



**REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
21 NOVEMBER 2018**

**SUBJECT: EDUCATION SCOTLAND INSPECTION (CONTINUING
ENGAGEMENT) OF APPLEGROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**BY: ACTING CORPORATE DIRECTOR (EDUCATION AND SOCIAL
CARE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to invite the Committee to scrutinise and note the outcomes of the recently published report on a Moray school following inspection revisit by Education Scotland.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (D) (1) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to all the functions of the Council as Education Authority.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee scrutinises and notes the content of this report.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 When a school is inspected by Education Scotland and/or the Care Inspectorate a report is published which gives commentary on the school's performance. These reports are presented regularly to this Committee, where possible at the first available opportunity after publication.
- 3.2 In March 2017 and as previously reported to Children and Young People's Services Committee on 23 August 2017 (para 18 of the minute refers), a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Applegrove Primary School for two days as part of their national sample for school inspection, trying out future approaches to inspection and review. During the visit, Education Scotland inspectors talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the Headteacher and staff. Education Scotland gathered evidence to enable them to evaluate aspects of the quality of leadership and children's achievements. A report on Education Scotland's findings from their visit was subsequently published in June 2017.
- 3.3 The Education Scotland Inspection team at that time used selected Quality Indicators (QIs) from "How good is our school? 4th edition" (HGIOS4), rated using the six-point scale. These are:

QI 1.1 Self-evaluation for self-improvement
QI 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement

This inspection also included focus on QI 2.1 Safeguarding, where only commentary is provided by Education Scotland for this aspect as opposed to any grading.

In March 2017, Applegrove Primary School were rated as weak for QI 1.1 and weak for QI 3.2. An area for development for Safeguarding was agreed.

Education Scotland liaised with Moray Council thereafter regarding the school's capacity to improve and intimated their intention to carry out a further inspection of the school in discussion with Moray Council.

- 3.4 Following ongoing support by local authority officers following inspection including comprehensive School Improvement Action Planning, Education Scotland returned to inspect Applegrove Primary School in June 2018. The Quality Improvement Officer linked with the school was also invited to join with Education Scotland as a member of the team for the two day inspection visit, focusing on areas for improvement agreed in the March 2017 inspection.
- 3.5 Inspection findings from June 2018 note that the school has made progress since the original inspection. Education Scotland will ask for a report on progress within one year of the inspection. This local authority report will inform any future decision made by Education Scotland regarding further engagement which may include another inspection visit, subject to continued progress. When such a decision is made, Education Scotland will write to parents/carers once again, detailing further improvements the school has made and outlining any further action, agreed with The Moray Council, that Education Scotland intend to take.
- 3.6 The summary of the inspection report is contained in **Appendix 1**. The inspection report, additional evidence report and summary inspection findings along with original inspection report and supporting documentation may be sourced from:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/moray/5201527>

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

The Policy was informed by the priorities within the Corporate Plan with specific regard to 'Priority 2, Ambitious and Confident Children and Young People" and 10 Year Plan (LOIP) with specific regard to Moray Priority, to "provide a sustainable education service aiming for excellence".

(b) Policy and Legal

This report relates to Section 66 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, which concerns the inspection of educational establishments.

(c) Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

(d) Risk Implications

There are no risk implications arising directly from this report.

(e) Staffing Implications

There are no staffing implications arising directly from this report.

(f) Property

There are no property implications arising directly from this report.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

An Equalities/Socio Economic Impact Assessment is not required as this report is to inform Committee on performance.

(h) Consultations

Senior Officers in Education and Social Care, Paul Connor Principal Accountant, Legal Services Manager (Litigation and Licensing), Equal Opportunities Officer, Human Resources Manager, Headteacher (Applegrove Primary School) and Tracey Sutherland, Committee Services Officer have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report as regards their respective responsibilities.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 That Committee scrutinises and notes the contents of this report.

Author of Report: Stewart McLauchlan, Quality Improvement Officer

Background Papers:

Ref: