

Report

Report to:	Hamilton Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	15 May 2024
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Education Scotland Report - Newfield Primary School and Nursery Class
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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 Newfield Primary School and Nursery Class 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 Newfield Primary School and Nursery Class be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. Newfield Primary School and Nursery Class were inspected in December 2023 as part of a national sample of primary education.
- 3.2. As part of the revised approach to inspection, the Education Scotland inspectors evaluated the learning, teaching and assessment and raising attainment and achievement of the school and learning, teaching and assessment and securing children's progress of the nursery.
- 3.3. The inspection team analysed questionnaires issued to 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 parents and members of the local community.
- 3.4. The report by Education Scotland was published on 27 February 2024.

4. Finding of HM inspectors

4.1. Education Scotland made comment under the following headings:

- ♦ Learning, teaching, and assessment and Raising attainment and achievement in the school.
- ♦ Learning, teaching and assessment and Securing children's progress in the nursery.

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

- ◆ The supportive, nurturing relationships between staff and children across the school and nursery. This creates a strong sense of community that is based on mutual respect and high aspirations.
- ◆ The consistent, high-quality learning and teaching across the school and nursery.
- ◆ Staff's effective use of data across the school and nursery. This ensures that the staff team have a clear understanding of children's progress, potential barriers to learning and next steps.
- ◆ The successful approach to extending children's skills through their involvement in leadership groups within the school. Children are extremely proud of the contribution they make to improving their school.
- ◆ The richly resourced indoor and outdoor play environment within the nursery.

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

- ◆ As planned, develop further approaches to play-based learning and outdoor learning in the school. In the nursery, practitioners should continue to take forward the identified priorities, including literacy and numeracy through play.
- ◆ Review approaches to long-term planning in the school to better inform the effectiveness and application of learning across different curriculum areas.
- ◆ Continue to raise attainment in literacy and numeracy.

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

4.5. Education Scotland have 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 are in a strong position to be able to raise 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:-
[Newfield Primary School and Nursery Class, South Lanarkshire, 27/2/24 \(education.gov.scotland\)](https://www.education.gov.scotland.nurseryclass.gov.uk/27/2/24)

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)

3 April 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 Newfield Primary and Nursery Class 27 February 2024

Contact for Further Information

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

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