Renfrewshire Council

Let's Achieve Together

Learn, Grow, Flourish



STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

September 2026

This report will inform you of the school's progress and achievements in the last session and let you know about our plans for 2026-2027.

I hope that you find it helpful and informative.

Alan Taylor

OUR VISION, VALUES AND AIMS

St. Benedict's High School is a Roman Catholic community with an ethos centred on and inspired by the love of Christ, expressed through our shared vision, values and aims.

Our Shared Vision – Ora et Labora – Pray and Work

St. Benedict's is a community that fosters ambition for all, where all young people feel safe, valued and included, and where attainment and achievements are recognised and celebrated. It is an inclusive, diverse community where everyone is treated with respect, and the values of the Gospel are alive and evident every day. High aspirations and a commitment to excellence are encouraged for all our young people.

Let's Achieve Together – Learn, Grow, Flourish

We are a community where every young person is nurtured to learn with confidence, grow with purpose, and flourish as individuals. Through strong relationships, high expectations, and collective effort, all learners are empowered to realise their potential and achieve success—together.

Our Values

The values that underpin this vision, and which shape our approaches, relationships, policies and behaviour are:

- **Respect** – Treat others the way you would like to be treated
- **Tolerance** – Understand that everyone is different and accept these differences
- **Love** – Care for others and show kindness towards them
- **Trust** – Have faith and confidence in one another
- **Integrity** – Be honest and stand up for what you believe in

SUCCESSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

St Benedict's continues to be a school which fosters ambition for all of our young people. Our high expectations and standards are reflected in strong levels of attainment and achievement, alongside the wide range of opportunities available to develop skills, confidence, leadership and wider achievement.

Areas of notable success this year include:

Attainment and Positive Destinations

- 100% positive destinations for our latest government-recognised cohort, reflecting our continued focus on supporting every young person into a positive and sustained next step.
- The percentage of S4 pupils attaining seven or more SQA passes was above our Virtual Comparator, demonstrating strong attainment in the Senior Phase.
- The percentage of S6 pupils attaining one, two or three Advanced Highers (SCQF Level 7) was above our Virtual Comparator, reflecting strong attainment at the highest level of National Qualifications offered.
- Increased percentages of young people achieving Third and Fourth Level in Literacy and Numeracy within the Broad General Education.

Employability and Skills

- Strong employability and work experience opportunities through our established partnership with Malcolm Logistics.
  All S3 young people completed the Braveheart Challenge, which gained national recognition, while an S4 pupil successfully progressed from work experience to a full-time appointment with Malcolm Logistics.
- Twenty -two young people completed the DWF Lawyers 'Five Star' Employability Programme, with six securing internships.
- Ten young people successfully completed the Powering Futures Award, with pupils also featuring in its national promotional campaign.
- Seventy-one senior young people achieved Emergency First Aid at Work certification at SCQF Level 6.
- The Success for All programme, in partnership with Renfrewshire Rainbow Buddies, supported twenty-four young people to achieve the SVQ Level 3 Dynamic Youth Award.

Leadership and Service

- Thirty-nine young people achieved the Pope Benedict Caritas Award, recognising their commitment to service and leadership.
- Pupil leadership continues to grow, with 45 young people participating in the MVP programme and Young Leaders of Learning contributing to school improvement.
- Our Young Leaders of Learning achieved a Bronze Award, recognising their contribution to improving learning experiences across the school.
- Pupil leadership activities raised more than £4,000 for charity, demonstrating our strong culture of service and social responsibility.
- The S1–S6 Buddy Programme continues to strengthen relationships and connections across year groups.

STEM and Academic Achievement

- Our STEM transition programme engaged all P6 and P7 young people across our five associated primary schools, alongside opportunities through our Young STEM Leaders programme.
- Twenty-nine young people participated in the Junior Mathematical Challenge, our highest level of participation to date.
- Eleven young people achieved the Young STEM Leader Award at SCQF Level 6, with a further two achieving SCQF Level 5.

Expressive Arts, Sport and Wider Achievement

- Our dance teams achieved 3 first places, 2 second places and 3 third places at the Renfrewshire Schools' Competition, making St Benedict's the top-performing school overall.
- Our school shows provided further opportunities for young people to develop confidence, creativity and performance skills.
- International learning opportunities continued to enrich the experiences of our young people, including visits to Malawi, Switzerland and Vancouver.
- Our Malawi partnership continues to thrive, with nine young people and three staff visiting St Patrick's Seminary and more than £4,500 raised for learning materials.

