
PERFORMANCE AND IMPROVEMENT – SCHOOLS (BROOMLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY CLASS)

Report by Director – Education & Lifelong Learning Education

**Education Performance Sub-Committee
5 OCTOBER 2023**

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report proposes that the Committee considers His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) Reports for Broomlands Primary School and Nursery Class and the Improvement Plan developed by the Headteacher to address the key recommendations.
- 1.2 Broomlands Primary School was inspected using a 'full' inspection model. This means that 4 key quality indicators were inspected in both the Early Learning and Childcare setting and the Primary School over a 5 day period.
- 1.3 The HMIE Report evaluated the Early Learning and Childcare provision as very good and the Primary provision as good, across all quality indicators. The evaluation gradings range given by HMIE on school inspections can range from unsatisfactory to excellent. A grading of very good indicates there are major strengths in this aspect of the school's work. Gradings of good indicates there are important strengths with areas for improvement in this aspect of the school's work.
- 1.4 The Quality Improvement Team and Early Years Team will continue to work alongside the Headteacher to ensure continued progress towards excellence. The team will ensure that areas of very good practice are shared across the Local Authority.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that the Committee approves:-

- 2.1 The School Improvement Plan for Broomlands Primary School which addresses areas for improvement as outlined in the HMIE Inspection Report (March 2023).
- 2.2 The Quality Improvement Team's plan for support and showcasing of the work of Broomlands Primary School following a strong 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 In March 2023, a team of Inspectors from Education Scotland visited Broomlands Primary School and Nursery Class. During their visit, the team talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the Headteacher and staff.

4.2 The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work:

- Articulate, enthusiastic and confident children who clearly demonstrate their school and nursery values each day. They play and learn together well and are supportive of each other.
- The effective leadership of the headteacher and senior leaders in establishing a team of staff who work very well together and support one another to improve. School and nursery staff engage in professional learning and reflection. This is supporting school improvement and helping children achieve and attain.
- Senior leaders and all staff create a nurturing, inclusive ethos where children feel safe and cared for. This has a positive impact on the wellbeing of all children across the nursery and school.
- Staff make very effective use of digital technologies which are fully integrated across school life. This is enhancing children's learning experiences and skills.
- In the nursery, practitioners make highly effective use of outdoor spaces to promote and support children's thinking, curiosity and enquiry across the curriculum.

4.3 The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the Headteacher and a representative from Scottish Borders Council.

- Senior leaders should continue to develop clear measures to evaluate their success in improving outcomes for children.

- As planned, school staff should continue to develop opportunities for children to lead their own learning and apply their skills in real-life and meaningful contexts.
- In the school, staff should review how they plan, implement and evaluate the support offered to children who need additional help with their learning. This should involve identifying specific targets that help demonstrate more clearly children's progress and successes.
- Senior leaders and teachers should continue to develop their use of information about children's progress in learning to plan further improvements in attainment.

4.4 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.

4.5 Local Authority Support in accordance with Scottish Borders Council's Quality Improvement Framework, a Quality Improvement Officer will continue to work alongside the School, offering a low level of support, to ensure continuous improvement.

4.6 The School will report progress in their annual Standards and Quality Report.

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 to this report.

5.4 Sustainable Development Goals

There is no impact/difference to sustainable development goals.

5.6 Rural Proofing

Not applicable.

5.7 Data Protection Impact Statement

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

5.8 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: Approved by Lesley Munro, Director – Education & Lifelong Learning

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Gillian McKenzie	Quality Improvement Officer – 01835 824000 Extension No. 8006

Background Papers:

HMIE Inspection Report March 2023

HMIE Summarised Inspection Findings (Nursery Class) March 2023

HMIE Summarised Inspection Findings (Primary School) March 2023

Previous Minute Reference:

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

Contact us at Senior Management Support, Children & Young People's Services, People Department, Scottish Borders Council, Newtown St Boswells, TD6 0SA. Tel 01835 825080
SeniorMgtSupport@scotborders.gov.uk