

**EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 6 MAY 2008**

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**Education and Lifelong Learning Committee**

**Tuesday 6 May 2008 at 4.00 pm**

**Present:** Provost McCormick, Councillors Blair, Brooks, Clocherty, Dorrian, Grieve, Loughran, McCabe, Osborne, White and Wilson, Rev A McLean, Rev P McGranaghan and Father M McMahon, Church Representatives, Mr G Miller, Parent Representative and Mr T Tracey, Teacher Representative.

**Chair:** Councillor McCabe presided.

**In attendance:** Corporate Director Education & Social Care, Head of Schools, Head of Lifelong Learning & Educational Support, Head of Support & Development, Head of School Estate Projects, School Estate Manager, Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Mr H McNeilly (for Head of Legal & Administration) and Head of Corporate Communications & Public Affairs.

**With the exception of the decision marked "C" which is open for confirmation or otherwise, the following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.**

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| <b>352</b> | <b>HMIe Report on Greenock Academy</b>  | <b>352</b> |
|            | <p>There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education &amp; Social Care advising the Committee of the results of the HMIe external evaluation of Greenock Academy. The report advised that the external evaluation included within the Indicators of Quality, 4 indicators (Leadership of the Head Teacher, Climate and Relationships, Expectations and Promoting Achievement and Personal and Social Development) which had been judged to be "excellent" together with a further 12 indicators which had been judged to be "very good".</p> <p>Ms Moira McCall, Head Teacher of Greenock Academy, was present and spoke to this item.</p> <p><b>Decided:</b></p> <p>(1) that the Committee endorse the comments made by the HMIe external evaluation of Greenock Academy; and</p> <p>(2) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to the Head Teacher, staff and pupils of the school as well as staff within Education Services Headquarters for the work undertaken to achieve the evaluation.</p> |            |
| <b>353</b> | <b>Capital Programme 2008/11 - Progress</b>   | <b>353</b> |
|            | <p>There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education &amp; Social Care and the Chief Financial Officer on the progress of the Capital Programme 2008/11.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>   |            |
| <b>354</b> | <b>Education Service Performance Report - March to April 2008</b>   | <b>354</b> |
|            | <p>There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education &amp; Social Care advising of the progress made by Education Services during the period March to April 2008 in relation to achieving the service objectives and explaining how this contributed to the achievement of key corporate priorities.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>   |            |
| <b>355</b> | <b>Education Services Priorities 2008/09</b>  | <b>355</b> |

**EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 6 MAY 2008**

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care appending the priorities of Education Services for session 2008/09.

**Decided:** that the Committee approve the priorities of Education Services for session 2008/09 as set out in appendix 1 to the report in order that they can inform the Service Plan for 2008/09 and the Directorate Plan for 2008/09.

**356 Additional Funding to Improve the Educational Attainment of Looked After and Accommodated Children 356**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care on the proposed use of the £75,000 allocated as part of the budget process to improve the attainment of looked after and accommodated children.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the expenditure on the basis set out in paragraph 2.3 of the report.

**357 Additional Funding for Adult Education and Youth Work 357**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care on the proposed use of the additional £80,000 allocated as part of the budget process to the Community Learning & Development Service for Adult Education and Youth Work.

**Decided:** that the additional funding be used to employ (a) 1 Senior CLD Youth Worker, (b) 1 CLD Youth Worker and (c) 0.5 CLD Adult Learning & Literacies Worker.

**358 Attendance Councils 358**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care providing information on the possible reintroduction of Local Attendance Councils in session 2008 - 2009.

**Decided:**

(1) that approval be given to the reintroduction of Attendance Councils in accordance with the guidelines appended to the report; and

(2) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Education & Social Care to examine the possibility of widening the representation on the Attendance Councils and to submit proposals to the Committee should this be considered feasible.

**359 Standardised Testing and Baseline Assessment 359**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care (1) providing the Committee with an update following the examination of the use of standardised testing in primary schools and (2) advising of the progress made in respect of Inverclyde's implementation of baseline assessments in Primary 1.

**Decided:** that the Committee approve the progress made as described in the report.

**360 Parental Involvement Strategy 360**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care appending a Policy for Parental Involvement in Education.

**Decided:** that the Policy for Parental Involvement in Education as set out in appendix 1 to the report be approved for implementation within Education Services and all Educational establishments.

**361 Additional Funding to Provide Outdoor Education 361**

**EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 6 MAY 2008**

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care on the proposed use of the £80,000 allocated as part of the budget process to Outdoor Education.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the use of the new funding to provide a two day residential experience for all Primary 6 pupils on the basis set out in the report.

**362 Gender Equality Policy for Inverclyde Education Services and Educational Establishments 362**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care on a Gender Equality Policy for Inverclyde Education Services and Educational Establishments. There was circulated to the Committee, Appendix A setting out the proposed policy.

**Decided:** that Members of the Committee be given a period of two weeks in which to submit any comments regarding the proposed policy to the Corporate Director Education & Social Care and that, thereafter, the policy be approved.

**363 The Provision of School Meals to Pupils and Young People in Inverclyde Schools 363**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care providing information on the provision of school meals to pupils and young people in Inverclyde schools.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the arrangements for the provision of school meals to pupils and young people in Inverclyde schools as detailed in the report be approved; and
- (2) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Education & Social Care to develop an action plan with a view to increasing the uptake of school meals across Inverclyde schools.

**364 An Analysis of Exclusion Data 364**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care providing the Committee with a detailed analysis of data relative to the exclusion of pupils from schools within Inverclyde.

**Noted**

**365 The Naming of the Amalgamated Earnhill and Ravenscraig Primary Schools 365**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care requesting the Committee to decide upon a name for the amalgamated Earnhill and Ravenscraig Primary Schools.

**Decided:** that Aileymill Primary School be the name of the amalgamated Earnhill and Ravenscraig Primary Schools.

**366 Inverclyde Academy: Capping 366**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care seeking approval to increase the capping limit of Inverclyde Academy.

**Decided:** that approval be given to an increase in the capping of the S1 roll of Inverclyde Academy from 200 to 260 from August 2008.

**367 Admission to Greenock Academy - Request from Councillor Blair 367**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care on a

**EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 6 MAY 2008**

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request received from Councillor Blair that the Committee give further consideration on a sympathetic basis to the admission to Greenock Academy of those pupils with siblings already attending the school.

Following discussion, Councillor Blair moved that the capping limit of the S1 roll of Greenock Academy be increased from 80 to 87 to allow the admission of siblings of pupils already attending the school.

As an amendment, Councillor McCabe moved that the request from Councillor Blair be refused and that the capping limit of the S1 roll remain at 80. On a vote, 5 Members voted for the motion and 6 for the amendment which was declared carried. Those Members who had voted in favour of the motion then requested in terms of the relevant Standing Order that the matter be referred to The Inverclyde Council for decision in terms of the motion.

**C** **Decided:** that the request from Councillor Blair be refused and that the capping limit of the S1 roll of Greenock Academy remain at 80. **C**

**368** **Items for Noting**

**368**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care providing information for noting on (1) MPS Construction and Training Ltd, (2) Scottish Government Statistics and (3) Head Teacher Appointments.

The Committee was advised that since the writing of the report, Mr Jim Docherty had been appointed as Head Teacher of St Columba's High School.

**Noted**