

To: Education and Children Policy Board

On: 10 March 2016

Report by: Director of Children's Services

Heading: Education Scotland Inspection of Inchinnan Primary School, Inchinnan

1. Summary

- 1.1. Inchinnan Primary School, was inspected by Education Scotland, in November 2015 as part of Education Scotland's piloting of different inspection models. The inspection took place over two and a half days instead of the usual five although the school received the same two-week notice period. The letter to parents published by Education Scotland on 19 January 2016 reflects the shortened duration of the inspection and 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 www.educationscotland.gov.uk
- 1.2. Education Scotland is currently reviewing its approach to inspection and is exploring a range of approaches including no-notice inspections, shorter duration of inspections, area-based inspections where it looks at the performance of schools within a cluster, and publishing reports without evaluative levels. It is selecting a number of establishments nationally to pilot these approaches. Inchinnan Primary was selected for inspection where the report would not include any evaluation grades.
- 1.3. The purpose of the school inspection was to evaluate the quality of education and also to inform Education Scotland's future inspection models. Inspectors assessed the school, with a focus on five quality indicators which were: improvements in performance; the quality of learners' experiences; meeting learning needs; the curriculum; and improvement through self-evaluation. No evaluations against the quality indicators were produced because of the piloted nature of the inspection.
- 1.4. The inspection of Inchinnan Primary School was a positive inspection by Education Scotland and it expressed confidence in the school's capacity to further improve. Education Scotland identified five key strengths of the school. These were:

- Most children are making appropriate progress in literacy and numeracy;
- Children are well behaved and polite, and cooperate well with their teachers;
- Under the effective leadership of the headteacher, staff work well as a team in taking forward school improvements;
- Children have a broad range of learning opportunities across the curriculum;
- All children participate in activities to improve the school.

1.5. The report identified three areas for further improvement. These were:

- Continue planned improvements to learning and teaching to increase children's confidence, motivation and engagement in their learning;
- Continue to improve the curriculum to ensure children make suitable progress in all areas, and to provide children with meaningful and relevant contexts for learning;
- Ensure the school's approaches to evaluating its own work lead consistently to improvements in children's experiences and achievements.

1.6. Children's services has an agreed set of procedures for responding to inspection reports. The school and the service will prepare an action 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 improvement by children's services. Within two years of the publication of the letter to parents children's services will inform parents of the progress made by the school in addressing the main points for action.

1.7. Children's services and the head teacher will be provided with the opportunity to feedback to Education Scotland on the approach taken in this inspection. Education Scotland has advised that it will use comments to inform any future inspection models which it uses.

2. Recommendations

2.1. Members of the education and children policy board are asked to note the key strengths and the areas for improvement in the Education Scotland report on Inchinnan Primary School.

3. Background

3.1. Education Scotland letters to parents are made available on-line to the wider parent body.

3.2. The report includes three recommendations for improvement. These recommendations will be addressed through an action plan, produced by the school and supported by children's services staff.

- 3.3. Progress on the action plan will be monitored by children's services staff on a proportionate basis. A report will be prepared within two years of the original inspection, detailing the progress made in implementing the action plan. This report will be made available to parents.
- 3.4. Children's services welcomes the process of audit undertaken by Education Scotland as supportive to continuous improvement in Renfrewshire schools. The inspection report will be used by the school and the service in the context of supporting and developing the quality of educational provision.

Implications of this report

1. Financial Implications

None.

2. HR and Organisational Development Implications

None.

3. Community Plan/Council Plan Implications

Children and Young People

- 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.

Community Care, Health and Well-being

- 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 school and nursery's success in promoting healthy lifestyles is evaluated as part of the quality assurance process.

Empowering our Communities

- 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.

Greener

- Participation in the eco-schools programme encourages young people to become environmentally aware.

Jobs and the Economy

- The quality assurance process contributes to our young people becoming successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

4. Legal Implications

Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000.

5. Property/Assets Implications

None.

6. Information Technology Implications

None.

7. Equality and Human Rights Implications

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.

8. Health and Safety Implications

None.

9. Procurement Implications

None.

10. Risk Implications

None.

11. Privacy Impact

None.

List of Background Papers

(a) None.

Children's Services

TMcE/GMcK/LG

9 February 2016

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26 January 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

**Inchinnan Primary School
Renfrewshire Council**

We are trying out some new approaches to inspection. You can find more information about why we are doing this, and details of our new approaches, at the link below.¹

Inchinnan Primary School was inspected in November 2015. A team of inspectors visited the school for two and a half days, following a two-week notification period. During our visit, we talked to children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We looked at teaching, learning and assessment in all classes, and at how the school is working to raise the attainment of all children.

We are confident that the school has the capacity to continue to improve.

The inspection team found the following strengths:

- Most children are making appropriate progress in literacy and numeracy.
- Children are well behaved and polite, and cooperate well with their teachers.
- Under the effective leadership of the headteacher, staff work well as a team in taking forward school improvements.
- Children have a broad range of learning opportunities across the curriculum.
- All children participate in activities to improve the school.

The following areas for improvement were also identified and discussed with the headteacher and Renfrewshire Council.

- Continue planned improvements to learning and teaching to increase children's confidence, motivation and engagement in their learning.
- Continue to improve the curriculum to ensure children make suitable progress in all areas, and to provide children with meaningful and relevant contexts for learning.
- Ensure the school's approaches to evaluating its own work lead consistently to improvements in children's experiences and achievements.

What happens next?

We will make no further visits in relation to this inspection. Renfrewshire Council will inform parents about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting to parents on the quality of its schools.

Susan Duff
HM Inspector