
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	7 May 2019
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/48/19/SP
Contact Officer:	Stephen Parsons	Contact No:	01475 712761
Subject:	Education Scotland Report on Moorfoot Primary School, Nursery Class and Garvel Deaf Centre		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Education & Communities Committee of the recent Education Scotland inspection of Moorfoot Primary School, Nursery Class and Garvel Deaf Centre. The inspection focused on progress being made within Moorfoot Primary School, Nursery Class and Garvel Deaf Centre on improving learning and teaching and raising attainment/ securing children's progress.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Moorfoot Primary School, Nursery Class and Garvel Deaf Centre were inspected in January 2019, under the Education Scotland's short model. The inspection focused on progress being made within the school, nursery class and centre to improve learning and teaching, to raise attainment, to secure progress and to close the poverty-related attainment gap.
- 2.2 The report published in April 2019 outlines the positive practices and interventions that are having an impact on improving outcomes for learners within the school, nursery class and centre and areas for improvement.
- 2.3 Education Scotland notes that the evidence and evaluation to date indicate that Moorfoot Primary School, Nursery Class and Garvel Deaf Centre are making good progress in improving learning, raising attainment and closing the poverty-related attainment gap.
- 2.4 The report noted the positive, respectful and inclusive ethos within Moorfoot Primary.
- 2.5 The inspection team also noted the range of opportunities for children to achieve more widely through participation in a range of activities and groups which promote leadership, positive relationships, active lifestyles and an inclusive school community.
- 2.6 Education Scotland highlighted that across the school, staff strive to promote equity across learning for all children in an inclusive ethos and they know children and families well and are aware of the different challenges children and families face.
- 2.7 Education Scotland highlighted areas for improvement which include continuing to build on the strong practice in learning and teaching to bring about greater consistency and continuing to raise attainment for all and, in doing so, developing further approaches to assessment and moderation.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Education & Communities Committee notes the Education Scotland report on Moorfoot Primary School, Nursery Class and Garvel Deaf Centre.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 As part of Education Scotland's inspection framework, Moorfoot Primary School, Nursery Class and Garvel Deaf Centre was inspected in January 2019. Education Scotland staff and associates assessors from education authorities, evaluated the education provision provided within the school.
- 4.2 The inspection covered key aspects of the work of the school at all stages, identified key strengths and areas for improvement.

The framework for this inspection included reviewing quality indicators which enabled Education Scotland to evaluate aspects of:

- 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment
 - 3.2 Raising Attainment and achievement
 - 3.2 Securing children's progress (Nursery class)
- 4.3 Education Scotland assessed and reported on the views of parents, pupils and staff, the quality of learning and teaching and how well the school was raising attainment and achievement for all pupils.
 - 4.4 The report was published in April 2019. It has been issued to staff, parents, local elected members and the Convener and Vice-Convener (Education).

5.0 CURRENT PROVISION

- 5.1 Moorfoot Primary School, Nursery Class and Garvel Deaf Centre has received a positive report from Education Scotland which outlines the progress made in the key areas.
- 5.2 The report noted that there is a positive, respectful and inclusive ethos within Moorfoot Primary School and children benefit from nurturing relationships with staff. Children and staff are proud of their school and feel valued.
- 5.3 It also reported that the strong and effective leadership of the headteacher is driving forward positive change across the school and the leadership team are very positive role models for staff. They have successfully helped to create a positive, calm and nurturing ethos across the school. They promote inclusion for all learners in a positive and meaningful way
- 5.4 Teachers' explanations and instructions are clear. Overall, a whole-school focus on formative assessment and the 'five star lesson' have had a positive impact on learning and teaching.
- 5.5 In assessing the quality indicators, Education Scotland found the two key indicators to be the following:

For the Primary School

- Learning, teaching and assessment - good
- Raising attainment and achievement - good

For the Nursery Class

- Learning, teaching and assessment - good
- Securing children's progress - good

- 5.6 The report lists a number of points which are particular strengths of the school:
 - Children who are confident and well-mannered and demonstrate great pride in their new school. They engage positively with each other, staff and visitors and enjoy opportunities to support school improvement.
 - The strong and effective leadership of the headteacher, who is driving forward positive

change across the school. She demonstrates a great commitment to continuous improvement and to securing the best possible outcomes for children.

- The headteacher and leadership team who are very positive role models for staff. They have successfully helped to create a positive, calm and nurturing ethos across the school. They promote inclusion for all learners in a positive and meaningful way.
- Staff in Garvel Deaf Centre who understand and meet children's needs very well. They successfully promote equality in a relevant way. In doing so, children across the school have an improved understanding of diversity.

5.7 The following areas for improvement were identified:

- Continue to build on the strong practice in learning and teaching to bring about greater consistency across the primary stages and nursery class. In doing so, ensure that lessons are planned to offer a greater level of challenge for a number of learners.
- Continue to raise attainment for all and in doing so, develop further approaches to assessment and moderation.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial Implications

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
n/a					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (if applicable)	Other Comments
n/a					

6.2 Human Resources:

N/A.

6.3 Legal:

N/A.

6.4 Equalities:

N/A.

6.5 Repopulation:

N/A.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 N/A.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 N/A.

23 April 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Moorfoot Primary School and Nursery Class and Garvel Deaf Centre. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

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

- Children who are confident and well-mannered and demonstrate great pride in their new school. They engage positively with each other, staff and visitors and enjoy opportunities to support school improvement.
- The strong and effective leadership of the headteacher, who is driving forward positive change across the school. She demonstrates a great commitment to continuous improvement and to securing the best possible outcomes for children.
- The headteacher and leadership team who are very positive role models for staff. They have successfully helped to create a positive, calm and nurturing ethos across the school. They promote inclusion for all learners in a positive and meaningful way.
- Staff in Garvel Deaf Centre who understand and meet children's needs very well. They successfully promote equality in a relevant way. In doing so, children across the school have an improved understanding of diversity.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from Inverclyde Council.

- Continue to build on the strong practice in learning and teaching to bring about greater consistency across the primary stages and nursery class. In doing so, ensure that lessons are planned to offer a greater level of challenge for a number of learners.
- Continue to raise attainment for all and in doing so, develop further approaches to assessment and moderation.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#) and [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#) Quality indicators help schools, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each school, the Scottish Government gathers details of our evaluations to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Moorfoot Primary School and Nursery Class and Garvel Deaf Centre

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our school? (4th edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale	

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Securing children's progress	good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/inverclyde/8641420>

What happens next?

We are confident that the school has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Inverclyde Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Jackie Maley
HM Inspector