

Report

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Report to:	Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	26 February 2008
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	HMle Report - St Mark's Primary School and Nursery Class
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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 St Mark's Primary School and Nursery Class by HM Inspectors.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the HMle report on St Mark's Primary School and Nursery Class be noted.

3. Background

3.1. St mark's Primary School and Nursery Class was inspected in June 2007 as part of a national sample of primary and nursery education.

3.2. The inspectors evaluated nursery children's and pupils' achievements, the effectiveness of the school, the environment for learning, the school's process for self-evaluation and innovation, and its capacity for improvement. There was a particular focus on attainment in English language and mathematics.

3.3. The inspectors examined the quality of the children's experiences in the nursery, pupils' work and interviewed groups of pupils, including the pupil council and staff. Members of the inspection team also met representatives of the parent teacher association (P.T.A) and a group of parents.

4. Findings of H.M. Inspectors

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

- ♦ Key strengths
- ♦ What are the views of parents, pupils and staff?
- ♦ How good are learning, teaching and achievement?
- ♦ How well are pupils' learning needs met?
- ♦ How good is the environment for learning?
- ♦ Leading and Improving the School.

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

- ♦ The leadership of the head teacher

- ◆ The quality of provision in the nursery
- ◆ The commitment of staff to meeting learning needs
- ◆ Positive relationships between staff and pupils
- ◆ Concern shown by all staff for care and welfare throughout the nursery and school
- ◆ Partnership arrangements with parents and the community

- 4.3. The inspectors found that partnerships with parents, the P.T.A and the community were very good. Pastoral care, climate and relationships, expectations and promoting achievement and equality and fairness were also evaluated as being very good.
- 4.4. The head teacher was evaluated as providing the school with very good leadership. She was also well supported in leading the school by the principal teachers who made a very positive contribution to the life and work of the nursery and school. Self evaluation was found to be good.
- 4.5. The overall quality and structure of the curriculum and meeting pupils' needs were also evaluated as very good.
- 4.6. The quality of attainment in mathematics was identified as being very good while the quality of attainment in English language was good.
- 4.7. The teaching process and pupils' learning experiences were both evaluated as being good.
- 4.8. The inspectors found accommodation and facilities to be adequate. A new school is planned for St Mark's in 2014. The repairs to pupil toilets have been overtaken.
- 4.9. HMI recognised that the school was well placed to improve further. They identified the following as the main points for action by the school and Education Authority to assist in continuing the provision of high quality and improving education.
 - ◆ Continue to improve attainment in writing;
 - ◆ Improve the monitoring and evaluation of the work of the nursery and school in order to share effective practice and impact more positively in teaching and learning;
 - ◆ Improve aspects of accommodation as identified in the report.
- 4.10. An action plan to take forward these points has been drawn up by the head teacher with the support of the Head of Education (Area), Education Resources.
- 4.11. As a result of the high performance, strong record of improvement and the very effective leadership of the school, H.M. Inspectors will make no further reports in connection with this inspection.

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 carry out an impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.

Larry Forde
Executive Director (Education Resources)

8 January 2008

Link(s) to Council Objectives

- Learning in the Community
- Supporting Communities

Previous References

None

List of Background Papers

- HMle Report on the Inspection of St Mark's Primary School and Nursery Class

Contact for Further Information

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

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