

West Dunbartonshire Council

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Education and Lifelong Learning Committee: 14 March 2012

Subject: Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education: Report on Auchnacraig Early Education and Childcare Centre

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To inform Members of the inspection of Auchnacraig Early Education and Childcare Centre by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) and the subsequent report published by HMIE on 7 December 2011.

2. Background

Auchnacraig Early Education and Childcare Centre was inspected as part of a national sample of pre-school education and the subsequent report published by HMIE 7 December 2011. The inspection covered key aspects of the work of the Centre. It evaluated:

- How well children learn and achieve
- How well the pre-school centre supports children to develop and learn
- How well the pre-school centre improves the quality of its work

Responses to questionnaires issued to all parents and staff were analysed. 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 found the following key strengths:

- Happy, motivated children who are growing in confidence as responsible learners.
- The quality of children's learning experiences outdoors and in the forest school.
- The inclusive nurturing environment for learning.
- Strong and supportive partnerships with parents.
- The focus on leadership for learning by the head of centre and staff team.

- 3.2** Members will note the evaluations of the indicators of quality used in this inspection procedure.

Improvements in performance	very good
Children's experiences	very good
Meeting learning needs	very good
The curriculum	very good
Improvement through self-evaluation	good

- 3.4** The inspector discussed with staff and the education authority how the nursery could continue to improve. The following was agreed:

- Improve further communication with parents by providing an annual written report on children's progress in learning.
- Improve further self-evaluation activities, for example by adopting more rigorous procedures for observing and recording playroom practice.

4. Personnel Issues

- 4.1** There were no personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1** There were no financial implications.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** An action plan will be prepared to take forward the recommendations made in this report.

7. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 7.1** No significant equalities issues were identified in relation to this report.

8. Strategic Assessment

9. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 9.1** HM Inspectors were confident that the centre's self-evaluation processes were leading to improvements. As a result, they will make no further visits in connection with this inspection. The local authority will inform parents about the centre's progress as part of the authority's arrangements for reporting to parents on the quality of its centre.

- 9.2** The committee is invited:

- (a) to note the contents of this report; and;
- (b) to congratulate the staff, parents and children of Auchnacraig Early Education and Childcare Centre, for their achievements as recognised by HMIE in the report published on 7 December 2011.

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Appendix: Copy of HMIE report on Auchnacraig Early Education and Childcare Centre

Ward Affected: Ward 4