

Report

Report to:	Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	11 June 2019
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Education Scotland Report – St Mark’s Primary School and Nursery Class, Rutherglen
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise of the outcome of the inspection of St Mark’s Primary School and Nursery Class by Education Scotland inspectors.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the Education Scotland Report on St Mark’s Primary School and Nursery Class, Rutherglen, be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. St Mark’s Primary School and Nursery Class were inspected in January 2019 as part of a national sample of primary and nursery education.
- 3.2. As part of the revised approach to inspection, the Education Scotland inspectors evaluated the leadership of change; learning, teaching and assessment; raising attainment and achievement and ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion.
- 3.3. The inspection team analysed questionnaires issued to a sample of parents, pupils and to all staff. Inspectors observed class lessons and interviewed groups of pupils, including the pupil council, and staff. Members of the inspection team also met parents and members of the local community.
- 3.4. The report by Education Scotland was published on 23 April 2019.

4. Findings of Education Scotland Inspectors

4.1. Education Scotland made comment under the following headings:-

- ◆ quality of leadership and management,
- ◆ learning provision and
- ◆ children’s successes and achievements.

4.2. Education Scotland found there is a range of practice across the school in terms of learning, teaching and assessment and on the wellbeing and inclusion of children, which is leading to satisfactory levels of attainment across literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

- 4.3. Inspectors recognised that the promotion of wellbeing for children and their families in the nursery strongly underpins the school community values, resulting in relaxed, happy children who are making good progress in their learning.
- 4.4. Particular strengths of the school were identified as follows:-
- Children who are friendly and caring and who are keen to be involved in the wider life of their school and nursery. They are proud to be learners at St Mark's and are empathetic and supportive towards one another.
 - The headteacher and senior leaders actively encourage distributed leadership. This is resulting in more staff being involved in various committees and working parties to bring about whole-school improvement and secure positive outcomes for children.
 - Staff who know children well and who promote a nurturing ethos in the primary and nursery classes. Children are well-supported to progress in their learning.
- 4.5. Education Scotland, as they do during inspections identified areas for continued improvement:-
- Continue to review leadership roles to manage best the balance of pace and priorities for change and improvement in both the school and nursery class. This includes developing improved approaches to communication with parents and partners so that they can play a fuller, more active part in helping to shape change and improvement.
 - Continue to develop the curriculum to ensure all children receive their full entitlement to a Broad General Education linking to appropriate learning pathways.
 - In order to continue to improve children's attainment and achievement, staff should work together to ensure children experience consistently high quality learning and teaching. As planned, this includes the development of robust systems to track and monitor children's progress.
 - Continue as planned to update policies and approaches to building positive relationships, inclusion and equality across the St Mark's community. Revision of these plans should include the input of all stakeholders and partners from the outset.
- 4.6. These areas for improvement have been incorporated into the school's improvement plan. Progress on the identified areas for improvement will be shared with parents.
- 4.7. Education Scotland have intimated that they will allow the school time to take forward the areas for improvement and a report on progress will be prepared within a year. They will then decide whether further engagement will be required. The local authority will inform parents about the school's progress as part of the authority's arrangements for reporting to parents on the quality of its schools.
- 4.8. Additional inspection evidence can be accessed by clicking the following web link <https://education.gov.scot/assets/inspectionreports/stmarkspnsnaie230419.pdf>

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. None

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. None

7. Other Implications

- 7.1. There are no direct risks associated with this report which is provided for information only.
- 7.2. There are no significant sustainability issues in connection with the recommendations contained within this report.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 8.1. There is no requirement to carry out an assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.
- 8.2. The content of Education Scotland reports are shared with parents and discussed at Parent Council meetings.

Tony McDaid
Executive Director (Education Resources)

15 May 2019

Link(s) to Council Values/Objectives

- Improve achievement, raise educational attainment and support lifelong learning
- Ensure schools and other places of learning are inspirational

Previous References

None

List of Background Papers

Education Scotland Report of 23 April 2019

Contact for Further Information

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

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