

Report

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| Report to: | Clydesdale Area Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 10 March 2020 |
| Report by: | Executive Director (Education Resources) |

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

3. Background

3.1. Lanark Primary School and Nursery Class was inspected in November 2019 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 11 February 2020.

4. Findings of HM 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. The strengths of the school and Nursery Class were identified as follows:-

- ◆ The motivational leadership of the headteacher and her clear vision for the school community. She is ably supported by the depute headteacher and principal teacher. Together, they are driving forward successfully a culture of learning.

- ◆ Children in the school and early learning and childcare setting, who are polite, well-behaved, and enthusiastic learners. They understand and apply the school values confidently. They play a very active role in school improvement through their participation in leadership teams.
 - ◆ The highly effective teamwork across the staff team and the whole school community, which leads to school improvement.
 - ◆ The shared understanding of wellbeing linked to school values across the school community. The wellbeing of children is embedded in all day-to-day interactions and activities. This enables children to feel safe, included and involved.
- 4.3. Education Scotland found that Lanark Primary School and Nursery Class provides children and young people with a good educational experience. The inspectors also reported the headteacher provides highly effective leadership for the school community and is very well supported by her staff.
- 4.4. The school's vision is that learning is at the heart of school life. This is reflected in learning experiences and drives school improvement priorities. They also reported that Lanark Primary School and Nursery Class has a very warm welcoming, caring and inclusive ethos and that relationships between all staff, children, parents and partners are very positive.
- 4.5. Children talk knowledgeably and enthusiastically about their learning, the skills they are developing and their achievements and this work is strengthened further through children's participation in the 'Career Crusaders' pupil leadership team.
- 4.6. A range of digital technology is used effectively to support and engage learners and all children have access to technologies for example, tablets within class. Regular outdoor learning promotes children's curiosity, independence and confidence. Staff use the school woodland area very effectively to provide stimulating learning experiences.
- 4.7. Highly effective teamwork across the staff team, enhances the quality of support provided to individuals and groups with effective communication between teachers and support staff resulting in high-quality targeted support for children who need extra help.
- 4.8. Children are provided with many engaging opportunities to participate and achieve. All staff target children at risk of missing out and support them well to participate in school events and activities. Children's achievements, including those out of school, are recorded and celebrated at assemblies, displayed throughout the school and on social media.
- 4.9. Education Scotland identified the following areas for continued improvement:-
- ◆ Continue to raise attainment in literacy and numeracy across the school and early learning and childcare setting.
 - ◆ In the early learning and childcare setting, develop further the processes for self-evaluation in order to measure what is working well and what needs to improve.
- 4.10. As well as welcoming the strengths of the school it should be noted that the areas for continued improvement have already been incorporated into the school's improvement plan. Progress on the identified areas for improvement have and continue to be shared with parents.

4.11. 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 has informed parents about the school's progress as part of the authority's arrangements for reporting to parents on the quality of its schools.

4.12. Additional inspection evidence can be accessed by clicking the following web link <https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=3335>

5. Employee Implications

5.1. None.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. None.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

7.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

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 are shared with parents and discussed at Parent Council meetings.

Tony McDaid
Executive Director (Education Resources)

18 February 2020

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- ◆ Get it right for children and young people
- ◆ Protect vulnerable children, young people and adults
- ◆ Improve achievement, raise educational attainment and support lifelong learning
- ◆ Ensure schools and other places of learning are inspirational

Previous References

- ◆ None

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Education Scotland Report of 11 February 2020

Contact for Further Information

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

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