

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Clydesdale Area Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>29 November 2011</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Education Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>HMIe Report - Wiston Primary School, Biggar</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 Wiston Primary School by HM Inspectors.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) to note the HMIe Report on Wiston Primary School.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. HMIe undertook an inspection of the quality of educational provision within Wiston Primary School in May 2011. The report was published on 23 August 2011.
- 3.2. The inspection team observed lessons; spoke with pupils, parents and staff. The report that was published tells you about the quality of education at the school and how children benefit from learning there.

## 4. Findings of HM Inspectors

4.1. Particular strengths of the school:-

- The use of information and communications technology (ICT) to support learning
- Children's motivation and positive attitudes to learning
- Stimulating and enjoyable learning experiences which help children achieve
- Joint work with Libberton Primary School, leading to improvements for children

4.2. Children are enthusiastic in their learning. They work well independently and are supportive of each other. They are receiving helpful feedback about their learning from staff.

4.3. Children are developing a secure understanding of healthy lifestyles and making healthy choices. They have a sense of responsibility and awareness of others. Their achievements are regularly celebrated and residential experiences develop skills in problem solving and teamwork.

4.4. Most children are making appropriate progress in language and mathematics. They are developing confidence in listening and talking and show a positive interest in reading. They write well for a range of purposes.

- 4.5 Almost all children's skills in mental and written number calculations are strong and they have a secure understanding of shape. They use information and communication technology (ICT) to create charts and graphs and are confident in identifying and using problem solving strategies.
- 4.6 Children experience a broad curriculum and are developing their confidence in working with the experiences and outcomes of *Curriculum for Excellence*. They use their unique outdoor location well to learn about the environment which they plan to develop further. Along with Libberton Primary School staff, whole school plans are being developed for all curricular areas. Children experience two hours of physical education each week.
- 4.7 Staff work together effectively to meet the personal, social, emotional and learning needs of all children. Tasks are matched well to meet the needs of most learners. Staff need to continue to consider pace and challenge for some children. The school has well developed approaches to support children who need help with their learning.
- 4.8 Staff have developed effective links with a range of partners to help children in their learning. Very good partnerships have been established with Libberton Primary which help promote children's wider friendship groups and learning opportunities.
- 4.9 Children enjoy opportunities to be involved in the life of the school through the pupil council and taking on various responsibilities. They have been heavily involved in developing the grounds of their new school. Staff participate in professional development and now need to take forward plans to track children's progress and attainment.
- 4.10 The school has high expectations of children's behaviour and engagement with learning. Children, parents and staff are very proud of their new school. Children feel they are listened to, treated fairly and with respect. Children's achievements are celebrated and the school now needs to further promote and celebrate equality and diversity.
- 4.11 The headteacher has been successful in building teamwork across the school and with Libberton Primary School. There needs to be more focus on working with the community to shape the vision for the school in the future. The school is well placed to continue to improve.
- 4.12 Areas for improvement:-
- Improve the strategic development of *Curriculum for Excellence*
  - Continue to improve children's attainment in English language and mathematics
  - Improve further the school's approaches to tracking and monitoring children's progress in learning
- 4.13 An action plan has been prepared to address the main findings of the report. Parents will be informed of the progress achieved in overtaking these points for action.
- 4.14 HMI have intimated that as a result of the good quality of education provided by the school no more visits in connection with this inspection will take place.

## **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 impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.

**Larry Forde**

**Executive Director (Education Resources)**

7 November 2011

### **Link(s) to Council Objectives/Improvement Themes/Values**

- Raise educational attainment for all
- Increase involvement in lifelong learning
- Improve the lives of vulnerable children, young people and adults
- Improve health and increase physical activity

### **Previous References**

None

### **List of Background Papers**

HMle report – Wiston Primary School

### **Contact for Further Information**

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

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