

Education, Children and Families Committee Sub-Committee on Standards for Children and Families

2:30pm Monday 9 March 2015

Present:

Councillors Godzik (Convener), Aitken, Child, Fullerton, Main and Redpath; and Mr A C Duncan (Religious Representative, Education, Children and Families Committee)

Non-Members Attending:

Kirkliston Primary School and Nursery Class

Lynn Paterson, Head Teacher

Craigroyston Community High School

Stephen Ross, Head Teacher

Learning Community Surrounding Craigroyston Community High School

Rab Byfield, Community Learning and Development Manager (North/East)

Helen Bourquin, Community Learning and Development Worker

Christine Mackay, Manager, Total Craigroyston

Dean Shanks, Youth Team Manager, Muirhouse Youth Development Group

Marilyn Keilloh, Project Co-ordinator, Stepping Stones North Edinburgh

1. Minute

Decision

The minute of meeting of the Sub-Committee on Standards for Children and Families of 1 December 2014 was approved as a correct record.

2. Protocols for the Conduct of Meetings of the Sub-Committee on Standards for Children and Families

Protocols for the Sub-Committee on Standards for Children and Families were submitted.

Decision

To note the protocols.

(Reference – Protocols for the Conduct of the Sub-Committee on Standards for Children and Families, submitted)

3. Kirkliston Primary School and Nursery Class - Inspection

Details were provided of an inspection which had been carried out by Education Scotland at Kirkliston Primary School and Nursery Class. A letter dated 13 January 2015 had been sent to parents/carers on the outcomes of the inspection and the evaluations on how well the school and nursery class were doing.

The Head Teacher was heard on the inspection process and the areas agreed with Education Scotland to continue to improve the school and the nursery class.

Decision

- 1) To note the findings of the report including the areas where the education authority and the school should continue to improve the school.
- 2) To agree to receive an inspection follow through report within one year of the publication letter.

(Reference – report by the Director of Children and Families, submitted)

4. Craigroyston Community High School - Inspection

Details were provided of an inspection which had been carried out by Education Scotland at Craigroyston Community High School. A letter dated 20 January 2015 had been sent to parents/carers on the outcomes of the inspection and the evaluations on how well the school was doing.

The Head Teacher was heard on the inspection process and the areas agreed with Education Scotland to continue to improve the school.

Decision

- 1) To note the findings of the report including the areas where the education authority and the school should continue to improve the school.
- 2) To agree to receive an authority inspection follow through report.

(Reference – report by the Director of Children and Families, submitted)

5. Inspection of the Learning Community Surrounding Craigroyston Community High School

A report dated 20 January 2015 by Education Scotland provided details of the outcomes of an inspection of the learning community surrounding Craigroyston Community High School, together with an evaluation of quality indicators to monitor the quality of the learning community.

Representatives from Community Learning and Development, Total Craigroyston, Muirhouse Youth Development Group and Stepping Stones North Edinburgh were heard on the inspection process and the areas agreed with Education Scotland to continue to improve the learning community.

Decision

To note the findings of the report including the areas where the education authority and the community learning and development partners should continue to improve the learning community.

(Reference – report by the Director of Children and Families, submitted)

6. Castlebrae Community High School – Continued Engagement

Details were provided of continued engagement with Castlebrae Community High School by Education Scotland following HM Inspectors publication of a report in March 2011. A letter to parents/carers on how the school had continued to improve its work had been issued in April 2012. In October 2012, the timescale of a consultation to close the school had delayed a further visit to the school until May 2013 and a further letter was sent to parents in August 2013. Since then, the school had continued to experience significant changes in staffing. In August 2014, a new head teacher took up post in an acting capacity and there continued to be further staffing changes in the senior management team.

Education Scotland's Area Lead Officer had visited the school in October 2014 to observe learning and teaching and discuss progress with school staff and an officer of the City of Edinburgh Council. The Acting Head Teacher had already made a number of changes designed to improve young people's learning experiences and attainment. Staff were aware that much work remained to be done to address the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection and the subsequent visits to the school.

Recognising that the new school management team would need time to work on areas for improvement, Education Scotland had postponed a further visit planned for January 2015 to a later date. In the interim, work would continue to support the school to continue to improve. Parents would be kept informed of progress and a further inspection would take place no later than 30 November 2015.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress made to date from the original inspection in January 2011.
- 2) To note that a further inspection visit would take place no later than 30 November 2015.

(References – minute of the Sub-Committee on Standards for Children and Families 15 June 2011 (item 4); report by the Director of Children and Families, submitted)

7. Fox Covert RC Primary School – Inspection Follow Through

HM Inspectors had published a report on the quality of education in Fox Covert RC Primary School in June 2012.

An education authority team had visited the school in October 2014 to identify the extent to which the school was continuing to develop the quality of its education including the areas identified for improvement.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress made to date from the original inspection in April 2012.
- 2) To note that the education authority would not publish further reports in connection with the 2012 inspection report.

(Reference – minute of the Sub-Committee on Standards for Children and Families 18 September 2012 (item 3); report by the Director of Children and Families, submitted)