

# Report

3

Report to:	<b>Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>25 August 2009</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Education Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>HMle Report - West Coats Primary School</b>
----------	--

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ advise the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee of the outcome of the inspection of West Coats Primary School by HMI Inspectors.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the HMle report on West Coats Primary School be noted.

## 3. Background

3.1. West Coats Primary School was inspected in April 2009 as part of a national sample of primary and nursery education.

3.2. HM Inspectors evaluated the quality of education at the school, how the children benefit from learning there, how well the children are doing and how good the school is at helping them learn. They looked at how well the school works with other groups in the community, how well staff and children work together and how they go about improving the school. The report also describes the ethos of the school and how well the school's aims help staff to deliver high quality education.

3.3. The inspectors examined pupils' work and interviewed groups of pupils, and staff. Members of the inspection team also met a group of parents. They analysed questionnaires issued to a sample of parents, pupils and to all staff.

## 4. Findings of HM Inspectors

4.1. The inspectors made comment under the following headings:-

- Particular strengths of the school
- Examples of good practice
- How well do children learn and achieve?
- How well do staff work with others to support children's learning?
- Are staff and children actively involved in improving their school community?
- Does the school have high expectations of all children?
- Does the school have a clear sense of direction?
- What happens next?

4.2. The inspectors identified the following as being particular strengths of the school:-

- Polite, helpful children who are eager to learn and take responsibility.
- Well planned opportunities for children to achieve widely.
- The commitment and success of staff in taking forward school improvements.
- The vision and leadership of the headteacher in supporting children and teachers to lead innovation and improve learning outcomes.

4.3. Examples of good practice were identified:-

- Effective work in raising awareness of child exploitation online protection.
- Success of teachers in taking forward school improvements through teachers' learning community group.
- Development of enterprising strategies, through the use of class contact cover in art and design.

- 4.4. The inspectors found that most children are enthusiastic and proud of their achievements, with good opportunities to work collaboratively. They have achieved success in a range of competitions, musical performances, shows and as helpers within committees such as the eco committee.
- 4.5. Across the school, children are making very good progress in English language and Mathematics.
- 4.6. Inspectors found that forms of active learning such as the use of games consoles has increased the motivation of many children.
- 4.7. Staff are improving the curriculum in line with the national initiative Curriculum for Excellence and provide the children with a broad and balanced curriculum.
- 4.8. Overall learning needs are well met and the school has well developed and effective approaches for identifying those children with additional learning needs.
- 4.9. Staff have formed helpful partnerships with a range of agencies and individuals outside the school to help children progress in their learning.
- 4.10. The effective Parent Council provides good support for the school and is working to engage parents more fully in their children's learning. The school was found to provide valuable workshops and meetings in response to parents' requests.
- 4.11. The inspectors found that the children enjoyed taking responsibilities across the school and that active citizenship skills are increasing through, for example, the children's organisation of a Fair Trade stall. The school has been awarded a Level 3 Healthy School Accreditation.
- 4.12. The headteacher, along with the depute heads and principal teacher leads staff in monitoring the work of the school, children's progress is tracked effectively and teachers are fully involved in development groups to plan and take forward key priorities.
- 4.13. Children have very positive attitudes towards the school and towards their own achievement. All staff have high expectations of children's effort and behaviour and are committed to the wellbeing and support of all children.
- 4.14. The inspectors reported that staff are reflective about their practice and adapt and change their teaching to improve learning for children.

- 4.15. The headteacher provides strong and effective leadership and with the senior leadership team is clear about areas of practice which the school needs to improve. As a result of very effective self evaluation, the school is well placed to improve further.
- 4.16. HMle identified the following as areas for improvement:
- Take further steps to make sure children are consistently challenged in their learning, particularly higher achieving children.
  - Take forward plans to involve children more fully in setting targets within their individual education programmes
- 4.17. As a result of the very good quality of education provided by the school, HMle will make no further visits following this inspection. The school will prepare an action plan to continue improvement work.

**5. Employee Implications**

5.1. None

**6. Financial Implications**

6.1. None

**7. Other Implications**

7.1. None

**8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

8.1. There is no requirement to carryout an impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.

**Larry Forde**  
**Executive Director (Education Resources)**

2 July 2009

**Link(s) to Council Objectives**

- Supporting Communities
- Learning in the Community

**Previous References**

None

**List of Background Papers**

- HMle Report of 23 June 2009

**Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Patricia Rossi, Head of Education (Cambuslang and Rutherglen)

Ext: 5692 (Tel: 01698 455692)

E-mail: [patricia.rossi@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:patricia.rossi@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)