

West Dunbartonshire Council

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Education and Lifelong Learning Committee: 9 September 2009

Subject: Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education: Report on Knoxland Primary School

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To inform Members of the inspection of Knoxland Primary School by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) and the subsequent report published by HMIE on 16 June 2009.

2. Background

- 2.1** In April 2009, Knoxland Primary School was inspected under new inspection procedures as part of a national sample of primary education. The inspection covered key aspects of the work of the school. It evaluated:

- pupils' learning and achievement,
- the curriculum and meeting learning needs,
- how well staff worked with others to support young people's learning,
- how well staff and pupils were actively involved in improving their school community,
- did the school have high expectations of all young people and
- did the school have a clear sense of direction?

- 2.2** Her Majesty's Inspectors examined pupils' work and interviewed groups of pupils, including the pupil council, and staff. Members of the inspection team also met the chairperson of the Parent Council, representatives of the parent-teacher association (PTA) and a group of parents. The inspection team also evaluated aspects of the school's progress in implementing national recommendations related to improving aspects of school meals provision. The inspection report is available at <http://www.hmie.gov.uk/> and a copy is attached as Appendix 1.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** Members will note that HM Inspectors identified key strengths within the school, in particular:
- polite, well-behaved and motivated children who enjoy learning;
 - the quality of relationships and ethos of mutual respect between adults and children;

- the wide range of experiences for children to achieve during school and out-of-school hours;
- the outstanding contribution to children's learning experiences made by support and catering staff; and
- the leadership of the head teacher and promoted staff in securing improvements for children.

3.2 Members will note that in relation to the five indicators of quality used in this inspection procedure, two were evaluated as very good and three were evaluated as good. These evaluations are recognised as a positive report in relation to the target on school inspections in the Single Outcome Agreement.

3.3 Members will also note that the inspectors identified two areas of good practice which will appear on the HMIE national website for all schools to view and are appended to this report as Appendix 2. These were:

- Information and Communication Technology (ICT).
- The involvement of catering staff in health promotion.

3.4 The Inspectors have agreed the following areas for improvement with the school and education authority:

- Continue to improve attainment in mathematics;
- Ensure that tasks and activities are at the right level to enable higher-achieving children to achieve to their potential; and
- Strengthen the school's approaches to self-evaluation.

4. Personnel Issues

4.1 This report has no implications for personnel.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 The delegated school budget will finance the action plan.

6. Risk Analysis

6.1 HMIE will make no further visits to the school in relation to this report. The Council will report on progress as part of its arrangements for reporting to parents.

7. Conclusions and Officers' Recommendations

7.1 Within 2 years of the date of publication, parents and carers will be informed by the council on the progress made by the school in the points for action.

7.2 The Committee is invited:

- (a) to note the contents of this report; and;

- (b) to congratulate the staff, parents and children of Knoxland Primary School, for their achievements as recognised by HMIE in the report published on 16 June 2009.

Terry Lanagan,
Executive Director of Educational Services

Person to Contact: Sandra Love, Head of Service (Quality), Department of Educational Services, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton G82 3PU
Telephone No: 01389 737304
E-mail: sandra.love@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Appendix: **Appendix 1:** Copy of HMIE report on Knoxland Primary School

Appendix 2: Good Practice examples

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: Ward 3