthusiasm shown for their 'Fair Inspirations' social enterprise project.

With the continued work in this area the school's status as a Fairtrade School has been renewed for another year. The national organisers thanked staff and pupils for their continued support in helping to bring about a better deal for farmers in developing countries and a more just system of international trade.

Sporting Achievements

- The school continued to actively participate in the MAKI league competition in 2010/11 winning the boys football competitions for both S1 – S3 and S4 – S6. The school also took runners-up spot in the MAKI swimming held in Aquilibrium.
- Argyll and Bute Youth Rugby Development day - Thirteen pupils attended the first Argyll and Bute Secondary Schools Rugby Development Day held in Oban. This event was a partnership between Active Schools, Secondary schools, local club volunteers and supported by Scottish Rugby and Glasgow Warriors. (*This event proved to be such a success all boys have continued to play rugby this session representing the school in an Argyll select*).
- In June 2010, over 80 pupils from S1 and S2 travelled to Oban to compete in the Argyll and Bute Secondary Youth Games. The Grammar School had representation in 12 different sports including, athletics, badminton, basketball, dance, girls and boys football hockey and rugby, shinty, softball and swimming. The school took first place in the badminton and boys athletics competitions.
- In a partnership between the Physical Education, Sport & Health Department and Lindsay Owen, Active School Sport Co-ordinator, 14 senior pupils from S5 and S6 completed the Young Sports Leaders course gaining recognised coaching qualifications in rugby, football, hockey, junior jog, and Sports leaders Day Award. The sports leaders have led school sessions in local primary schools, helped at lunchtime and after school clubs, assisted with a number of key roles in the annual CGS and Primary Sports Days, and at the MAKI and Youth games competitions. The Leaders have also assisted with PE classes in the Grammar school.
- Two of the Young Sports Leaders also attended a day-long conference at the University of West of Scotland with workshops on event management to inspire them to organise and deliver Commonwealth Games 2014 themed sports festivals within their own school community
- Dancers performed at the Argyll and Bute Dance festival in Oban. The senior team, 'Foot High', won 2nd place overall and won the trophy for best presentation.

Achievements in Home Economics

In session 2010-11 the Home Economics department offered an even greater variety of activities for students to participate:

Chinese New Year

This involved all S2 pupils working together to research and produce food to celebrate the Chinese New Year linking Chinese cooking methods to healthy eating targets.

Alcohol Awareness Day

In September, Hospitality pupils made lunch and set up a dining room for 30 health professionals and 20 pupils involved in running this event. Pupils also ran the "smoothie bike" and served non alcoholic cocktails on the day.

Royal Environmental Health Food Handlers' Certificate

A successful bid to the Food Standards Agency allowed 80 pupils from S3-S6 Hospitality and Home Economics standard grade classes to sit and achieve the REHIS Food Handlers' Certificate.

Lunch for Michael Russell, MSP and school staff

Lunch was organised by S4 and S5 Hospitality pupils. The brief was to promote local produce, fish, cheese, locally grown vegetables. The dining room was formally set and the food was prepared as a hot and cold buffet. Michael Russell then attended the 'Healthy Me' session next door!

Fairtrade Status

To support and maintain the schools Fairtrade status, the department carried out a number of promotions. As part of Fairtrade Fortnight, S1 and S2 pupils designed and made bunting to promote Fairtrade, which was sent to London to help achieve the world record for the world's longest string of bunting. Classes enjoyed a sensory analysis of different types of chocolate, including Fairtrade, and developed dishes using Fairtrade rice. S1 classes organised and ran Fairtrade coffee mornings, baking items and inviting staff to join them. Home Economics also worked with the RE department in a Health and Well being link studying Mary's Meals

Activities Days in June 2011 witnessed staff running organised patisserie workshops at two levels, a group of pupils baked and ran a coffee morning as part of the Marie Curie Cancer Care 'Blooming Great Tea Party' campaign. The sum of £150 was raised and Fiona Leitch, the area coordinator, came into the school early this current session to thank the pupils who worked on this project.

