Mount Esk Nursery School

Report by Donald MacKay, Director, Education and Communities

1 Purpose of Report

This report outlines the outcome of the above inspection as carried out by HMIE in December 2007.

2 Mount Esk Nursery School

Mount Esk Nursery School was inspected in December 2007 as part of the integrated inspection programme by the Care Commission and HM Inspectorate of Education. The report has been distributed to all Elected Members and Church Representatives on the Cabinet for their information.

HM Inspectors evaluated the school environment, quality of children’s experience, support for children and families and management.

The report on Mount Esk Nursery School indicated the following key strengths:

- Relationships and partnerships with parents.
- Partnerships with other agencies, centres and the community.
- Enthusiasm and vision of the newly appointed Headteacher.

The following recommendations for improvement were made in the report:

- The Headteacher and staff should improve aspects of the curriculum as outlined in this report.
- The Headteacher and staff should improve their use of assessment information to plan for children’s future learning.
- The Headteacher and staff should further improve monitoring of the service.
3 RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet is asked to:

(i) note the information in this report;

(ii) congratulate the pupils, parents and staff connected with Mount Esk Nursery School on the key strengths contained within the report;

(iii) pass the report to the Performance Review Committee for its consideration.

10 March 2008
4 Report Implications

4.1 Resource Implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report at this time.

4.2 Risk Implications

The Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001 requires that the Care Commission inspect all care services covered by the Act every year to monitor the quality of care provided. In accordance with the Act, the Care Commission and HM Inspectorate of Education carry out integrated inspections of the quality of care and education. In doing this, the inspection teams take account of National Care Standards, Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16, and The Child at the Centre.

Monitoring, review and evaluation of progress by Education Officers in the Quality Improvement Team is the control measure in place to reduce the risk of failure of the school to demonstrate its capacity to improve.

4.3 Policy Implications

Strategy

The school will continue to improve its work in line with its improvement plan and the Education and Communities Division will continue to challenge and support the school in relation to developing and implementing a range of quality improvement strategies.

Consultation

The school and education authority have been asked to prepare an action plan indicating how they will address the main points for action in the report and to share that plan with parents and carers. Where requirements are made, the action plan should include timescales to deal with these. Care Commission Officers and HM Inspectors will monitor progress to ensure improvements are in line with the main findings of the report.

Copies of the inspection report have been made available to Elected Members, school staff, parents of children currently attending the school and other interested parties.

Equalities

The School Improvement Plan will be screened for equalities implications.

Sustainability

The School Improvement Plan allows for sustainable development and improvement.

Report Contact: Lorraine Brown
Tel No 0131 271 3706
Background papers: File: Mount Esk Nursery School