

Report

Report to:	Hamilton Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	4 November 2020
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Education Scotland Report - High Blantyre Primary School and Nursery Class
----------	---

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise of the outcome of the inspection of High Blantyre 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 High Blantyre Primary School and Nursery Class be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. High Blantyre 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 28 January 2020.

4. Finding of HM inspectors

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

- ◆ quality of leadership and management
- ◆ learning provision
- ◆ children's successes and achievements

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

- ◆ Across the nursery, primary and supported classes, children are well-mannered, friendly and welcoming of visitors. They are eager to take more responsibility for their own learning.
- ◆ Staff know children and families well. They have created inclusive and caring learning environments across the nursery, primary and supported classes. Relationships between children and staff are positive.
- ◆ In the nursery, children's engagement in the outdoors, particularly in the forest environment, is developing their creativity and curiosity in learning.

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

- ◆ Review whole-school and distributed leadership roles to empower further all staff and nursery practitioners as leaders, and continue to ensure all children have meaningful opportunities to lead their own learning.
- ◆ Continue to develop rigour in approaches to self-evaluation to ensure consistent high-quality learning and teaching, leading to raised attainment for all children. This should include an appropriate level of pace and challenge for children's learning.
- ◆ Develop more effective use of assessment information and moderation which enables teachers to have shared standards and expectations, whilst ensuring all children make the best possible progress.
- ◆ Continue to develop a curriculum which meets all children's needs and supports them to develop relevant knowledge and skills across all areas of their learning.

4.4. These areas for improvement have been incorporated into the school's improvement plan. Progress on the identified areas for improvement have been shared with parents and carers.

4.5. 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 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.

4.6. The inspection report for the school can be accessed by clicking the following web link:-

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=2933>

5. Employee Implications

5.1. None

6. Financial Implications

6.1. None

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

7.1. None

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)

21 August 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 28 January 2020

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-
Stewart Nicolson, Head of Education (Curriculum and Attainment)

Ext: 4475 (Tel: 01698 454475)

E-mail: stewart.nicolson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk