

17 December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2019, HM Inspectors published a letter on Clydeview School. The letter set out a number of areas for improvement which we agreed with the school and North Lanarkshire Council. Recently, as you may know, we visited the school again. During our visit, we talked to children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We heard from the headteacher and other staff about the steps the school has taken to improve. We looked at particular areas that had been identified in the original inspection and at other aspects of the school's work, as proposed by the headteacher. As a result, we were able to find out about the progress the school has made and how well this is supporting children's learning and achievements. This letter sets out what we found.

Staff need to work with the education authority to improve approaches to safeguarding, child protection and children's rights.

The senior leadership team, staff and the education authority have worked together to improve child protection approaches. Information is now well organised and stored securely. Staff have participated in professional learning and as a result, almost all have an understanding of their responsibilities in relation to child protection procedures. This professional learning is also enabling staff to implement positive strategies to help children engage with learning. Physical intervention is no longer used within the school. This represents a significant culture change in the school. The newly appointed deputy headteacher has introduced rights based learning across the school and this has facilitated opportunities for joint campus work with St Bernadette's Primary School. Children, staff and parents are participating well in a range of activities to promote children's rights. Staff should now ensure that this is an integral part of learning and teaching and that all children, with the support of adults, can exercise their rights.

Develop self-evaluation approaches to ensure all staff understand what they need to do to improve outcomes for children and their families.

The headteacher has worked well with staff and parents to develop a school vision, values and aims. This has provided a shared understanding of what the school community hopes to achieve for learners. Staff should now ensure that this vision is embedded into practice and children are able to achieve the aims that have been identified. The school needs to continue to develop approaches to self-evaluation and take forward actions to improve the school. Staff are beginning to reflect on the quality of learning and teaching and other aspects of the school's work. They should revisit national guidance to help develop their skills in identifying strengths and areas for improvement. Staff would also benefit from opportunities to observe practice in other schools. The senior leadership team should work with the education authority to progress areas for improvement identified as a result of the previous inspection. Improvement plans need to identify specific targets that can be achieved within realistic and achievable timescales.

Implement consistently high quality individualised learning and teaching approaches that meet the needs of all children.

The senior leadership team have established an improved structure to the school day and this is supporting staff to better plan learning activities. A consistent planning format has been developed across the school. Staff should ensure that this is used to help them plan and deliver lessons that meet the needs of all children. The principal teacher has led the development of a health and wellbeing programme. Teachers should continue to develop their understanding of children's individual needs in order to deliver high-quality teaching across all classes. Teachers also need to ensure good quality feedback and praise is used consistently to support children to understand what they have done well. Outdoor areas have been improved to include useful teaching spaces. This is supporting outdoor learning, including the introduction of a Forest Schools programme. When used well, a range of communication approaches support children to understand what is being communicated to them. Staff should now embed the use of communication approaches consistently across the school.

Improve how staff assess the progress that children are making and how they use this information to identify next steps in learning.

Staff are at the early stages of developing a shared understanding as to how they assess children's progress and achievements. They are starting to use information about children's progress to plan next steps in learning. Staff need to engage in professional learning to improve their approaches to assessment. A curriculum profile for each child has been created. These profiles include judgements on children's progress in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. Staff need to ensure these judgements are robust. Individual targets for children need to be reviewed to ensure they are relevant and lead to improved outcomes.

What happens next?

While some progress has been made since the original inspection, there are still areas where further significant improvement is required. We will liaise with North Lanarkshire Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within nine months of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with North Lanarkshire Council the details of this inspection. When we return to inspect the school we will write to you as parents informing you of the progress the school has made.

Monica McGeever
HM Inspector