

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Hamilton Area Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>17 November 2010</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director : Education Resources</b>

Subject:	<b>HMIe Report - Udston Primary School, Hamilton</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 Udston 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 Udston Primary School.

## 3. Background

3.1. Udston Primary School was inspected in March 2010 as part of a national sample of primary education.

3.2. HM Inspectors evaluated improvements in performance, learners' experiences, meeting learning needs, the curriculum, the school's processes for improvement through self-evaluation, and its capacity for improvement.

3.3. The inspection team analysed questionnaires issued to all 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 the chairperson of the parent council and a group of parents.

3.4. The report by HM Inspectorate was published on 25 May 2010.

## 4. Findings of HM Inspectors

4.1. HMIe made comment under the following headings:

- Particular strengths of the school
- How well do children learn and achieve?
- How well do staff work with others to support children's learning?
- Are staff and children actively involved in improving their school community?
- Does the school have high expectations of all children?
- Does the school have a clear sense of direction?

4.2. HM Inspectors found that Udston Primary School provided pupils with a very good curriculum, and learners' experiences are also very good. Children's learning is active, relevant and very enjoyable, and staff have made significant progress in implementing *Curriculum for Excellence*. Children appreciate the many excursions to places of educational interest which enhance their learning. Parents are very positive about Udston Primary, and the active Parent Council contributes much to the life and work of the school.

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

- Outstanding care and welfare which creates a very positive environment for learning
- Confident well-behaved children who benefit from a wide range of opportunities for achievement
- Partnership with parents and the wider community to support children's learning and to improve the school
- Recent positive improvements in providing high-quality learning experiences
- Leadership for learning across the school

4.4 HM Inspectors found that the well respected head teacher knows her school well, and gives a high level of commitment to it. Supported effectively by the principal teacher, she has established strong teamwork and a positive ethos which underpins all aspects of the school's work. Recent significant improvements in learning and teaching have begun to raise children's attainment. There is a strong sense of the school as an integral part of a community which is keen to improve the children's life chances.

4.5 HMI identified the following as the areas for improvement:

- Continue to develop consistent approaches to assessment, tracking and monitoring children's progress with the aim of raising children's attainment, particularly in writing
- Ensure the pace and challenge of learning is appropriate to meet the varying needs of all learners.

4.6 These areas for improvement have been incorporated into the school's improvement plan. The plan will also address other areas for development identified in the Inspectors' report. Progress on the identified areas for improvement will be shared with parents.

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

**Larry Forde**  
**Executive Director (Education Resources)**

25 October 2010

### **Links to Council Objectives/Values/Improvement Themes**

- raise educational attainment for all
- take forward key aspects of Curriculum for Excellence

### **Previous References**

None

### **List of Background Papers**

- HMle Report of 25 May 2010

### **Contact for Further Information**

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

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