

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Hamilton Area Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>13 September 2017</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Education Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Education Scotland Report – St. Blane’s Primary School, Blantyre</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. Blane’s Primary School 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 St. Blane’s Primary School be noted

## 3. Background

3.1. St. Blane’s Primary School was inspected in January 2017 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 leadership of change; learning, teaching and assessment; raising attainment and achievement and ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion.

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, 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 14 March 2017.

## 4. Findings of Education Scotland Inspectors

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

- ◆ quality of leadership and management
- ◆ learning provision
- ◆ children’s successes and achievements

4.2. Education Scotland found that St. Blane’s Primary School provides children and young people with a satisfactory educational experience. Overall, the majority of children at P1, P4 and P7 achieve appropriate levels in both literacy and numeracy.

- 4.3. Inspectors reported that there is a positive learning environment, with relationships between staff and pupils being very strong. They noted strengths within the staff team and that staff are supported to develop leadership roles. Parents feel that staff members are very approachable and appreciate that children's achievements from out of school activities are celebrated. The school has extremely positive partnerships across the learning community, with a wide range of partners including other schools, early learning centres and the diocese.
- 4.4. The particular strengths of the school were identified as follows:-
- ◆ children who are exceptionally polite and respectful and are keen to take more responsibility for their own learning
  - ◆ teamwork of all staff and a willingness to undertake leadership roles to improve learning outcomes for children
  - ◆ the work undertaken to form positive partnerships with parents and community. This contributes to the nurturing, inclusive ethos, which permeates across all aspects of school life, helping children feel safe, respected and supported to learn
- 4.5. Education Scotland identified the following areas for continued improvement:-
- ◆ the senior management team should provide clearer guidance to staff on the assessment of children's work and standards of expectations of attainment
  - ◆ the school team should work together to ensure consistency in teaching and learning across the school
  - ◆ develop staff confidence in using data to raise attainment
- 4.6. These areas for improvement have been incorporated into the school's improvement plan. Progress on the identified areas for improvement will be shared with parents.
- 4.7. 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 local authority will inform parents about the school's progress, as part of the authority's arrangements for reporting to parents on the quality of its schools.

## **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 assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.
- 8.2. The content of Education Scotland reports are shared with parents and discussed at Parent Council meetings.

**Tony McDaid**  
**Executive Director (Education Resources)**

30 August 2017

**Link(s) to Council Values/Objectives**

- ◆ Raise educational achievement and attainment
- ◆ Increase involvement in lifelong learning
- ◆ Protect vulnerable children, young people and adults
- ◆ Improve and maintain health and increase physical activity

**Previous References**

- ◆ None

**List of Background Papers**

- ◆ Education Scotland Report of 14 March 2017

**Contact for Further Information**

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

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