

Report

Report to:	Clydesdale Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	7 June 2023
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Education Scotland Report - St Athanasius' Primary School and Nursery Class, Carluke
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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 Athanasius' Primary School and Nursery Class, Carluke 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 Athanasius' Primary School and Nursery Class, Carluke be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. St Athanasius' Primary School and Nursery Class were inspected in March 2023 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 (school)/ensuring children's progress (nursery) 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 April 2023.

4. Finding of HM inspectors

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

School

- ◆ Leadership of change
- ◆ Learning, teaching and assessment
- ◆ Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion
- ◆ Raising attainment and achievement

Nursery

- ◆ Leadership of change
- ◆ Learning, teaching and assessment
- ◆ Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion
- ◆ Securing children's progress

4.2. The particular strengths of the school were identified as follows:-

- ◆ The headteacher, well supported by the leadership team, demonstrates highly-effective leadership across the school and nursery. Together with staff, senior leaders have created an environment where children are included and enthusiastic about their learning
- ◆ Children in the school and nursery are well-behaved and welcoming towards visitors. They are proud of their school and the leadership roles they undertake
- ◆ In the school, staff's commitment to professional learning is having a very positive impact on learning and teaching. Children are motivated to learn and engage very well with learning experiences
- ◆ In the nursery, practitioners offer children a wide range of opportunities to develop and use their early writing skills in their play. As a result, children are making very good progress in their written communication skills

4.3. Education Scotland identified the following areas for continued improvement:-

- ◆ In the nursery, continue to identify and extend children's next steps in learning. Staff should continue to develop and refine the ways they record the progress that children are making
- ◆ In the school, senior leaders should continue to support teachers to analyse and respond to information from assessments. This will support teachers to improve further children's learning experiences to continue to raise attainment in literacy and numeracy

4.4. 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 planning for improvement, this will be further communicated via the school's usual communication channels.

4.5. Education Scotland have intimated that they are very 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 school are in a very strong position to be able to return to pre pandemic levels of attainment with a particular focus on closing the poverty related attainment gap.

4.6. Additional inspection evidence can be accessed by clicking the following web link:-
[St Athanasius' Primary School and Nursery Class, South Lanarkshire 25/04/23 \(education.gov.scot\)](#)

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 this 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 is shared with parents and discussed at Parent Council meetings.

Tony McDaid

Executive Director (Education Resources)

22 May 2023

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

- ◆ Get it right for children and young people
- ◆ Improve health, care and wellbeing
- ◆ Promote economic growth and tackle disadvantage
- ◆ Make communities safer, stronger and sustainable
- ◆ Achieve results through leadership, good governance and organisational effectiveness

Previous References

- ◆ None

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Education Scotland Report of St Athanasius' Primary School and Nursery Class, Carluke, 25 April 2023

Contact for Further Information

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

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