

Kirkby Thore School Profile
Kirkby Thore
Penrith
Cumbria
CA10 1UU
Tel: 017683 61497
Fax: 017683 61497
www.kirkbythore.cumbria.sch.uk

Children's Service Authority:	Cumbria
Age Range:	4-11
Number of Pupils:	83
Headteacher	Christine Wilson
Chair of Governors	Keith Robinson

What have been our successes this year?

Kirkby Thore School continues to thrive in the community. In October 2006 Ofsted said that pupils enjoy coming to school and relationships throughout the school were strong. Pupils demonstrated their confidence and assurance in talking about the school and the range of responsibilities they have prepares them well for their future well-being. We have achieved Activemark status.

What are we trying to improve?

This year we have been focusing on improving standards in English, the children have begun to produce a school newsletter, which will be done termly. We have also worked hard on ensuring that each child knows what is to be learnt in each lesson and how it can be improved upon. We are continuing to improve our pupil tracking system.

How have our results changed over time?

Our year groups of children are quite small, and averages are not always indicative of how much progress individuals have made. Each child makes significant progress with school results now predicted to improve year on year.

How are we making sure we are meeting the learning needs of individual pupils?

Our curriculum is broad and balanced and staff endeavour to meet the needs of learners in terms of resources and approaches to learning. We have excellent provision for our children with special needs. The school staff are highly motivated and committed to providing the very best for the children in their care. Liaison with outside agencies is good with expert advice readily available.

Staff use a variety of teaching strategies, and the wide range of learning styles is taken into account when planning and teaching lessons. Each classroom is supported by a teaching assistant therefore ensuring consistently small teaching and learning groups. Very able children are extended and supported appropriately.

How do we make sure our pupils are healthy, safe and well-supported?

Children in the infants have access to free school fruit and all have access to a water cooler. We have excellent outdoor facilities with apparatus that the children can use during breaks; we are a physically active school. Children in Key stage 2 swim for a 10 week block during the spring term and we have links with other local schools for netball, football and sports tournaments.

How do our absence rates compare with other schools?

% attendance

	2004	2005	2006
School	96.0	95.1	94.2
National	94.5	94.6	94.2

What activities are available to pupils?

We ensure that our curriculum is rich, motivating and accessible to all. There is a range of opportunities for out of school clubs including, football, netball, choir, and running club.

How are we working with parents and the community?

There are two parent evenings per year and we work closely with families when a child needs extra help. Parents join us for school trips and talk topic lunches. A fortnightly lunch club for members of the village community is held when our school council members serve and clear away the meals. We have regular celebration assemblies, which are well supported by parents and enjoyed by the children along with social events, organised by the parent support group.

What have children told us about the school, and what have we done as a result?

The school council is very active with regular meetings when ideas and suggestions are discussed and forwarded to the head and governors. So far the following things have been actioned as a direct result of the council:-

- Raising money for games to be used in wet playtimes
- Fundraising for the Tsunami Appeal, Comic Relief and Children in Need
- Keep our school tidy campaign
- Re-cycling bins in each classroom
- Bibs for the buddies

- Being involved in the improvements of the school toilets
- Raising money for playground equipment (ongoing)

Ideas for the future include:

- Raising the profile of the School Council in the school community
- Improving our system of reporting back to our classes
- More fund-raising for charity
- More fund-raising for the school

What do our pupils do after leaving this school?

Most of our pupils transfer to Appleby Grammar School with some occasionally transferring to Ullswater Community College. Applications can be made to Queen Elizabeth Grammar School who operate a testing procedure. Former pupils frequently visit the school and participate in events; work experience pupils in school are often former pupils as well.