
PERFORMANCE AND IMPROVEMENT REPORT– SCHOOLS (GREENLAW PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY CLASS)

Report by 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 Greenlaw Primary School and Nursery Class and the Improvement Plan developed by the Headteacher to address the key recommendations.
- 1.2 Greenlaw 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 3 day period.
- 1.3 The HMIE Report evaluated the Early Learning and Childcare provision 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 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 good practice are shared across the Local Authority.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that the Committee approves:-

- 2.1 The School Improvement Plan for Greenlaw Primary School which addresses areas for improvement as outlined in the HMIE Inspection Report (June 2023).**

2.2 The Quality Improvement Team's plan for support and showcasing of the work of Greenlaw 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 June 2023, a team of Inspectors from Education Scotland visited Greenlaw 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:

- Children across the school and nursery who are happy, friendly and eager to share their learning.
- Teachers' effective use of digital technology to personalise children's learning. Children enjoy these motivating learning experiences, which take account of their different strengths and needs.
- The regular celebrations of children's achievements, widely shared through social media across the whole school community. These support children to develop confidence and team building skills.

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

- Children should be more involved in leading their own learning. They need more opportunities to make choices and decisions about their learning.
- Senior leaders and staff should develop learning through play at the early level and beyond. This will enable staff to meet children's needs better and allow children to apply their skills in real-life contexts.

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)

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Grace Frew	Quality Improvement Officer – 01835 824000 Extension No. 5490

Background Papers:

HMIE Inspection Report June 2023

HMIE Summarised Inspection Findings (Nursery Class) June 2023

HMIE Summarised Inspection Findings (Primary School) June 2023

Previous Minute Reference:

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