Belonging and School Community

- Excellent uniform standards have strengthened our sense of belonging, pride and identity as a school community.
- Our Silver Rights Respecting Schools Award recognises our continued commitment to children's rights and pupil voice.
- Our newly introduced Culture Day was a great success, celebrating the increasing diversity of our school community and promoting inclusion, respect and belonging.

HOW SUCCESSFUL HAVE WE BEEN IN IMPROVING OUR SCHOOL?

St Benedict's has made significant progress in taking forward our improvement priorities, improving outcomes for all young people and fostering a strong, inclusive and ambitious learning community. Shared values and high expectations underpin relationships across the school, with positive feedback from young people, staff and parents. Leadership is developed at all levels through teamwork, clear planning and regular review, with staff taking on additional leadership roles across Literacy, Numeracy, Health and Wellbeing and Employability.

Improvement Priority 1: Develop High-Quality Learning, Teaching and Assessment

All staff engaged positively in the school's professional learning programme, resulting in greater consistency in the delivery of our agreed features of an effective lesson, as evidenced through direct observation and pupil feedback. Teachers report increased confidence in moderating work, applying national standards and designing Senior Phase assessments. External verification by the SQA highlighted good practice across faculties.

Improvement Priority 2: Improve Attainment and Achievement in Literacy and Numeracy

Our range of approaches, including the ongoing development of our BGE Literacy and Numeracy Programme, has contributed to improved outcomes for our young people. These improvements are evident at the end of the Broad General Education, with increased numbers achieving Third and Fourth Level, as well as across Senior Phase SCQF results. Literacy attainment at SCQF Levels 4 and 5 has exceeded our Virtual Comparator measures for the past five years, as evidenced through Scottish Government INSIGHT data. This sustained performance demonstrates the positive impact of our continued focus on improving outcomes for all.

Improvement Priority 3: Increase Young People's Readiness to Learn Through Enhanced Health, Wellbeing and Engagement

We have focused on improving young people's readiness to learn by enhancing health, wellbeing and engagement across the school. Through a range of approaches, we have further developed our Catholic ethos through year-group events, retreats and opportunities for prayer and reflection, with more staff actively involved in planning and leading these experiences.

Central to this priority is promoting a strong sense of belonging and support, recognising that young people who feel connected and valued are better placed to engage positively with learning. Good attendance and timekeeping remain key to accessing learning. Our mental wellbeing ratings, gathered through an authority-wide survey, increased overall from the previous year.

Leadership and wider achievement programmes, including Caritas, Sports Leaders, the Buddy System, Captains and Prefects and Peer Educators, actively contribute to wellbeing, engagement and responsibility. S6 Mental Health Ambassadors, S3 Language Ambassadors and Digital Literacy Champions have further strengthened pupil leadership, wellbeing, learning and community engagement. Young people have also achieved national recognition, including 39 Pope Benedict Caritas Awards.

Improvement Priority 4: Improve Employability Skills and Support Positive Destinations

We have placed significant focus on employability, alongside our curriculum offer and existing pupil support, ensuring that all young people develop the skills, confidence and experience needed for positive destinations. **100% of our leavers achieved a positive destination**, reflecting our continued commitment to supporting every young person to progress beyond school.

Innovative initiatives, including the Career Ready programme, Succes for all programme, car valeting course, and partnerships with DWF Lawyers and ROAR, have enhanced practical skills and workplace readiness. The curriculum and wider achievement programmes also provide opportunities for leadership, enterprise and real-world learning, preparing young people for future pathways.

Parental Engagement

Parental engagement remains strong, with increasing attendance and participation at community events, information-sharing meetings and opportunities to engage with learning and school life.

Overall Progress

St Benedict's continues to make strong and sustained progress across all aspects of school life. Our shared vision, high expectations and values-driven approach underpin a culture of ambition, inclusion and wellbeing. Young people benefit from a broad and flexible curriculum, enriched learning experiences and leadership opportunities that develop skills for life, learning and future destinations.

Attainment and achievement continue to improve across stages, with SQA results consistently at or above comparator measures, alongside increasing recognition for young people's wider achievements. Staff remain highly committed to professional learning and collaborative improvement, strengthening the quality of learning, teaching and assessment.

Strong partnerships with families, associated primary schools and industry partners, alongside meaningful pupil voice, enhance engagement, aspiration and contribution to the wider community. Moving forward, the school remains focused on sustaining this progress, further raising attainment and continuing to provide a safe, supportive and ambitious learning environment where all young people can **learn, grow and flourish**.

