



Inspection of St Andrew's RC Primary School and Nursery class

Report by Michelle Strong, Education Chief Operating Officer

Report for Information

1 Recommendations

Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- (i) Note the content of the inspection report.
- (ii) Congratulate the pupils, parents and staff connected with St Andrew's Primary School and Nursery class on the key strengths highlighted in the report.

2 Purpose of Report/Executive Summary

The report outlines the outcome of the above inspection as carried out by Education Scotland which was communicated in their report of 19 September 2023.

27 September 2023

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3 Background/Main Body of Report

3.1 In June 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Andrew's RC Primary School and Nursery class. The report was published on 19 September 2023, is now published on the Education Scotland website and is available from this [link](#).

3.2 Education Scotland is responsible for inspecting education settings throughout Scotland. They do so using core quality indicators and following the inspection awarded the following grades for the primary school and nursery:

Quality indicators for the primary school

QI 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment – good

QI 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement – good

Quality indicators for the nursery

QI 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment – good

QI 3.2 Securing children's progress – good

The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work; the team noted the welcoming, friendly and enthusiastic children who are keen to engage in their learning and are proud of their school. The nurturing and inclusive relationships across the school and nursery between the staff and the children that are based on mutual respect, understanding and kindness. The commitment of all staff to improving their professional skills and knowledge leading to positive outcomes for children.

3.3 The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the Leader of Learning and a representative from Midlothian Council; the school should continue to develop children's targets for what they will learn, next steps for improvement and skills they are acquiring. Senior leaders and staff should strengthen how they use assessment data and other key information to help to ensure that all children are making the best possible progress. In the nursery, practitioners should continue to streamline approaches to planning and assessing children's learning.

4 Report Implications (Resource, Digital and Risk)

4.1 Resource

There are no financial and human resource implications associated with this report.

4.2 Digital

There are no Digital implications.

4.3 Risk

Education Scotland's team of Inspectors visit a sample of education settings every year to find out how they are performing. A report is published which informs parents about the key strengths of the setting and its capacity for further improvement.

Following the publication of the report further visits may be made to the setting, by the Education Authority to assist improvement and monitor progress.

Monitoring, review and evaluation of progress by central officers in the Education Team is the control measure in place to reduce the risk of failure of settings to demonstrate their capacity to improve.

4.4 Ensuring Equalities (if required a separate IIA must be completed)

The School Improvement Plan will be screened for equalities implications.

4.5 Additional Report Implications (See Appendix A)

Appendices

Appendix A – Additional Report Implications

Appendix B – Background information/Links

APPENDIX A – Report Implications

A.1 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

Themes addressed in this report:

- ☐ Community safety
- ☐ Adult health, care and housing
- ☒ Getting it right for every Midlothian child
- ☒ Improving opportunities in Midlothian
- ☐ Sustainable growth
- ☐ Business transformation and Best Value
- ☐ None of the above

A.2 Key Drivers for Change

Key drivers addressed in this report:

- ☐ Holistic Working
- ☐ Hub and Spoke
- ☐ Modern
- ☐ Sustainable
- ☒ Transformational
- ☒ Preventative
- ☐ Asset-based
- ☒ Continuous Improvement
- ☐ One size fits one
- ☐ None of the above

A.3 Key Delivery Streams

Key delivery streams addressed in this report:

- ☐ One Council Working with you, for you
- ☒ Preventative and Sustainable
- ☐ Efficient and Modern
- ☐ Innovative and Ambitious
- ☐ None of the above

A.4 Delivering Best Value

As noted within.

A.5 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

Copies of the report have been made available to Elected Members, parents of children currently attending St Andrew's RC Primary School and Nursery Class and other interested parties.

A.6 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

The setting will continue to improve its work in line with the school improvement plan and the Early Years team from the Education Service will continue to challenge and support the setting in relation to developing and implementing a range of quality improvement strategies.

A.7 Adopting a Preventative Approach

The Education (Scotland) Bill aims to take preventative action in order to close the attainment versus deprivation gap by implementing key policies and programmes which are designed to target support to children and young people from disadvantaged communities. Midlothian is highly committed to closing the attainment gap which compliments the strategies employed by Midlothian which are highlighted in the National Improvement Framework report which was presented to Council on 3 November 2015.

A.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

The School Improvement Plan allows for sustainable development and improvement.

APPENDIX B

Background Papers/Resource Links - [link](#)