

Report

Report to:	Clydesdale Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 December 2019
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Education Scotland Report – Carluke High 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 Carluke High 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 Carluke High School is noted.

3. Background

3.1. Carluke High School was inspected on 30 September 2019 as part of a national sample of secondary 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 under the short inspection model.

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 26 November 2019

4. Findings of Education Scotland Inspectors

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

- ◆ learning provision
- ◆ children's successes and achievements

4.2. The school has a calm atmosphere and supportive ethos that reflects the school values of optimism, ambition and respect. Relationships between almost all young people and teachers across the school are positive.

- 4.3 Young people benefit from belonging to a school which prides itself in being at the heart of its community and contributing clearly to the life of that community in a number of ways. It was noted that the school has improved the percentage of young people moving to positive destinations on leaving school and this was significantly higher than the virtual comparator. Learners experience a range of courses in the senior phase including Employability Awards, Foundation Apprenticeships in Social Services and Skills for Work courses.
- 4.4 Senior leaders and staff have a clear focus on improving the quality of young people's learning experiences through increased collegiate working and focussed professional learning. All teachers have opportunities to take on leadership of learning in a range of ways such as leading professional discussion at faculty meetings, delivering professional learning and visiting each other's classrooms to share and give feedback on practice.
- 4.5. The particular strengths of the school were identified as follows:-
- ◆ The newly appointed headteacher and the senior leadership team are working very effectively together to drive the school's priorities and refresh the vision for change and improvement. This is geared towards a renewed offer of what young people can expect from their learning experiences, with the key aim of improving outcomes for all at Carluke High School.
 - ◆ The energy and enthusiasm of all staff across the school to move forward with a challenging agenda for improvement. They are developing opportunities to collaborate with colleagues across the local authority and more widely, in order to share effective practice that leads to whole school improvement.
 - ◆ Engaging young people across the school community who are becoming more confident in seeking wider opportunities to build on their skills and achievements. This is reflected in the positive destinations achieved by young people after leaving school. They are enthusiastic about playing a more key role in leading aspects of the wider life of the school.
- 4.6. Education Scotland identified the following areas for continued improvement:-
- ◆ Continue with plans to improve the attainment and quality of achievements for all young people.
 - ◆ Continue as planned to progress identified school improvement priorities that will help to provide all young people with choices that are better matched to their aspirations and build on their skills.
 - ◆ Continue to develop robust approaches to monitoring young people's progress. This will help teachers to put in place improved evidence-based support for all young people to be successful and achieve the best they can.
- 4.7. 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 will be shared with parents.
- 4.8. 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 (Including Environmental and Risk Issues)

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.

8.0. 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)

27 November 2019

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 – 26 November 2019

Contact for Further Information

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

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