Pupil Equity Funding

St Benedict's received approximately £130,000 in Pupil Equity Funding to address the poverty-related attainment gap. Funding priorities were identified through self-evaluation and consultation with staff, young people and parents.

Our approach to PEF is underpinned by **equity and inclusion**. We consider the additional barriers experienced by young people affected by poverty alongside factors such as additional support needs, attendance and wellbeing, ensuring that **targeted support removes barriers to learning and enables all young people to achieve their full potential**.

Regular tracking, professional dialogue and target-setting provide clear measures of progress. We continue to refine our use of quantitative data alongside pupil, parent and staff feedback to evaluate the impact of interventions and identify where further action is required to **reduce the attainment gap and improve outcomes for all**.

Literacy and Numeracy

Funding supported the appointment of Principal Teachers for Literacy and Numeracy, who developed targeted programmes and staff guidance. Additional curriculum time supports identified pupils, with progress monitored through the Pupil Equity Team and improving attainment evident within the targeted cohort. This intervention proved success with an increase in the overall percentage of pupils achieving Third and Fourth Level alongside a closing of the poverty related attainment gap

Health and Wellbeing and Attendance

Additional staffing provides targeted wellbeing support and coordinates with external partners. All staff have received nurture training, while targeted pupils receive support to develop skills for life, learning and work. This intervention proved successful with fewer referrals/exclusions and increased participation in clubs/activities. This was also reflected through our mental wellbeing ratings, gathered through an authority-wide survey, which saw increased overall from the previous year and a closing of the poverty related attainment gap.

Employability

Partnerships with Malcolm Logistics, PwC, Scottish Leather Group, our Car Valeting Programme and DWF Lawyers provide tailored opportunities, developing skills for life, learning and work and supporting progression towards positive destinations. Our most recently published Scottish Government data recorded 100% positive destinations for all leavers.

KEY STRENGTHS OF THE SCHOOL

At St. Benedict's, we have a caring and supportive school community where all young people are valued and encouraged to thrive. Our staff work hard to create a nurturing environment that promotes wellbeing, equality, and inclusion. As highlighted in our recent inspection, "Young people feel valued, nurtured, and benefit from positive interactions with staff. Young people's wellbeing lies at the heart of the school's work."

Our Senior Leadership Team is visible and approachable, helping to make the school a welcoming place for both pupils and staff. Strong teamwork among staff drives ongoing improvements, and we maintain high expectations for all aspects of school life.

We are proud of our improving Qualifications Scotland results and the growing number of partnerships with local employers, which enhance learning and give pupils opportunities to experience the world of work.

Parents are an important part of our community, and we work closely with them through our proactive Parent Council and the innovative Parents in Partnership programme.

OUR NEXT STEPS – PRIORITIES FOR 2026-27

We believe that we have made very good progress during session 2025-26, and we will use the improvement priorities listed below to continue to move forward.

Improvement Priority 1 – Develop high-quality learning, teaching and assessment practices to maximise our learners progress and engagement

Improvement Priority 2 – Promote wellbeing, engagement and belonging through our Catholic ethos

Improvement Priority 3 - Ongoing development of our Curriculum and support structures to better meet the needs of our lowest attaining 20% cohort, including S4/5 Leavers

Full details of the school's improvement priorities and actions are detailed on the school improvement plan which can be accessed on our website or by contacting the school office.

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HAVE YOUR SAY

Please take the opportunity to share your thoughts with us as we use feedback to help us make improvements to the school. You can do this by speaking to staff, participating in Parent Council meetings, responding to questionnaires/surveys and by completing evaluations at school events.


ST. FILLAN
OUR LADY OF PEACE
ST. ANTHONY PADUA
ST. MARGARET SCOTLAND
ST. BENEDICT












RESPECT
LOVE
TRUST
AMBITION
SKILLS FOR LIFE
HEALTH
LEARNING
LEADERSHIP
WORK
RESILIENCE
GROWTH MINDSET
EMPLOYABILITY
LITERACY
EQUITY
SAINT BENEDICT'S HIGH SCHOOL
Mindset for Success


St Fillan








POWERING
#PowerUp
#IamPoweringFutures
It's giving
Success
HIDDEN TREASURE
BAE SYSTEMS
POWERING
FUTURES




ON-X
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MALCOLM