

To: Education and Children's Services Policy Board

On: 16 January 2025

Report by: Director of Children's Services

Heading: Education Scotland Inspection of Kirklandneuk Primary School

1. Summary

1.1 Education Scotland Inspection of Kirklandneuk Primary School was inspected by Education Scotland in October 2024 as part of a national sample of education. Education Scotland uses different models of inspection and at Kirklandneuk Primary School the full model approach was deployed. Inspectors assessed the school with a focus on four quality indicators which are referenced in How Good is our School? 4

Quality Indicator 1.3 Leadership of Change

Quality Indicator 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment.

Quality Indicator 3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equity and inclusion.

Quality Indicator 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement.

1.2 This was a very positive inspection which evaluated quality indicators in the school as

Quality Indicator 1.3 Very Good

Quality Indicator 2.3 Good

Quality Indicator 3.1 Very Good

Quality Indicator 3.2 Good

1.4 As part of the inspection model the following area was also reviewed:

Quality Indicator 2.1 Safeguarding

1.5 Education Scotland do not attach an evaluative grade to this. Instead in the Summary of Inspection Findings there are evaluative statements provided which are positive and contribute to the overall school ratings. The inspection report in the form of a letter to parents, published by Education Scotland on 10 December April 2024, is attached as an appendix to this report and is also

available from the Director of Children's Services or from the Education Scotland website.

1.6 The letter to parents identified four key strengths of the school

- The confident, polite children demonstrate a good understanding of their school values. They are proud of their school, enthusiastic and keen to learn. Relationships at all levels are nurturing and positive.
- The headteacher, ably supported by the senior leadership team, provides clear leadership and direction to the school. This enables the school to move forward at an appropriate pace with its improvement journey. As a result, the staff team demonstrate leadership and look outwards to improve outcomes for children.
- Staff across the school, work very well with families and partners to improve children's health and wellbeing. They collaborate to meet the wellbeing needs of children effectively, including those with barriers to learning.
- Staff encourage and support children to develop leadership skills and take responsibility in a variety of interesting and creative ways. As a result, children contribute confidently and positively to the life and work of the school.

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

- Continue to improve the consistency of approaches to learning, teaching and assessment to ensure all children receive high-quality experiences.
- Continue to raise attainment at all stages across the school, particularly in reading and writing.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members of the Education and Children's Services Policy Board are asked to note and celebrate the key strengths and recognise the areas for further improvement in the Education Scotland report on Kirklandneuk Primary School.

3. Background

- 3.1 Children's Services welcomes the process of audit undertaken by Education Scotland as supportive to continuous improvement in Renfrewshire's education establishments. The school team at Kirklandneuk Primary School approached the inspection in a positive manner and embraced it as a professional learning opportunity in partnership with colleagues at Education Scotland.

- 3.2 The report includes two areas for further improvement, and progress in addressing this will be monitored by Children's Services staff through the Quality Improvement Framework.
 - 3.3 The inspection report will inform planned improvement activity and will enable the school to build on the recognised strengths and focus further development on areas for improvement to enable the school to continue to deliver a quality educational provision.
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Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – No financial implications
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – No HR implications
3. **Community/Council Planning** – engaging with, and learning from external inspection, ensures that 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. It also ensures 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 inspection process also supports delivery of the Council Plan crosscutting theme of improving outcomes for children and families as well as other Council Plan key strategic outcomes.

Economy

Equipping all children and young people to achieve success in life

Fair

Creating inclusive and supportive learning environments for children and young people.

Embedding children's rights in our decision-making processes

4. **Legal** - The full model inspection includes a focus on QI 3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equity and inclusion. In evaluating this QI, one of the themes that HM Inspectors evaluate is the school's Fulfilment of Statutory Duties related to attendance, exclusions, ASL Act and Associated Code of Practice, Bullying, Equality Act, Health and Nutrition, and Gaelic education.
5. **Property/Assets** – No risks to property/assets.
6. **Information Technology** – No information and technology risks.
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. 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** – No negative impacts on health and safety.
9. **Procurement** – No procurement risks
10. **Risk** – No risks identified.
11. **Privacy Impact** – No impact on privacy.
12. **Cosla Policy Position** – N/A
13. **Climate Risk** – None.
14. **Children's Rights** – This links to, Article 12 (respect for the views of the child) Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life. Article 28 (right to education) Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this. Article 29 (goals of education) Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

List of Background Papers - The inspection report and additional evidence is published on the Education Scotland website.

EH

4 December 2024

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10 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Kirklandneuk 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 confident, polite children demonstrate a good understanding of their school values. They are proud of their school, enthusiastic and keen to learn. Relationships at all levels are nurturing and positive.
- The headteacher, ably supported by the senior leadership team, provides clear leadership and direction to the school. This enables the school to move forward at an appropriate pace with its improvement journey. As a result, the staff team demonstrate leadership and look outwards to improve outcomes for children.
- Staff across the school, work very well with families and partners to improve children's health and wellbeing. They collaborate to meet the wellbeing needs of children effectively, including those with barriers to learning.
- Staff encourage and support children to develop leadership skills and take responsibility in a variety of interesting and creative ways. As a result, children contribute confidently and positively to the life and work of the school.

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

- Continue to improve the consistency of approaches to learning, teaching and assessment to ensure all children receive high-quality experiences.
- Continue to raise attainment at all stages across the school, particularly in reading and writing.

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

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our school? (4th edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale	

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

[Kirklandneuk Primary School | Inspection Report | Education Scotland](#)

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.

Jennifer Wadley
HM Inspector