Outstanding Individual success story

Andrew McClement, of Fifth Year, was Selected for the UK Maths Olympiad Training held at The Queen's College, Oxford. The main purpose of the camp was to offer a week's intensive training in mathematics outside the conventional syllabuses to a few of the ablest young mathematicians in the country (we understand there are only around 20 students invited). It is also used to identify potential members of a squad of students who will continue training throughout the year with a view to representing the UK in one of the future International Mathematical Olympiads.

Andrew was chosen to represent Scotland at the world U16 Chess Olympiad and he finished his Fifth year by being awarded School Dux 2010/11.

Extra Curricular Activities

The school continued to offer a wide range of activities throughout the year. Last session the following clubs were well attended and all students enjoyed this other side of school life through the following examples:

- Lunch games
- Drum and Bass
- Digital Photography
- Canoe
- S1 Science
- Girls Fitness
- Inter-House Competitions
- Computing
- Rugby

Our Partnerships

The school continues to work alongside a number of agencies and groups to deliver additional course and opportunities for the students. The school extends its thanks for the work and support that the agencies offer. Some examples are:

Argyll College for delivering the Skills for Work courses in – Hairdressing, Construction Skills, Rural Skills and Child Care. A total of 28 students were involved.

Skills for Work Unit	Number of Pupils	Number of Modules passed
Intermediate 1 Construction	8	64
Intermediate 1 Childcare	6	21
Intermediate 1 Hairdressing	6	16
Intermediate 1 Rural Skills	8	56

Intermediate 1 Construction

- Construction Crafts: Employability Skills
- Construction Crafts: Plumbing
- Construction Crafts: Half-Brick Walling
- Construction Crafts: Site Carpentry and Bench Joinery
- Construction Crafts: Decorative Painting
- Construction Crafts: Roof Tiling
- Construction Crafts: Practical Copper Pipework
- Construction Crafts: Carpentry and Joinery Techniques

Intermediate 1 Childcare

- Play in Early Education and Childcare
- Child Development
- Working in Early Education and Childcare
- Parenting

Intermediate 1 Hairdressing

- Hairdressing: Employability Skills
- Hairdressing: Salon Awareness
- Hairdressing: Working in the Salon
- Hairdressing: Creativity

Intermediate 1 Rural land Skills

- Estate Maintenance: An Introduction
- Land-based Industries: An Introduction
- Employability Skills for Land-based Industries
- Animal Husbandry: An Introduction
- Animal Handling: An Introduction
- Crop Production: An Introduction
- Soft Landscaping: An Introduction

- Partnership with **SCHOLAR** to deliver additional support for Higher and Advanced Higher students in a number of subjects – French, Chemistry, Physics, Biology and Maths
- **NHS Highland** and other agencies who delivered a highly successful Alcohol Awareness Day to all of S2, S5 and S6 students.
- **Associated Primary Schools** – there continues to be a very successful partnership with our associated primary schools in delivering a highly effective primary-secondary liaison programme, that includes an activity weekend for all Primary 7 pupils.
- **Parent Council and Parent Teacher and Student Association (PTSA)** both offering great support to the work of the school throughout the session.
- **Stuart Ivory Foundation** – the school continues to have a beneficial link with the Foundation to assist in the delivery of financial aspects of applying to College and University courses, and dealing with the aspect of living away from home and money management.

Charitable Works

In 2010 the school withdrew from the Children in Need effort which had been a major feature previously. This was because of the growth in scale of the effort and the negative aspects surrounding this growth. In place of Children in Need the four individual Houses supported their own charities on a smaller but in a more appropriate scale. These were:

Bengullion House	Send My Sister to School
Davaar House	Help for Heroes
Kilbrannan House	Red Cross
Knockscalbert House	Yorkhill Hospital for Sick Children

The school also took part in the annual ‘Jeans for Genes’ Day to raise funds for research into childhood illnesses, raising just over £900.

In December, 120 Christmas parcels were again distributed to elderly and housebound members of the community by students.

Conclusion

The 2010/11 the school year was again a successful one for the pupils and staff of Campbeltown Grammar School. The school continues to strive towards further improvement without losing sight of its vision to ensure that pupils are happy and safe as well as successful.

Michael Casey
Acting Head Teacher