



**REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
13 FEBRUARY 2019**

**SUBJECT: EDUCATION SCOTLAND INSPECTION (CONTINUING
ENGAGEMENT) OF HYTHEHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL AND
NURSERY CLASS, LOSSIEMOUTH**

**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 and the Care Inspectorate.
- 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 September 2017 and as previously reported to Children and Young People's Services Committee on 7 March 2018 (para 13 of the minute refers), a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Hythehill Primary School and Nursery for a full week inspection as part of their national sample for school inspection. 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 and the Care Inspectorate's findings from their visit was subsequently published in late November 2017 where the Care Inspectorate

also joined in partnership with Education Scotland in inspection of the Nursery Class.

- 3.3 The Education Scotland school 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 1.3 Leadership of change
QI 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment
QI 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement
QI 3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion

Full establishment inspections also include focus on QI 2.1 Safeguarding and themes from other QIs to ensure Inspectors continue to capture the evidence needed to promote improvement and provide evidence to inform national policy development. These are not assigned a rating:

QI 2.2 Curriculum (Learning Pathways theme)
QI 2.7 Partnerships (Partnerships in evaluating the impact of parental engagement)

A further QI is also chosen by the school in full establishment inspections (not assigned a rating). Hythehill Primary School selected full QI 2.6: Transitions.

- 3.4 Hythehill Primary School also has a Nursery Class. Education Scotland inspectors also used QIs from “How good is our early learning and childcare” (HGIOELC) to evaluate performance of the Nursery. These QIs are:

1.3 Leadership of change
2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment
3.2 Securing children’s progress
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion

The Care Inspectorate, involved in a shared inspection of the Nursery class with Education Scotland, publish their gradings based on the following quality themes with supporting statements. These themes are:

Quality of care and support
Quality of environment
Quality of staffing
Quality of management and leadership

- 3.5 In November 2017, Hythehill Primary School and Nursery Class were rated as weak by Education Scotland across all Quality Indicators reported upon. In partnership with Education Scotland, the Care Inspectorate also reported that Hythehill Nursery Class was weak across the four quality themes per 3.4 above that they inspected upon identifying a number of requirements and recommendations. 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 within twelve months.

- 3.6 Following ongoing post-inspection support by local authority officers including comprehensive School Improvement Action Planning, enhanced officer engagement and partnership working with the school, Education Scotland in partnership with the Care Inspectorate returned to inspect Hythehill Primary School and Nursery Class in November 2018. The two day inspection revisit focused on areas for improvement agreed in the September 2017 inspection, published in November 2017.
- 3.7 Inspection findings from November 2018 note that the school has made progress since the original inspection. Education Scotland will ask for a report on progress within nine months 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 Moray Council, that Education Scotland intend to take.
- 3.8 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/5202124>

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

None.

(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 (Hythehill Primary School and Nursery) 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: