

PROGRESS ON THE MAIN POINTS FOR ACTION



Blackness Primary School was inspected in May/June 2004 as part of a national sample of primary education. The school received a very positive report with a number of key strengths identified. As a result of the strong report and the very effective leadership of the school, HM Inspectors decided to make no further visits to the school in connection with the report.

HM Inspectors also identified three main points for action which the school and the authority have addressed jointly.

As part of the HMIE follow through process, Falkirk Council Education Services was asked to evaluate the progress made by the school in taking forward the recommendations and publish a report on progress to parents.

Continuous Improvement

At the time of the inspection, the school had well developed approaches to improvement. The headteacher had developed a strong sense of teamwork through her open and consultative management style. The school is well placed to continue with improvements.

Attainment 5-14

Attainment at Blackness Primary was very good in mathematics at the time of the inspection and good in English language. Almost all children achieve appropriate 5 - 14 levels in Reading, Writing and Mathematics and, at every stage, there are some children who exceed expected levels of attainment.

The school and authority were encouraged to continue to provide high quality and improving education. In doing so they were asked to take account of the need to:

Action Point 1

Continue to improve the quality of pupils' extended personal and functional writing and reading for information in English language, and make more regular use of information and communication technology across the curriculum.

Progress

- Staff development in writing has increased the confidence and skills of teachers.
- Reading for information has been developed using a variety of novel studies and pupils now experience this across all areas of the curriculum.

- Support from the authority masterclass teacher has enhanced the teaching of ICT.
- Staff and pupils make good use of the interactive whiteboards in the library and classroom.
- Pupils use ICT for research in project work. They also confidently produce newsletters and powerpoint demonstrations and will maintain the school website.

Very good progress has been made toward meeting this recommendation.

Action Point 2

Continue to develop systematic procedures to monitor and evaluate the work of the school, and plan for developments of identified priorities within a more realistic timescale.

Progress

- The headteacher regularly observes classroom practice and provides helpful feedback to teaching staff.
- Forward plans are reviewed by the headteacher, and strengths and development needs are discussed.
- The work completed by pupils is sent home regularly and parents are asked for comments.
- School improvements are planned well, with realistic timescales and targets being met.

Very good progress has been made towards meeting this recommendation.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on the HMIe report, this summary report or the Council's strategy for Raising Achievement please contact the headteacher or

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Further copies of this report and the original HMIe report are available from the school or on the HMIe website at www.hmie.gov.uk

Falkirk Council Education Services are committed to open communication that achieves shared understanding and helps overcome barriers. This leaflet can be made available in other languages, in Braille, large print information or on audio-tape. Please contact 01324 506600 for further information.



Falkirk Council
Education Services



LEARNING TO ACHIEVE
A Strategy for Raising Achievement

Follow Through Report on the
Inspection of



**Blackness
Primary School**

October 2006



Action Point 3

Address the accommodation and safety issues raised in this report.

Progress

- A new entrance and waiting area is in development which will provide an enclosed link between the school and the existing mobile classroom. This will provide secure access to the school and should be completed by the end of November.
- The new reception area will provide a welcoming entrance for visitors.
- There will be full disabled access between the school and mobile classroom.
- New parking bays for cars and buses have improved safety for pupils.

Good progress has been made towards meeting the recommendation.



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