

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

**On: 31 October 2019**

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

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**Heading: Inspection of Langbank Primary School**

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## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 Langbank Primary School was inspected by Education Scotland in May 2019 as part of a national sample of education. The letter to parents, published by Education Scotland on 27 August 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 Education Scotland uses different models of inspection and at Langbank Primary School the duration of the inspection was three days i.e. the short model. Inspectors assessed the school, with a focus on two quality indicators which were: learning, teaching and assessment and raising attainment and achievement.
- 1.3 This was a very positive inspection which evaluated learning, teaching and assessment as 'good' and raising attainment and achievement as 'very good'.

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

- The effective leadership of the headteacher in taking forward important improvements in the work of the school. Along with staff, he has developed more robust approaches to monitoring children's progress in their learning. This is allowing teachers to design more individualised support and challenge so that children can access learning at a more appropriate pace.

- A nurturing and caring school community where children are polite and well-behaved. They are very proud of their unique environment that they describe as a 'family' environment. They engage well in learning tasks and activities and show empathy and respect to one another and to their teachers.
- Highly motivated staff across the school who have worked in a focused way to bring about key changes and improvements. Recent developments are helping to improve learning experiences and improve outcomes for all children

1.4 The letter to parents also identified two areas for improvement:

- Continue to develop collaborative approaches to school improvement and engage with colleagues more widely. This should involve all staff and stakeholders from the outset.
- Keep under review approaches to assessing children's progress in attainment and achievements. Importantly, this should include ways to monitor key skills development. The school is now well-placed to streamline and review approaches to assessment and strengthen teacher professional judgement of children's overall progress.

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 points 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 areas for improvement in the Education Scotland report on Langbank Primary School

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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 two recommendations for improvement. These 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

13. **Climate Risk:** None

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**List of Background Papers**

None

*SB*  
*23 September 2019*

**Author:** Susan Bell, Education Manager, tel: 0141 618 7221

27 August 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Langbank Primary School. 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 effective leadership of the headteacher in taking forward important improvements in the work of the school. Along with staff, he has developed more robust approaches to monitoring children's progress in their learning. This is allowing teachers to design more individualised support and challenge so that children can access learning at a more appropriate pace.
- A nurturing and caring school community where children are polite and well-behaved. They are very proud of their unique environment that they describe as a 'family' environment. They engage well in learning tasks and activities and show empathy and respect to one another and to their teachers.
- Highly motivated staff across the school who have worked in a focused way to bring about key changes and improvements. Recent developments are helping to improve learning experiences and improve outcomes for all children.

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

- Continue to develop collaborative approaches to school improvement and engage with colleagues more widely. This should involve all staff and stakeholders from the outset.
- Keep under review approaches to assessing children's progress in attainment and achievements. Importantly, this should include ways to monitor key skills development. The school is now well-placed to streamline and review approaches to assessment and strengthen teacher professional judgement of children's overall progress.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#). 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 Langbank Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>very 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>	

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/8643121>

### 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.

JohnPaul Cassidy HM Inspector