

Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date: 17 January 2017
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No: EDUCOM/08/17/RB
Contact Officer:	Ruth Binks	Contact No: 01475 712761
Subject:	Education Scotland Report on St Ninian's Primary School	

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Education & Communities Committee of an Education Scotland external inspection of St Ninian's Primary School.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 St Ninian's Primary school was inspected in September 2016. "How good is our school?" 4th edition was used to evaluate the work of the school. This is a new set of quality indicators which is substantially different from the previous one.

The school has received a positive report from Education Scotland. They are confident that the school has the capacity to continue to improve and so no more visits in connection with this inspection will be made. Members should note that in the indicators of quality, all four were found to be satisfactory.

The report was published on 06 December 2016.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Education & Communities Committee note the Education Scotland report on St Ninian's Primary School.

Wilma Bain
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0	BACKGROUND	
4.1	<p>St Ninian's Primary School was inspected by Education Scotland in September 2016. The inspection covered key aspects of the work of the school at all stages, identified key strengths and areas for improvement using the following six-point scale:</p> <p>6 - Excellent – outstanding, sector leading 5 - Very Good – major strengths 4 - Good – important strengths with some areas for improvement 3 - Satisfactory – strengths just outweigh weaknesses 2 - Weak – important weaknesses 1 - Unsatisfactory – major weaknesses</p>	
4.2	<p>Education Scotland assessed and reported on the views of parents, pupils and staff, the quality of learning and teaching, how well the school was raising achievement for all pupils, the school's processes for self-evaluation and innovation and the school's capacity for improvement.</p>	
4.3	<p>The report was published on 06 December 2016. It has been issued to staff, parents, local elected members and the Convener and Vice-Convener for Education & Communities.</p>	
4.4	<p>St Ninian's Primary School was inspected under the evaluation framework "How Good is Our School?" 4th Edition. This has a new set of quality indicators which is substantially different from the previous one.</p>	
4.5	<p>In assessing the indicators of quality, Education Scotland found all four core indicators to be satisfactory. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership of Change • Learning, teaching and assessment • Raising attainment and achievement • Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion 	
4.6	<p>The report lists four particular strengths of the school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well mannered children who have a positive attitude to learning and who are nurtured through a caring ethos built around the Gospel values. • The high quality of children's writing across the school. • The well rounded approach taken to promote health and well-being for all children. • Senior leaders who are receptive to change and demonstrate a strong commitment to professional learning and development. 	
4.7	<p>The report lists three areas identified for improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve learning, teaching and assessment to ensure children's learning needs are well met and that children's learning experiences are of a consistently high quality across the school. • Develop leadership at all levels so that all staff develop and implement well informed change that leads to continuous improvement in children's experiences. • Ensure self evaluation leads clearly to improvements in children's learning experiences and achievements. <p>Education Scotland's Area Lead Officer will link with Inverclyde Council to monitor on – going support for the school. The Authority will report on progress made within twelve months.</p>	
5.0	IMPLICATIONS	

5.1 **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					

5.2 **Human Resources:**

N/A

5.3 **Legal:**

N/A

5.4 **Equalities:**

N/A

5.5 **Repopulation:**

N/A

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 N/A

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 N/A

6 December 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2016 a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Ninian's Primary School. During our visit, we talked to parents and young people and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We gathered evidence to evaluate the quality of leadership and management, learning provision and young people's success and achievements.

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

- Well-mannered children who have a positive attitude to learning and who are nurtured through a caring ethos built around the Gospel values.
- The high quality of children's writing across the school.
- The well-rounded approach taken to promote health and well being for all children.
- Senior leaders who are receptive to change and demonstrate a strong commitment to professional learning and development.

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

- Improve learning, teaching and assessment to ensure children's learning needs are well met and that children's learning experiences are of a consistently high quality across the school.
- Develop leadership at all levels so that all staff develop and implement well informed change that leads to continuous improvement in children's experiences.
- Ensure self-evaluation leads clearly to improvements in children's learning experiences and achievements.

Quality indicators help schools, education authorities and inspectors to judge what is good and what needs to be improved in the work of the school. You can find these quality indicators in the publication *How good is our school*¹? Following the inspection of each school, the Scottish Government gathers evaluations of three important quality indicators to keep track of how well all Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for St Ninian's Primary School.

Leadership of Change	Satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	Satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	Satisfactory

We also evaluated the following aspects of the work of the school.

Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Satisfactory
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The letter is available on the Education Scotland website at <http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/inspectionandreview/reports/school/primsec/StNiniansPrimarySchoolInverclyde.asp>.

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 about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Guch Dhillon
HM Inspector

¹ How good is our school? (4th Edition) 2015 [How good is our school? \(fourth edition\)](#)

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