

**To: Education and Children's Services Policy Board**

**On: 23 May 2019**

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**Report by: Director of Children's Services**

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**Heading: Inspection of St. John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class**

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**1. Summary**

1.1 St. John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class was inspected by Education Scotland in February 2019 as part of a national sample of education. The letter to parents, published by Education Scotland on 23 April 2019 is attached as an appendix to this report. The letter to parents is also available from the Director of Children's Services or from the Education Scotland website: <https://education.gov.scot/>.

1.2 The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate the quality of education. Inspectors assessed the school, with a focus on four quality indicators which were: leadership of change; learning, teaching and assessment; raising attainment and achievement; and ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion. Inspectors also assessed the nursery class with a focus on four quality indicators which were: leadership of change; learning, teaching and assessment; securing children's progress and ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion.

1.3 This was a very positive inspection which evaluated three quality indicators as 'good' and leadership of change within the school as 'very good'.

The letter to parents also identified five key strengths of the school. These were:

- The highly effective and dynamic leadership of the headteacher and depute headteachers.

Together, they have managed a significant process of change exceptionally well, to build an inclusive, new school community with colleagues across the shared campus.

- Respectful, enthusiastic and particularly well-mannered children. They are motivated by relevant and active learning experiences, and are rightly very proud of their nursery and school.
- The inclusive, welcoming and nurturing environment for learning, which is based firmly on an ethos of faith and core values. Staff, children, parents and partners feel valued and fully involved in the life of the nursery and school.
- Strong collegiate working with a range of partners and agencies within the community, who enhance learning experiences for children. The school benefits greatly from the very supportive parent body, parent council and nursery parents' committee.
- Highly effective arrangements for transitions into and beyond the nursery and school. The strong sense of teamwork amongst staff and partners ensures that all children are very well supported as they encounter change.

1.4 The letter to parents also identified one area for improvement:

- Across the nursery and school, continue to share best practice in learning, teaching and assessment, streamlining and refining record-keeping and paperwork wherever possible.

1.5 Children's Services has an agreed set of procedures for responding to inspection reports. The school and the service will agree actions within the School Improvement Plan indicating how they will address the point for action in the report, and share this plan with parents. In addition, the school will be supported in its continued improvement by Children's Services staff.

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## 2. **Recommendations**

2.1 Members of the Education and Children's Services Policy Board are asked to:

- note the key strengths and the area for improvement in the Education Scotland report on St. John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class.

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## 3. **Background**

3.1 Education Scotland's letters to parents are published online by Education Scotland.

- 3.2 The report includes one recommendation for improvement. This will be addressed through the school's improvement plan, produced by the school and supported by Children's Services staff.
- 3.3 Progress on the school improvement plan will be monitored by Children's Services staff on a proportionate basis.
- 3.4 Children's Services welcomes the process of audit undertaken by Education Scotland as supportive to continuous improvement in Renfrewshire education establishments. The inspection report will be used by the school and the service in the context of supporting and developing the quality of educational provision.
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## **Implications of the Report**

1. **Financial** : None
2. **HR & Organisational Development**: None
3. **Community/Council Planning**
  - Our Renfrewshire is thriving: high standards of education provision ensure that children and young people are given the best start in life so that they promote and contribute to a more prosperous, fairer society.
  - Our Renfrewshire is well – by providing an environment which encourages care, welfare and development, establishments play a crucial role in developing children and young people so that they become responsible citizens. The establishment's success in promoting wellbeing is evaluated as part of the inspection process.
4. **Legal**: None
5. **Property**: None
6. **Information Technology**: None
7. **Equality & Human Rights**

The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.

8. **Health & Safety:** None
  9. **Procurement:** None
  10. **Risk:** None
  11. **Privacy Impact:** None
  12. **Cosla Policy Position:** Not applicable
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#### **List of Background Papers**

None

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**Author:** Trevor Gray, Education Officer, tel: 0141 618 7224

23 April 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work.

- The highly effective and dynamic leadership of the headteacher and depute headteachers. Together, they have managed a significant process of change exceptionally well, to build an inclusive, new school community with colleagues across the shared campus.
- Respectful, enthusiastic and particularly well-mannered children. They are motivated by relevant and active learning experiences, and are rightly very proud of their nursery and school.
- The inclusive, welcoming and nurturing environment for learning, which is based firmly on an ethos of faith and core values. Staff, children, parents and partners feel valued and fully involved in the life of the nursery and school.
- Strong collegiate working with a range of partners and agencies within the community, who enhance learning experiences for children. The school benefits greatly from the very supportive parent body, parent council and nursery parents' committee.
- Highly effective arrangements for transitions into and beyond the nursery and school. The strong sense of teamwork amongst staff and partners ensures that all children are very well supported as they encounter change.

The following areas for improvement was identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from Renfrewshire Council.

- Across the nursery and school, continue to share best practice in learning, teaching and assessment, streamlining and refining record-keeping and paperwork wherever possible.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#) and [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#). Quality indicators help schools, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each school, the Scottish Government gathers details of our evaluations to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

## Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>good</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a>	

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Securing children's progress</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>good</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale</a>	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/renfrewshire/8621926>

### What happens next?

We are confident that the school has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Renfrewshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Lesley A Johnstone  
HM Inspector