

West Dunbartonshire Council
Report by the Director of Education and Cultural Services
Children's Services Committee: 13 December 2006

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

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To inform Members of the inspection of Goldenhill Primary School by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) and the subsequent report, published by HMIE on 3 October 2006.

2. Background

- 2.1** Goldenhill Primary School was inspected in May 2006 as part of a national sample of primary education. The inspection covered key aspects of the work of the school at all stages. It evaluated pupils' achievements, the effectiveness of the school, the environment for learning, the school's processes for self-evaluation and capacity for improvement. There was a particular focus on attainment and teaching and learning activities in English language and mathematics.
- 2.2** Her Majesty's Inspectors examined pupils' work and interviewed staff and pupils. Responses to questionnaires issued to a sample of parents, pupils in P4 to P7 and to all staff were also analysed. The inspection report is available at <http://www.hmie.gov.uk/>

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** Members will note that HM Inspectors identified key strengths within the school, in particular:
- the broad curriculum and focus on promoting pupils' wider achievements;
 - pupils' attainment in English language and mathematics;
 - the commitment of the headteacher and staff to the care, welfare and inclusion of all pupils in the life of the school;
 - confident, courteous and hard-working pupils who had a sense of responsibility and pride in the school;
 - partnerships with parents, School Board, Parents' Association and the wider community;
 - inspirational leadership of the headteacher and her impact in ensuring high standards of attainment and achievement.
- 3.2** Members will note that in relation to the indicators of quality, 1 of the indicators namely Pastoral Care was rated excellent. This is the first school in this authority to receive an excellence rating, since this word scale was introduced in August 2005. Eight indicators were rated as very good, 5 were rated as good and 1 was rated as adequate. There were no 'unsatisfactory' evaluations.

- 3.3** Overall, the inspection found that the achievements of Goldenhill Primary School are of a very high standard and that the school, parents and children as well as everyone associated with the school should be congratulated on the performance identified within the report.
- 3.4** The Inspectors reported that the school and the education authority, in liaison with HM Inspectors, should take action to ensure improvement to:
- build on recent improvements and existing good practice in learning and teaching to ensure consistently high quality learning experiences at all stages of the school;
 - continue to develop more rigorous approaches to monitoring and evaluating classroom practice;
 - improve aspects of the accommodation highlighted in this report.

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. Conclusions

- 6.1** HM Inspectors will make no further reports in connection with this inspection. The school and the education authority will prepare an action plan indicating how the main findings of the report will be taken forward. The plan will be shared with parents/carers and school staff. Within 2 years of the date of publication, parents and carers will be informed about the progress made by the school.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1** Members are requested:
- (a) to note the contents of this report; and
 - (b) to congratulate the staff, parents and children of Goldenhill Primary School, for their achievements as recognised by HMIE in the report published on 3 October 2006.

Liz McGinlay,
Director of Education and Cultural Services

Person to Contact: Sandra Love, Head of Service, Department of Education and Cultural Services, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton G82 3PU
Telephone No: 01389 737304
E-mail:

Wards Affected: Ward 9 Hardgate