

PERFORMANCE AND IMPROVEMENT – SCHOOLS (GLENDINNING TERRACE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY CLASS)

Report by Director - Education & Lifelong Learning

Education Sub-Committee

2 March 2023

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report proposes that the Committee considers His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) Reports for Glendinning Terrace Primary School and Nursery Class and the Improvement Plan developed by the Headteacher to address the key recommendations.
- 1.2 Glendinning Terrace Primary School was inspected using a 'short' inspection model. This means that only two quality indicators were inspected in both the Early Learning and Childcare setting and the Primary School over a three day period.
- 1.3 The HMIE Report evaluated the Early Years setting and the Primary provision as satisfactory across all quality indicators. The evaluation gradings range from unsatisfactory to excellent, so a grading of satisfactory indicates a basic level of provision. As a result, the school have been asked to prepare a focussed plan for improvement with a particular emphasis on addressing areas highlighted for improvement.
- 1.4 The Quality Improvement Team and Early Years Team will commence a period of intense support and scrutiny to ensure progress is made by the Headteacher and the School.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that the Committee approves:-

- 2.1 The School Action Plan for Glendinning Terrace Primary School, which addresses areas for improvement as outlined in the HMIE Inspection Report (January 2023).
- 2.2 The Quality Improvement Team's plan for scrutiny and support following a 'satisfactory' inspection.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education

His Majesty's Inspectors of Education (HMIE) are part of Education Scotland, a National body who carry out scrutiny activities in all schools and settings. During the COVID-19 pandemic, all inspection activity ceased, so there has been a time delay in the scrutiny activities carried out. This has allowed time for the school to lead the areas of improvement identified and to ensure measurable impact of these.

3.2 Scottish Borders Council Quality Improvement Framework

- a) The Education (Scotland) Act 2016, The Standard's in Scotland's Schools Act 2000 (amended to include the National Improvement Framework) place direct responsibility on Local Authorities to endeavour to secure improvement in the quality of school education which is provided by the schools managed by it.
- b) The Quality Improvement Team has a relentless focus on supporting and challenging continuous improvement in schools and settings to ensure the best outcomes for our children and young people.

4 REPORT EVIDENCE FROM HMIE AND LOCAL AUTHORITY

4.1 Glendinning Terrace Primary School – Initial Inspection

- a) In October 2022, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Glendinning Terrace Primary School and Nursery Class. During the visit, the team talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the Headteacher and staff.
- b) The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work:
 - i. Relationships between nursery practitioners, school staff, children, and those in the school community.
 - ii. Children's broader achievements and successes in various events, which enables them to develop various skills and become responsible and caring individuals who make a significant contribution in their community.
 - iii. The approaches Teachers and staff are taking to improve children's attainment in reading, which are making a difference to children's progress at the primary stages.
 - iv. The Headteacher's and Early Years Officer's impact on leadership of and direction of school and nursery improvement.
- c) The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the Headteacher and a representative from Scottish Borders Council:
 - i. Continue to build on current approaches for improving how children's progress is assessed, planned and tracked in the nursery to help ensure they achieve.
 - ii. Ensure that all children's needs are met through experiences and activities which provide appropriate pace and challenge and further their learning.
 - iii. Improve further children's attainment, particularly in numeracy and mathematics.
 - iv. Take forward plans to involve children more in making decisions about school life and involve parents more in their children's learning.

d) The inspection team are confident that the school has capacity to continue to improve and they will make no further visits in connection with this inspection.

4.2 **Local Authority Support**

In accordance with Scottish Border's Council's Quality Improvement Framework, a Quality Improvement Officer will continue to work alongside the school, offering a high level of support, to ensure continuous improvement. A formal Support Plan will be prepared by the Officer with clear targets for improvement and identification of key roles and responsibilities. A follow-up school review will take place by a team from Scottish Borders Council in October 2023.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

There are no costs attached to any of the recommendations contained in this report.

5.2 Risk and Mitigations

The report fully describes all the elements of risk that have been identified in relation to this project and no specific additional concerns need to be addressed.

5.3 **Integrated Impact Assessment**

Integrated Impact Assessment has been completed and there is no requirement for a full IIA to be completed in relation this this report.

5.4 Sustainable Development Goals

There is no impact/difference to sustainable development goals.

5.5 Rural Proofing

Not applicable.

5.6 **Data Protection Impact Statement**

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes to be made to the Scheme of Delegation which need to be made following the recommendations of this report.

6 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Director (Finance & Corporate Governance), the Monitoring Officer/Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director (People Performance & Change), the Clerk to the Council and Corporate Communications have been consulted and any comments received will be incorporated into the final report.

Approved by

Lesley Munro

Director - Education & Lifelong Learning

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Christian Robertson	Quality Improvement Manager 01835 824000

Background Papers:

HMIE Inspection Report January 2023

HMIE Summarised Inspection Findings (Nursery Class) January 2023

HMIE Summarised Inspection Findings (Primary School) January 2023

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Christian Robertson can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at: Christian Robertson, Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose TD6 0SA, 01835 824000, carobertson@scotborders.gov.uk.