



## **REPORT TO Buchan Area Committee – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017**

### **Education School Inspection, Stuartfield Primary School**

#### **1 Recommendations**

**The Committee is recommended to:**

- 1.1 Consider and comment on the contents of the report;**
- 1.2 Endorse the Services continuing efforts in support of its school in the Education Scotland inspection process and in the raising of standards of attainment and achievement in all aspect of school life; and**
- 1.3 Agree to further reports on Education Scotland school inspections being presented**

#### **2 Background / Discussion**

2.1 Stuartfield Primary School was inspected in May 2017 as part of a national sample of primary education.

2.2 The school inspection evaluated key aspects of the work of the school at all stages including:-

- Pupils' learning and achievements.
- The curriculum and meeting learning needs.
- How well staff work with others to support young people's learning.
- The extent to which staff and young people are actively involved in improving their school community.
- Expectations of all young people.
- The direction of the school.

2.3 As a result of the inspection, the Inspectors highlighted the following key strengths of Stuartfield Primary School –

- The teaching and support staff whose collegiate working provides stability to the work of the school. Commendably they have continued to develop the school's improvement priorities during the recent periods of instability in staffing and leadership.
  - The culture of care and support across the school leading to positive relationships between children, their peers and adults.
  - Motivated children who are enthusiastic in their learning.
  - The quality of children's transition onto secondary school.
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2.4 The inspection model is based on the school's own self-evaluation, and how this is used to focus on improving outcomes for young people. Over the course of the inspection process, the inspectors arrive at their own overall evaluations for the school in relation to the four Quality Indicators. In Stuartfield Primary School, the Inspectors' evaluation was as follows:

<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>

2.5 The Inspectors also identified a number of areas where they felt the school should focus in order to improve the quality of education. These were:

- Improve the strategic direction of the work of the school involving all stakeholders in identifying priorities for improvement. This should include leadership being developed more fully across the school.
- Review the curriculum ensuring this provides high quality progression pathways for all curricular areas.
- Develop further the school's approaches to tracking and monitoring of children's progress leading to improvements in attainment for all children.

2.6 The action plan to address these areas for improvement and to support the implementation of new approaches and practices is incorporated into the school improvement planning documents for session 2017-18.

2.7 The letter and more detailed summarised Inspection findings will be available on the Education Scotland website at

<https://www.education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/aberdeenshire/5219825>

2.8 The Head Teacher will provide parents/guardians with an update on progress in the implementation of the plan as part of its annual standards and quality reporting arrangement and through ongoing dialogue with the Parent Council.

2.9 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments have been incorporated into the report.

### **3 Scheme of Governance**

3.1 The Committee is able to consider and comment on this report in accordance with the scheme of Governance Section B 1.2.

## **4 Implications and Risk**

- 4.1 There are no financial or staffing implications arising directly from this report. It is intended that any costs will be met from existing budgets.
- 4.2 An equality impact assessment is not required because the recommended actions will not have a differential impact upon people with protected characteristics.
- 4.3 The following Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic Level:  
Learning, Teaching and Curriculum: We will improve learning and teaching and the quality of the curriculum in our schools, early years and other learning establishments to deliver better outcomes for learners.  
Raising Attainment & Closing the Gap: We will take an evidence based approach to raise levels of attainment and achievement and close the gap which sees children and young people living in relative deprivation attaining less well. This will involve raising the bar in terms of our expectations at every level, including the leadership and professionalism of our staff, and of what all our learners can achieve.
- 4.4 A Town Centre Impact Assessment is not required because there will be no significant impact as a result of this report on Peterhead town centre.

**Maria Walker**  
**Director of Education & Children's Services**

Report prepared by Stuart Seivwright, HT Stuartfield Primary School  
Date 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017