



**REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE
ON 4 MARCH 2020**

**SUBJECT: EDUCATION SCOTLAND INSPECTION OF ST SYLVESTER'S
NURSERY, ELGIN**

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (EDUCATION, COMMUNITIES AND
ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to invite the Committee to scrutinise and note the progress made at St Sylvester's nursery, an Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) setting in Moray, following an inspection revisit in October 2019 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 setting is inspected by Education Scotland a report is published by Education Scotland, which gives commentary on the settings performance. Where Education Scotland are not confident that the setting has the capacity to continue to improve they will make a return visit within a designated timescale, in connection with the original inspection.
- 3.2 In October 2017 and, as previously reported to Children and Young People's Services Committee on 3 April 2019 (paragraph 16 of the minute refers), a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Sylvester's Nursery for two days. During the visit, Education Scotland inspectors talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the Nursery Manager 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 December 2017.

- 3.3 The Education Scotland Inspection team at that time used selected Quality Indicators (QIs) from “How good is our early learning and childcare” (HGIOELC), rated using the six-point scale. These are:

QI 1.3 Leadership of Change

QI 2.2 Curriculum: Learning and development pathways

QI 2.3 Learning, Teaching and Assessment

A further QI was chosen by the nursery, in the case of St Sylvester’s it was QI 2.7, Partnerships. The inspectors had a focus on safeguarding as is the case in every inspection. These were not graded.

In October 2017, St Sylvester’s Nursery were rated as weak for QI 1.3, 2.2 and QI 2.3. Education Scotland liaised with Moray Council thereafter regarding the setting’s capacity to improve and intimated their intention to carry out a further inspection of the setting in discussion with Moray Council.

- 3.4 Education Scotland returned to inspect St Sylvester’s Nursery in November 2018. At this time the setting was receiving support from the Early Years Field Officer however it was noted that there was not substantial progress made from the October 2017 inspection.
- 3.5 Following the November 2018 inspection intensive ongoing support from local authority officers was provided to include development of the quality of learning and teaching and the environment.
- 3.6 Education Scotland returned to inspect St Sylvester’s Nursery in October 2019. The inspection findings indicated that St Sylvester’s have some capacity to continue to improve however Education Scotland will make a further return visit within a year of their report being published in January 2020.
- 3.7 The summary of the inspection report is contained in **Appendix 1**. The original inspection report, return inspection letter and summary of inspection findings can be viewed at:
<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=4775>

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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

The report was informed by the priorities within the Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan and in particular to Ambitious and Confident Children and Young People and A Growing and Diverse Economy.

(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

None.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

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

(h) Consultations

Senior Officers in Education, Communities and Organisational Development, Paul Connor, Principal Accountant, Equal Opportunities Officer, Human Resources Manager, Jackie Stewart, Nursery manager 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: Hazel Sly, ELC Continuous Improvement Officer

Background papers:

<https://education.gov.scot/media/uiukh01c/stsylvestersnurseryins140120.pdf>