

Executive Director of Education Maureen McKenna Education Services City Chambers East Building 40 John Street GLASGOW G1 1JL

Phone: 0141-287 4551
Fax: 0141-287 4895
Our Ref: MMcK/SLA
Date: December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Inspection Report: Balornock Primary School Progress Report

Balornock Primary School was inspected by Education Scotland in September 2018 as part of the national inspection programme. Following this Education Scotland visit, a report was published on 30 October 2018.

As a result of the good performance, the record of improvement and the effective leadership of the establishment, Education Scotland advised that they did not intend to make any further visits or reports in relation to this inspection. Therefore, an action plan was prepared by the school, and Glasgow City Council's Education Services was asked to report on progress.

The following provides a summary of the progress made in relation the recommendation in the action plan:

 The school should continue to review its approach to teachers' planning for progression in order to raise attainment. In doing so, staff should ensure they build more effectively on children's prior learning and ensure that there are regular opportunities to consolidate key skills and concepts, particularly in Literacy and Numeracy.

The school has continued to review and develop approaches to planning for progression across the school. These approaches are leading to an improvement in children's experiences and outcomes. For example, after further staff training on "Glasgow Counts", the Glasgow Numeracy Progression Pathways have become fully embedded in every classroom. Staff use the Progression Planners effectively to support lessons which provide opportunities for all pupils to build on their prior learning in numeracy, including at key transition points.

The school has also implemented Reading Progression Pathways. This is allowing staff to plan more confidently and ensure that appropriate National Standards are met at P4 and P7. Staff now ensure that all pupils are engaging and progressing well in reading with more children stating that they now enjoy reading.

Work has been undertaken to implement routes through writing approaches. All staff now use these approaches to plan lessons in writing. Staff work together to plan writing lessons and to moderate pupils' work, and are becoming increasingly confident and skilled in planning effective writing lessons.

The school has implemented a range of digital learning pathways. Digital learning is now included in forward planning approaches across the school. This is beginning to have a positive effect on attainment in Numeracy, as more staff use digital approaches to consolidate key skills. For example, almost all children are now using a digital resource - Sumdog - to support their learning. The school has also extended the use of digital learning to support families, with family support sessions being provided. This is beginning to impact well on parental engagement in school and in turn is supporting children to consolidate key skills in numeracy and literacy.

The Senior Leadership Team have continued to review and analyse data to consider further school initiatives to sustain improvements in attainment, and track the progress of children through professional dialogue and planning with staff. This allows a sustained focus on securing further improvement as staff make professional judgements about the next steps in learning for children and targeted groups. Planning reviews are carried out termly with teachers to discuss children's attainment, and to ensure that appropriate support is put in place for any pupils requiring additional help.

Staff have amended their approaches to planning across curricular learning to ensure that the key skills of numeracy and literacy are embedded within lessons. This approach is having a positive effect on pupils and providing better opportunities for them to deepen their own learning.

The school are now planning to extend their pathways for learning to include Social Subjects.

Overall, Balornock Primary has made good progress in meeting the main points for action identified. Education Services will therefore not provide any further report in connection with the original report of January 2018, but will continue to monitor and support the establishment as part of our commitment to ensuring the highest quality of education for all.

Yours sincerely

MAUREEN McKENNA

Executive Director of Education

Mauree 4 years

cc Gerry Lyons, Head of Service
Andrea Reid, Senior Education Officer
Stephen Watters, Quality Improvement Officer
Lynn McSorley, Headteacher, Balornock Primary School