

Report

Report to:	Clydesdale Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	1 May 2024
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Education Scotland Report - Black Mount Primary School
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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 Black Mount Primary School, Elsrickle, Biggar 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 Black Mount Primary School, Elsrickle, Biggar be noted.

3. Background

3.1. Black Mount Primary School was 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; learning, teaching and assessment and raising attainment and achievement as part of their short model for inspection.

3.3. The inspection team analysed questionnaires issued to parents, pupils and 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 school community.

3.4. The report by Education Scotland was published on 6 February 2024.

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:-

- ◆ Children are confident and articulate and show enthusiasm for learning. They are supportive and respectful of each other and work effectively as a team, demonstrating the school values.

- ◆ The headteacher leads by example and empowers staff to improve and develop learning and teaching approaches. This is resulting in consistently high-quality learning experiences that match very well to children's abilities and interests.
- ◆ The headteacher provides very effective leadership in monitoring how well children are progressing and attaining. She works closely with staff to support children to make very good progress in their learning and provide any additional support children may require. This leads to consistently high levels of attainment.
- ◆ Staff foster close partnership working with families. These positive relationships support all children very well to engage positively with the life of the school.

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

- ◆ Continue to provide children with opportunities to apply what they are learning in literacy and numeracy across all other areas of their learning. The planned development of outdoor learning should support this.

4.4. 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.

4.5. Additional inspection evidence can be accessed by clicking the following web link:-

[Black Mount Primary School, South Lanarkshire 06/02/24 \(education.gov.scot\)](#)

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 Black Mount Primary School 6th 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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