Follow-through report

Crosshouse Primary School and Nursery Class

16 June 2011
Background

Crosshouse Primary School and Nursery Class was inspected by HM Inspectorate of Education (HMIe) in January 2010. Following the publication of the report in March 2010, the Head Teacher and staff prepared an action plan to address its main recommendations.

The school is part of the Duncanrig Learning Community within East Kilbride. The Quality Link Officer for the school reviewed progress on the action plan and submitted an evaluation of the school’s response to the HMIe inspection report.

HMIe require that a follow-through report is completed within one year of the initial report and, in the case of Crosshouse Primary School, this is the responsibility of South Lanarkshire Council, Education Resources. The following provides a summary of the progress made by the school in addressing the main points of action included within the inspection report.

Continuous improvement

Since the initial inspection, the school has continued to improve its effectiveness in a number of ways. These include:

• The Head Teacher, the senior management team and staff continue to work well together to provide high quality learning experiences for children. This is being achieved through initiatives undertaken within the school and across the Learning Community. Such initiatives include the establishment of a “Joining Communities” project with a neighbouring school;

• Pupils are making a positive contribution to the wider life of the school as effective contributors and responsible citizens, particularly through their participation in a wide range of social justice and global citizenship activities. This has included work such as: Pop Connections, the Wild Hearts Challenge and the Anti Sectarianism Project;

• The school takes part in and organises a wide variety of Fairtrade activities;

• Wider achievement continues to be celebrated in many ways including class showcase events, notice boards, informative parental newsletters and through the schools Together Tuesdays and Family Fridays.

Main points for action

The following offers a brief account of the progress made by the school and the authority in addressing the main action points of the report.

• *Raise attainment in English language and mathematics*

  **The establishment has made good progress in addressing this main point for action.**

Raising attainment in English language and mathematics continues to be a major priority for the school. In line with the Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) outcomes the reading programme across the school has been enhanced and through the introduction of “Write to the Top”, there is an increasing focus on writing across the curriculum. This has engaged the pupils, parents and staff. Attainment in reading has improved from 71.3% in 2008/09 to 73.8 % in 2009/10.

In mathematics, additional opportunities have been provided for pupils to apply their knowledge in real life contexts. For example: booking a holiday and purchasing foreign currency and identifying percentage savings in the winter sales.
Since the inspection attainment in mathematics has significantly improved across the school from 64.5% in 2008/09 to 75.4% in 2009/10.

- **Make better use of assessment information to track children’s progress in the nursery, primary and supported classes**

  The establishment has made very good progress in addressing this main point for action.

  The Head Teacher and members of the school’s senior management team have put in place an increasingly rigorous system to monitor and track the pace of learning and pupils’ progress. Staff are engaged in a tracking working party and are currently looking at a number of tracking models for use by the whole school over time.

  Forward planning discussions are routinely held with individual class teachers. Members of the school’s senior management team meet with pupils to discuss their progress through the review of their “individual learning logs”. All pupils are increasingly able to speak with confidence about their own learning and to confirm where they are doing well and what they need to do next. Parents are invited to comment on their individual child’s progress within their individual learning log.

- **Review systems in the primary classes for rewarding success and dealing with challenging behaviour**

  The establishment has made very good progress in addressing this main point for action.

  A formal review of reward systems has been taken forward by the school and a revised range of strategies are now in place. These strategies are providing very effective support to individual pupils and are assisting the school to recognise pupil success. In-service training on restorative practice and understanding pupil behaviour for the whole staff team is ongoing. Although at an early stage staff are speaking very positively about both the revised strategies and the in-service training programme.

- **Address accommodation issues in the nursery**

  The establishment and the local authority have addressed this main point for action.

**Conclusion**

Overall, the school and the education authority have made very good progress for meeting the main points for action.

Education Resources will not provide any further report in connection with the original HMIE report of 2008, but will continue to monitor and support procedures within the school as part of its commitment to ensuring the highest quality of education for all.

For more information or if you want this Information in a different format or language, please phone 01698 454450 or email education@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

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