

## West Dunbartonshire Council

### Report by the Director of Education and Cultural Services

Children's Services Committee: 18 April 2007

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**Subject: Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education: Report on St Joseph's Primary School**

#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** To inform Members of the inspection of St Joseph's Primary School by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) and the subsequent report, published by HMIE on 6 February 2007.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1** St Joseph's Primary School was inspected in October 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:
- polite, courteous and articulate pupils, and positive relationships between all members of the school community;
  - improvements in the quality of pupils' writing;
  - the successful work of the school in involving parents in their children's learning and in the life of the school;
  - the commitment of the headteacher and senior managers to the school and its pupils.
- 3.2** Members will note that in relation to the indicators of quality, 3 of the indicators were rated very good, 11 were rated as good and 1 was rated as adequate. There were no 'weak' or 'unsatisfactory' evaluations.

- 3.3** Overall, the inspection found that the staff at St Joseph's Primary School had successfully established a positive, caring environment for their pupils. 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 that:
- the pace of learning and level of challenge is appropriate for all pupils;
  - attainment continues to be raised in aspects of English Language;
  - information and communications technology continues to be developed to enhance teaching and learning.

#### **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 Assessment**

- 6.1** An Action Plan will be prepared to take forward the recommendations in the report prior to a follow-through inspection in two years time.

#### **7. Conclusions**

- 7.1** Within 2 years of the date of publication, parents and carers will be informed about the progress made by the school.

#### **8. Recommendations**

- 8.1** Members are requested:
- (a) to note the contents of this report; and;
  - (b) to congratulate the staff, parents and children of St. Joseph's Primary School, for their achievements as recognised by HMIE in the report published on 6 February 2007.

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Liz McGinlay,  
Director of Education and Cultural Services

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