

**REPORT TO: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 13 JUNE 2012**

**REPORT ON: SUMMARY OF EXTERNAL INSPECTION REPORTS FOR WHICH ALL GRADES ARE GOOD OR BETTER**

**REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**REPORT NO: 197-2012**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide a summary of recent external inspection reports which do not require in-depth scrutiny.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that members:

- (i) note the attached summaries of recent inspection reports on Law Nursery School and Menziesshill Nursery school which received grades of good or better in all areas covered by the inspection
- (ii) remit the Director of Education to ensure that the Areas for Improvement included in the reports are acted upon, both in relation to the particular services inspected and as guidance on good practice for other services

**3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**4. MAIN TEXT**

- 4.1 The remit of the Scrutiny Committee states that, where the grades awarded in external inspection reports are all good or better, and the reports would not benefit from in-depth scrutiny, summary scores from the inspections will be reported to the Committee, together with any best practice to improve performance.
- 4.2 Summaries of two recent inspection reports which fall into this category are attached, and the Committee is asked to note these and to remit the Director of Education to ensure that the Areas for Improvement are acted upon.
- 4.3 Copies of the inspection reports have been passed to the SNP and Labour group leaders and to the Conservative, Liberal Democrat and Independent members.

**5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues.

**6. CONSULTATIONS**

The Directors of Corporate Services and Education and the Head of Democratic and Legal Services were consulted on this report.

7. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland Report  
Law Nursery School

Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland Report  
Menzieshill Nursery School

David K Dorward  
Chief Executive .....

07/06/2012

**Inspection of:** Law Nursery School

**Inspection by:** SCSWIS (Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland)

<b>Grades:</b>			
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Latest Grade Awarded (unannounced)</b>	<b>Grading History February 2010 (unannounced)</b>	
Quality of Care and Support	VERY GOOD	VERY GOOD	
Quality of Environment	VERY GOOD	VERY GOOD	
Quality of Staffing	Not assessed	GOOD	
Quality of Management and Leadership	Not assessed	VERY GOOD	

<b>Areas for Improvement:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue to support the parents' focus group, as it develops, to further improve communication with parents and carers</li> <li>- Make more regular use of the whiteboard at the main entrance to inform parents of daily activities which the children had enjoyed</li> <li>- Improve recording of accidents, including child's full name, date and both a staff and parent's signature</li> <li>- Consider extending use of email to communicate with parents</li> <li>- Collate, audit and feedback to parents a more formal summary of the responses to questionnaires to explain why some suggestions might not be taken on board and show how others had been used to improve the service</li> <li>- Seek, and implement wherever possible, further opportunities for children and parents to influence the environment</li> <li>- Keep the resources cupboard, or drawers within it, locked to ensure the safety of the children and safely store furniture and equipment when not in use</li> <li>- Consider introducing more display tables at child height to encourage involvement</li> </ul>

<b>Recommendations</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All accidents and incidents should be fully recorded and parents given a signed copy with all relevant details. These should be regularly audited</li> <li>- Children should be cared for within a safe environment</li> </ul>

**Inspection of:** Menziesshill Nursery School

**Inspection by:** SCSWIS (Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland)

<b>Grades:</b>			
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Latest Grade Awarded (unannounced)</b>	<b>Grading History May 2009 (unannounced)</b>	
Quality of Care and Support	VERY GOOD	EXCELLENT	
Quality of Environment	VERY GOOD	VERY GOOD	
Quality of Staffing	Not assessed	GOOD	
Quality of Management and Leadership	Not assessed	VERY GOOD	

**Areas for Improvement:**

- Improve the nursery handbook to reflect the very positive approach to involvement of children, parents and carers found during the inspection

**Requirements and Recommendations**

None

Note that the nursery received 'excellent' ratings in relation to health promotion and participation by service users and carers in assessing and improving the quality of the environment.