

Report

8

Report to:	Clydesdale Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 September 2011
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject	Follow-Through Report - High Mill Primary School, Carluke
---------	--

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise of the outcome of the Follow-Through inspection of High Mill Primary School

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) to note the HMIe Follow-Through Report on High Mill Primary School.

3. Background

3.1 HMIe undertook an inspection of the quality of educational provision within High Mill Primary School in April 2010 and carried out a follow through visit in March 2011.

3.2 This report tells you about improvements since the original inspection and comments on how the school has taken forward the main points for action.

4. Findings of HM Inspectors

4.1 The follow-through report confirms that the school is now showing clear evidence of improvement under the guidance of an acting headteacher who took up post in August 2010.

4.2 Particular strengths of the school:-

- Improved quality of learning experiences
- Increasing responsibility of children in the life of the school
- Leadership of the acting headteacher in securing school improvement

4.3 Children's learning experiences are improving as a result of better planning and more stimulating activities. They are more actively engaged and have a better understanding about the purpose of their learning. They are more confident and achieve well across the curriculum.

4.4 Significant improvements have been made to the curriculum in line with *Curriculum for Excellence*. Staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities. They have improved their approaches to the teaching of English language and mathematics and they are planning more effectively for children's learning experiences. There are now better approaches to supporting children who require help with their learning. In the majority of classes, children are now being suitably challenged in their learning.

- 4.5 The school's communication with parents is now better and there are more ways for them to be involved in their children's learning. The school continues to work well with a range of professionals and the Parent Council is also more actively involved.
- 4.6 Staff are developing their self evaluation skills and are beginning to be more reflective on their learning and teaching approaches. The acting headteacher has significantly improved the school's quality assurance approaches and makes effective use of focussed monitoring.
- 4.7 Children have a greater say in the work of the school. Every child is on a committee, including the pupil and eco councils, the health promoting committee and the website committee.
- 4.8 Staff have higher expectations for children's attendance, time keeping, behaviour and achievement. Children are responding well to these higher expectations and are polite, respectful and well motivated. They take pride in their work and standards of presentation have improved. Staff are very committed to children's care and welfare.
- 4.9 The acting headteacher has a very clear vision for the school which she is sharing with the wider community. She provides good direction and leadership for learning across the school. The school's work in improving attainment and self evaluation needs more time to become fully embedded and staff need to build on the improvements made to date.
- 4.10 HMle found clear evidence of improvement in a number of aspects of the school's work since the original inspection. The acting headteacher and staff are making promising progress. The school is well placed to further improve the quality of its work. Progress will continue to be monitored and HMI will carry out a further follow-through visit to the school within one year of the publication of the report.

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 or consultation in terms of the proposals contained within this report.

Larry Forde
Executive Director (Education Resources)

6 September 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 of High Mill Primary School April 2010

Contact for Further Information

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

Carole Mason, Head of Education (Clydesdale)

Ext: 5233 (Tel: 01698 455233)

E-mail: carole.mason@southlanarkshire.gov.uk