

West Dunbartonshire Council

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Education and Lifelong Learning Committee: 13 June 2012

Subject: Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education: Report on Children's Hour Nursery

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To inform Members of the inspection of Children's Hour Nursery by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) and the subsequent report published by HMIE on 11 April 2012.

2. Background

Children's Hour Nursery, one of the Council's Partnership Nurseries, was inspected as part of a national sample of pre-school education and the subsequent report published by HMIE 11 April 2012. 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:

- Well-behaved, motivated children who are keen to learn.
- Staff's development and use of children's assessment profiles to ensure progress in children's learning and development.
- Caring staff who interact well with children to meet their individual needs.
- Manager's leadership of improvement.

- 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	good
Improvement through self-evaluation	good

- 3.3** The inspector discussed with staff and the education authority how the nursery could continue to improve. The following was agreed:
- Continue to develop the curriculum in line with Curriculum for Excellence.
 - Continue to develop self-evaluation and monitoring procedures to ensure continuous improvement in the quality of children's learning.

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** There are no equalities issues arising from this report.

8. Strategic Assessment

- 8.1** The information from this report demonstrates that the children at Children's Hour are benefiting from good quality learning experiences which will be a strong foundation for their future.

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 Children's Hour Nursery, for their achievements as recognised by HMIE in the report published on 11 April 2012.



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Appendix: Copy of HMIE report on Children's Hour Nursery

Ward Affected: Ward 4