

Report

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Report to:	Hamilton Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	13 September 2017
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Education Scotland Report - St John's Primary School, Hamilton
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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 John's Primary School by HM Inspectors

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the Education Scotland Report on St John's Primary School be noted.

3. Background

3.1. Education Scotland undertook an inspection of the quality of educational provision within St John's Primary School in May 2017. The report was published on 27 June, 2017

4. Findings of Education Scotland Inspectors

4.1. Particular strengths of the school

- courteous, respectful children who have a positive attitude to learning encouraged by the school's approach to children's rights. They are polite, well behaved and are eager to learn. They are proud of their school.
- an inclusive ethos underpinned by the school's approach to promoting rights which results in children feeling valued and well supported.
- the capacity of staff to work together to drive improvements at St John's Primary School.

4.2. There is a positive climate for learning in the school, underpinned by the school's approach to promoting children's rights. Relationships are of a consistently high standard, with mutual respect between children and teaching, non-teaching and support staff.

4.3. There is a welcoming ethos where parents, children and visitors feel valued. Staff show a collective responsibility for improving the wellbeing of children. The ethos, underpinned by rights, has resulted in children demonstrating high levels of respect.

4.4. Children are capable and keen to take a greater role in leading their own learning. They have skills of self-reliance, are able to initiate and organise tasks and can demonstrate independence in their learning.

- 4.5. The school established a curriculum rationale a number of years ago and has plans to revisit and update this next session. Curriculum pathways are in place for the majority of curricular areas.
- 4.6. The school actively encourages parents to become partners in their children's learning, and provides opportunities for them to engage in activities with their children in and outside school.
- 4.7. Children from mainstream classes benefit from the inclusion of children who are in alternative provision in the form of supported classes. Specialist provision for children with additional support needs plays an important role within this inclusive school. Children demonstrate knowledge of diversity and are able to challenge discriminatory attitudes.
- 4.8. Overall most children are making appropriate progress in literacy and English. Almost all children listen and respond well to adults. Across the school, children are confident when reading aloud and show enjoyment of reading, books and stories. Across the school the children are making good progress in their writing.
- 4.9. Most children are making satisfactory progress in numeracy and mathematics. Across the school children are confident in solving basic numerical computation. Where children have opportunities to learn using games, they learn effectively.
- 4.10 Children are developing well across the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence. They are developing important attributes and show a commitment to furthering the life and work of the school.

Key areas for development were also noted within the report:

- 4.11. Moving forwards, the school will develop a more strategic approach to leading change, in order to secure improved outcomes for children. Leadership, including strategic leadership, needs to be further developed.
- 4.12 The school will need to use more robust use of data to inform targeted interventions for learners. The school will need to build on approaches to self-evaluation to ensure the work of the school is effectively monitored and leads to improvements.
- 4.13. The school will work to provide greater levels of challenge for learners through a focus on developing high-quality teaching, learning and assessment across the school.
- 4.14 Education Scotland has stated that the school has the capacity to continue to improve and, therefore, will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Officers from South Lanarkshire Council will provide bespoke support for taking forward this improvement agenda.

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 sustainability issues in connection with the recommendations within this report.

8. Consultation

- 8.1. There is no requirement to carry out an impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.
- 8.2. The content of Education Scotland reports are shared with parents and discussed at Parent Council meetings.

Tony McDaid
Executive Director (Education Resources)

30 August 2017

Link(s) to Council Objectives

- ◆ Raise educational attainment for all
- ◆ Improve the lives of vulnerable children, young people and adults
- ◆ Get it right for every child
- ◆ Strengthen partnership working, community leadership and engagement

Previous References

None

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Education Scotland Report of 27 June 2017

Contact for Further Information

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

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