

REPORT TO Buchan Area Committee – Tuesday 13th March 2018

Education Scotland School follow-up visit, Port Erroll 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 Port Erroll was visited by an inspection team the week beginning Tuesday 6th June 2017. This was a follow-up to the inspection of the week of April 24th 2016.
- 2.2 The team looked again at;
The Curriculum
Meeting Learner's Needs
Self-evaluation
- 2.3 As a result of this visit the following areas of improvement were highlighted;
 - Curricular experiences focused more on progression in learning whilst taking greater account of children's interests
 - Experiences in Literacy and Numeracy had a positive impact on raising attainment
 - School continues to develop children's skills for learning, life and work
 - Positive developments to support planning pathways across the early level of the Curriculum
 - Support plans were monitored and evaluated more regularly
 - Processes to improve the reliability of information on progress were being developed
 - Moderation activities were showing increased confidence in professional judgement
 - Improvement to the learning environment

- 2.4 The areas which were identified as a continuing focus to improve the quality of education;
- Review and refresh the Curriculum Rationale
 - Review and refresh the school value statement
 - Develop planning to allow greater matching of learning to pupils
 - Continue to strengthen working with the wider school community
 - Continue to ensure learning targets on individual plans are relevant and regularly reviewed
 - Continue to work upon ensuring that self-evaluation is rigorous and can be evidenced
 - Increase the pace of improvement
 - Continue to apply measures to ensure positive behaviours through increased pupil knowledge of Health and Well-being and Safeguarding
 - Continue to make and take advantages of opportunities to develop leadership throughout the school
- 2.5 As this was a follow-up visit no evaluations were given
- 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 and is also defined in the school's quality improvement calendar.
- 2.7 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.
- 2.8 Education Scotland will liaise with Aberdeenshire Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. They will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within 12 months of December 2017. They will discuss with Aberdeenshire Council the details of this inspection. When they return to inspect the school, they will write to parents/carers informing them of the progress the school has made.
- 2.9 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments are incorporated within the report and they are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

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 at a strategic level which can be mitigated as described:-

ECSR002 – Developing Excellence and Equity: In relation to this, Pupil Equity Funding shall be used to target pupils who are eligible for school meals and those who require targeted support in order to bridge the attainment gap. Careful scrutiny of standardised data shall prove impact of interventions and provide evidence of application of best practice.

ECSR003 – embedding GIRFEC; Planned into the Quality Assurance calendar of the school are a wider range of transition activities which run consistently throughout the whole year.

Opportunities for working with 3rd sector partners have been identified and monopolised upon in order to ensure that effective Learning Pathways are provided to ensure that the fluid needs of the pupils in our care are being met.

- 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 Viki Cameron, Head Teacher,
Date: 23rd February 2018