

# Report

Report to:	<b>Hamilton Area Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>11 March 2020</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Education Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Education Scotland Report - Machanhill Primary School and Nursery Class, Larkhall</b>
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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 Machanhill 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 Machanhill Primary School and Nursery Class be noted.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. Machanhill Primary School and Nursery Class was inspected in October 2019 as part of a national sample of primary 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 25 February 2020.

## 4. Findings of HM 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 that Machanhill Primary School and Nursery Class provides children and young people with a good educational experience. The inspectors also reported that senior leaders and staff know children and their families very well and take forward work aimed at improving outcomes for all children. The children, staff and peers have positive relationships with each other. Each are respectful of one another and children talk about their school with pride.
- 4.3. The particular strengths of the school and Nursery Class were identified as follows:-
- ◆ The headteacher and depute headteacher's skilful leadership which has established strong relationships across the school and its community. The school's values are embraced and underpin successfully the 'Machanhill family'.
  - ◆ Staff's effective teamwork across the establishment and with partners which removes barriers to children's learning and enables them to learn and achieve in a calm, purposeful environment. Children's understanding and support of each other is a significant feature of the inclusive ethos.
  - ◆ Happy, settled children who are enthusiastic, motivated and engaged in their learning. They are confident, articulate and speak proudly of their nursery and school.
- 4.4. Education Scotland identified the following areas for continued improvement:-
- ◆ Staff should continue, as planned, to develop clear curricular pathways within which ensure children experience continuity and progression in their learning as they move through the nursery and school.
  - ◆ The headteacher and depute headteacher should continue to share effective practice across the staff team, in order to provide consistently high quality learning and teaching across the nursery and school. Children need more regular opportunities to lead their own learning.
  - ◆ Together with staff, the headteacher should increase further children's attainment in literacy and English and numeracy and mathematics.
- 4.5. As well as welcoming the strengths of the school it should be noted that the areas for continued improvement have already been incorporated into the school's improvement plan. Progress on the identified areas for improvement have and continue to be shared with parents.
- 4.6. Education Scotland have intimated that they are confident that the school will be able to take forward the areas for improvement and will make no more visits in connection with this report. The local authority has informed parents about the school's progress as part of the authority's arrangements for reporting to parents on the quality of its schools.
- 4.7. Additional inspection evidence can be accessed by clicking the following web link <https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=3573>

## **5. Employee Implications**

- 5.1 None.

## **6. Financial Implications**

6.1 None

## **7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

7.1 There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in the report.

## **8 Other Implications**

8.1 There are no direct risks associated with this report which is provided for information only.

## **9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

9.1 There is no requirement to carry out an assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.

9.2. The content of Education Scotland reports are shared with parents and discussed at Parent Council meetings.

**Tony McDaid**

**Executive Director (Education Resources)**

25 February 2020

## **Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Get it right for children and young people
- ◆ Protect vulnerable children, young people and adults
- ◆ 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 25 February 2020

## **Contact for Further Information**

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

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