

To: Education and Children's Services Policy Board

On: 16 January 2020

Report by: Director of Children's Services

Heading: Inspection of Our Lady of Peace Primary School and Early Learning Class, Linwood

1. Summary

- 1.1 Our Lady of Peace Primary School and early learning class was inspected by Education Scotland in September 2019 as part of a national sample of education. The letter to parents, published by Education Scotland on 17 December 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 use different models of inspection. At Our Lady of Peace Primary School and early learning class the full inspection model was applied. 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.
- 1.3 This was a positive inspection which evaluated leadership of change and raising attainment and achievement as good and learning, teaching and assessment and ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion as satisfactory. The letter to parents identified three key strengths of the school. These were:
 - The welcoming and encouraging ethos across the early learning class and school. Staff are committed to providing a caring, nurturing community. Children in the early learning class are happy and keen to engage with their learning through play, particularly when learning outdoors. At the primary stages children are keen to learn, enthusiastic and articulately discuss their school life.

- The willingness of all staff to participate in professional learning opportunities and to share their learning with others. They are increasingly committed to engaging in leadership activities to improve experiences for children.
- The headteachers' awareness of and use of data to enable teachers to plan more effective learning experiences for children. This is leading to more appropriate interventions being introduced which are helping children progress in their learning. Staff in this school are reducing the attainment gaps between different groups of children.

1.4 The letter to parents identified the following areas for further improvement:

- Develop more rigorous and systematic approaches to self-evaluation and monitoring across all areas of the early learning class and school. This will help the staff team make more informed and consistent improvements.
- Review learning pathways and the curriculum on offer to ensure that children, across the early learning class and the school, experience the same depth of learning in all curriculum areas as they do in literacy and numeracy.
- Develop effective approaches to learning, teaching and assessment that are consistently shared across the early learning class and school to maximise opportunities for children's learning to progress. Ensure that teaching approaches are varied, engage children more effectively and are more responsive to the needs of all children.
- Review approaches to supporting wellbeing and inclusion for all across the school.

1.5 Children's Services have an agreed set of procedures for responding to inspection reports. The school and the service will prepare a short action plan (which will in turn feed into the School Improvement Plan) indicating how they will address the points for action in the report and will share this plan with parents. In addition, the school will be supported in its improvement by Children's Services.

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 Our Lady of Peace Primary School and Early Learning Class.

3. **Background**

- 3.1 Education Scotland's letters to parents are published online by Education Scotland.
- 3.2 The report includes four recommendations for improvement. These will be addressed through the ongoing work of the school and the school's improvement planning procedures, which includes the creation of the annual school improvement plan 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's 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.

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.

List of Background Papers

None

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17 December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Our Lady Of Peace 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 welcoming and encouraging ethos across the early learning class and school. Staff are committed to providing a caring, nurturing community. Children in the early learning class are happy and keen to engage with their learning through play, particularly when learning outdoors. At the primary stages children are keen to learn, enthusiastic and articulately discuss their school life.
- The willingness of all staff to participate in professional learning opportunities and to share their learning with others. They are increasingly committed to engaging in leadership activities to improve experiences for children.
- The headteachers' awareness of and use of data to enable teachers to plan more effective learning experiences for children. This is leading to more appropriate interventions being introduced which are helping children progress in their learning. Staff in this school are reducing the attainment gaps between different groups of children.

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

- Develop more rigorous and systematic approaches to self-evaluation and monitoring across all areas of the early learning class and school. This will help the staff team make more informed and consistent improvements.
- Review learning pathways and the curriculum offer to ensure that children, across the early learning class and the school, experience the same depth of learning in all curriculum areas as they do in literacy and numeracy.
- Develop effective approaches to learning, teaching and assessment that are consistently shared across the early learning class and school to maximise opportunities for children's learning to progress. Ensure that teaching approaches are varied, engage children more effectively and are more responsive to the needs of all children.
- Review approaches to supporting wellbeing and inclusion for all across the school.

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

8. Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Our Lady of Peace Primary School and Nursery Class

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

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

Here are the Care Inspectorate's gradings for the nursery class

Care Inspectorate standards	Grade
Quality of care and support	good
Quality of environment	good
Quality of management and leadership	adequate

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had no requirements and no recommendations. As a result of this inspection, there is one requirement and two recommendations.

Requirement

- ☐ In order to ensure that staff required to register with the Scottish Social Services Council complete registration within six months of commencing in post. The provider and management must ensure that staff make an application to do so as soon as possible following appointment, so that they are registered by the required date of registration.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the health and Social Care Standards which state that: 'I am confident that people who support and care for me have been appropriately recruited' (HSCS 4.24) and in order to comply with Regulation: Fitness of employees of the Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011.

Recommendations

- The management team should systematically review the service procedures for safe storage and administration of medication with a focus on updating the recording and auditing systems to ensure they reflects best practice guidance, 'Management of medication in day care of children and childminding services'.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that: 'Any treatment or intervention that I experience is safe and effective.' (HSCS 1.24).

- ☐ The management team should develop risk assessments for all areas of the service which children have access to including outdoors. Risk assessments should identify all potential hazards and the safety measures the service plan to implement to minimise risks. This is to ensure the environment is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which states: 'my environment is safe and secure' (HSCS 5.17).

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

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=3950>.

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.

Frances E Graham
HM Inspector

Mags Milloy
Care Inspector