

**ST. ATTRACTA'S SENIOR NATIONAL SCHOOL  
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SIP) FOR LITERACY 2013-2014-2015**

**Baseline Data:**

- Literacy has a high profile in St. Attracta's Senior School and standardised test results are above the national norm in reading (vocabulary and comprehension).
- Parent, Pupil and Teacher Questionnaires were used to identify strengths and areas of concern in the area of literacy.

**Summary of Main Area Identified for Improvement:**

**Writing:** Improve the quality of children's writing by adopting a whole school approach to teaching strategies to develop 'Writing Genres' at each class level. Each class teacher (3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>) will provide learning activities for pupils to discover, learn and experiment with the seven different writing genres over a 2 year time frame (Narrative, Recount, Persuasive, Procedural, Report, Explanatory, Writing to Socialise)

Improvement Targets	Required Actions	Success Criteria Measurable Outcomes	Persons Responsible	Timeframe for Actions	Progress
Introduce children to the writing genres in a structured way Explicit teaching of a different writing genre every 6 weeks	Agree on a whole school approach to teaching the writing genres. Create resource folders for each teacher for each genre. Develop a framework for the writing genre	Pre- and post-samples of writing genres. Standardised test results of tracker pupils (12/13 v 13/14)	Literacy Committee (Mr. Kirwan, Ms. Ryan, Ms. Carey, Ms. McKernan, Mr. Fitzgerald) All teachers	2013 - 2014 and 2014 - 2015	See Literacy Review and Planning Questionnaire 2014
Instil a sense of pride, achievement, motivation and enjoyment in their written work in the pupils	Every teacher in every room, every day, praises good work and encourages improvements in writing. Wall of fame highlights examples of good practice as does school website.	Genre copies Wall of Fame Shared Readings AOL AFL	All teachers	2013 - 2014	Literacy Review and Planning Questionnaire 2014
Up skill staff through staff development, in-service training and dissemination of teaching strategies at staff meetings	Literacy co-ordinator & committee gather and disseminate relevant information on writing genres.  PDST facilitator requested by principal	An increased professional awareness & discussion of writing throughout the year	Literacy co-ordinator - Bennet Kirwan All teachers at staff meetings and informal discussion. Principal to book PDST facilitator Mairead Hennessy	August and October 2013  2013 - 14 -15	Literacy Review and Planning Questionnaire 2014
To improve children's competence and confidence in the use of the writing genres while increasing their enjoyment of writing	Teachers and pupils will engage in robust discussion of written work. Pupils will select samples of excellent work	Improvement in quality of writing across the writing genres and in the children's general written work - AFL and AOL (ongoing)	All teachers All pupils	2013 - 2014 & 2014 - 2015	Literacy Review & Planning Questionnaire 2014
Identify further areas for development in future years. (Oral language already mentioned)	End of year review of literacy project	Teachers will identify other areas and highlight specific concerns through a literacy questionnaire in May 2014	All teachers	2014 - 2015 & 2015 - 2016	Literacy Review and Planning Questionnaire 2014