

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>1 November 2011</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Education Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>HMle Report – St Columbkille’s Primary School</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 St Columbkille’s Primary School by HMle Inspectors

## 2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) to note the HMle Report on St Columbkille’s Primary School

## 3. Background

3.1. St Columbkille’s Primary was inspected in February 2011 as part of a national sample of primary education.

3.2. HM Inspectors evaluated improvements in performance, learners’ experiences, the curriculum, how well the school meets the learning needs of pupils, the effectiveness of the schools processes of self-evaluation and its capacity for improvement.

3.3 The inspection team analysed questionnaires issued to a sample of parents, pupils and to all staff. Inspectors observed class lessons, interviewed groups of pupils, parents and staff.

3.4 The report by HM Inspectorate was published on 26 April 2011.

## 4. Findings of HM Inspectors

4.1. HMle 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 St Columbkille’s Primary School provided children with a broad and balanced curriculum that provides good opportunities for creativity and challenge and that staff work effectively with parents to support their children’s learning.

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

- Polite well behaved children with a great enthusiasm for learning
- Clear commitment of the headteacher and all staff to the provision of a strong Catholic community of faith
- Respect created between the children and staff which support high quality learning experiences.
- High level of parental support for the life and work of the school.
- The development of links with business and the local community.

4.4 Across the school, almost all children are motivated and enjoy their learning. Children achieve considerable success through a wide range of learning experiences both within and beyond the classroom. They feel safe and valued in the school, which has a welcoming and positive ethos.

4.5 Health and wellbeing, enterprise and citizenship activities are important parts of school life. Links with local businesses and members of the community enrich and extend children's learning experiences. Children identify strongly with their school and are encouraged and supported to take responsibility and take on leadership roles across the school through their involvement in the pupil council, eco and health committees and within the school's house system.

4.6 Most children achieve well across their learning activities. Attainment in reading and mathematics is very good. The school uses a range of information and communication technology to enhance children's learning in various areas of the curriculum and all children benefit from two hours of high quality physical education each week.

4.7 Staff know children and their families well and treat all children with respect and dignity. They have made a good start to reviewing plans and teaching approaches in delivering Curriculum for Excellence and have enhanced the curriculum through their approaches to outdoor learning.

4.8 HMI identified the following as areas for improvement with the school and education authority:

- Continue to improve attainment in writing by developing a consistent approach across all stages
- Improve the monitoring and tracking of children's progress to ensure that the needs of all children are met
- Develop further approaches to self-evaluation to ensure continuing school improvement

4.9 These points for action 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 action points will be shared with parents.

4.10 HMI have intimated that they are confident that the school, with support from the education authority, will be able to make the necessary improvements and will make no more visits in connection with this inspection.

## **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.

## **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)**

14 October 2011

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

- 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**

- HMIE Report of St Columbkille's Primary

### **Contact for Further Information**

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

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