

S45. Care Inspectorate Inspection Report and Action Plan – Bo’ness Public Primary School – Early Learning & Childcare Class

The committee considered a report by the Director of Children’s Services presenting the findings of the Care Inspectorate’s Inspection of Bo’ness Public – Early Learning and Childcare Class (ELC Class) in November 2021, together with the establishment’s action plan.

Included within the recommendations, staff were asked to be more proactive when supporting children to recognise their feelings and find solutions. The committee asked what specialist training was available to assist staff. The Education Service Manager explained that within the ELC settings, it would be Early Years Officers, Early Years Assistants and Senior Early Years Officers, and depending on the setting, Principal Early Years Officers. For these practitioners, a highly comprehensive programme of support and training is available – this included communication, observation and Early Years framework. Furthermore, bespoke training was available focusing on nurture and emotional intelligence. If a child presents difficulties at this stage, a Centre Team compiled of a partnership of different organisations worked together to establish an individual plan to aide the child.

Following a question on whether Bo’ness Primary School had the ability to expand their outdoor play area, Ms Jay stated that the building dated back to the Victorian era meaning that many annexes had been added on since and noted the concrete playground. Many modifications had been undertaken to improve the site and the Early Learning Childcare Centre was a result of such work. At the moment, there were no plans to expand the outdoor play area, but committee was assured it was safe and well laid out. She explained that the area was not restrictive and was placed on a flat area of ground.

Decision

The Scrutiny Committee:-

- (1) noted the findings of the Care Inspectorate’s inspection of Bo’ness Public Primary School & Early Learning and Childcare Centre and associated action plan; and,**
- (2) noted that the Director of Children’s Services will monitor progress towards meeting the areas for improvement contained in the inspection report; and**
- (3) requested a report on the outcome of the follow-up inspection in late 2022.**