

Report

Report to:	East Kilbride Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 February 2024
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Education Scotland Report - Strathaven Academy
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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 Strathaven Academy by Education Scotland inspectors.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the Education Scotland report on Strathaven Academy is noted.

3. Background

3.1. Strathaven Academy was inspected in October 2023 as part of a national sample of secondary education.

3.2. As part of the short model approach to inspection, the Education Scotland inspectors evaluated the learning, teaching and assessment and raising attainment and achievement.

3.3. The inspection team analysed questionnaires issued to a sample of parents, pupils and to all staff. Inspectors observed class lessons and interviewed groups of pupils and staff. Members of the inspection team also met parents/carers and worked closely with the Headteacher and staff.

3.4. The report by Education Scotland was published on 12 December 2023.

4. Finding of HM Inspectors

4.1. Education Scotland made comment under the following headings:-

- ♦ Learning, teaching and assessment
- ♦ Raising attainment and achievement

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

- ♦ young people's hard working and purposeful contribution to creating a calm and productive environment for learning
- ♦ teachers have a very strong understanding of national standards and expectations as a result of working with their peers across the local authority. Young people in the senior phase are well informed about their strengths and next steps in learning

- ♦ the high levels of attainment across S1 to S3 and the senior phase. This is supported by thorough and robust approaches to tracking young people's progress through the school

4.3. Education Scotland identified the following areas for continued improvement:-

- ♦ continue with planned work to embed the skills framework, so that young people can confidently talk about the skills they are developing
- ♦ teachers should continue to use assessment evidence to plan tasks and activities which are more engaging and set at the right level of difficulty for all young people

4.4. As well as welcoming the strengths of the school, it should be noted that the areas for continued improvement will be incorporated into the school's improvement plan.

4.5. Education Scotland has intimated that they are confident that the school will be able to take forward the areas for improvement and will make no more visits in connection with this report. The school is in a strong position to be able to take these areas of improvement forward and maintain the high levels of attainment with a particular focus on closing the poverty related attainment gap.

4.6. Additional inspection evidence can be accessed by clicking the following web link:-
[Education Scotland - Strathaven Academy](#)

5. Employee Implications

5.1. None

6. Financial Implications

6.1. None

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

7.1. None

8. Other Implications

8.1. There are no direct risks associated with this report which is provided for information only.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

9.1. There is no requirement to carry out an assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.

9.2. The content of Education Scotland reports is shared with parents and discussed at Parent Council meetings.

Carole McKenzie
Executive Director (Education Resources)

23 January 2024

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

- ♦ inspiring learners, transforming learning, strengthening partnerships.

Previous References

- ◆ None

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Education Scotland Report of Strathaven Academy - 12 December 2023

Contact for Further Information

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

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