Ballinacarriga National School

School Improvement Plan

**Summary of main strengths as identified in last SSE in January 2013**

* From the evidence gathered, all of the children enjoy reading.
* Teachers provide a wide variety of reading stimuli and material (including paired readers, novels, folens reading packs, book clubs, mobile library, school library, reader’s theatre, use of ICT.
* Most children can retell and sequence a story after reading
* There is on-going professional development for teachers in the area of literacy.

**Summary of main areas requiring improvement as identified in last SSE in January 2013**

* Comprehension is an area of concern in our findings
* The explicit teaching of comprehension strategies is an area we want to explore and plan
* We will do this by up-skilling in ‘The gradual release of responsibility’ and teaching in this manner
* We will devise a checklist for comprehension to monitor our progress.

**Improvement Targets**

* That a comprehensive plan will be put in place for the explicit teaching of specific comprehension strategies at all class levels.
* That all pupils would be able to apply specific comprehension strategies in all areas of literacy and across the curriculum
* A comprehensive assessment checklist be put in place across all class levels.
* A measurable improvement in pupil’s comprehension skills would be evident.

**Required Actions**

**Year 1: January 2013-January 2014**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Action | Person Responsible | Timeframe | Action Complete |
| Review and discuss the curriculum objectives for the teaching of comprehension | All Staff | January 2013 | yes |
| Review complementary programmes such as ‘Building Bridges’ and ‘First Steps’ | All Staff | January 2013 | yes |
| Agree on specific strategies to be implemented on a pilot basis at each class level | All Staff | February 2013 | yes |
| Review existing resources and purchase additional resources. e.g. texts, novels, reading programmes | L/S Teacher | February 2013 | yes |
| Put preliminary plan in place to allow 4-6weeks timeframe for the teaching of each strategy | All Staff | February 2013 ongoing | yes |
| Access CPD aid in relation to teaching strategies and methodologies | Principal | May 2013 | yes |
|  |  |  |  |

**Year 2: January 2014-January 2015**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Action | Person Responsible | Timeframe | Action Complete |
| Review all plans and decisions made in year 1 | All Staff | January 2014 | Yes |
| Begin developing whole school plan for teaching of comprehension strategies | All Staff | January 2014 | Yes |
| Pilot the use of PDST devised comprehension checklist at all class levels/on target children | All Staff |  | Yes |
| Continue the teaching of specific comprehension strategies | All Staff | Ongoing | Yes |
| Begin sharing comprehension strategies with parents through the use of sample worksheets | All Staff | May 2014/December 2014 |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Year 3: January 2015-January 2016**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Action | Person Responsible | Timeframe | Action Complete |
| Review all plans and decisions made in year 1 and year 2 | All Staff | January 2015 |  |
| Complete whole school plan for teaching of comprehension strategies | All Staff | February 2015 |  |
| Adjust and finalise the comprehension checklist and complete at all class levels/ on target children | All Staff |  |  |
| Compare Year 2 and Year 3 results and monitor for improvements in comprehension | All Staff | May 2014/December 2014 |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**SuccessCriteria/ Maeasurable outcomes**

* Is there a comprehensive plan will in place for the explicit teaching of specific comprehension strategies at all class levels?
* Are all pupils able to apply specific comprehension strategies in all areas of literacy and across the curriculum?
* Is there a comprehensive assessment checklist in place across all class levels?
* Is there a measurable improvement in pupil’s comprehension skills?

**Review Dates:**

**January 2014, January 2015, January 2016**