

**RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL**  
**EDUCATION AND LEISURE SERVICES**

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE REVIEW OF**  
**ARKLESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Publication Date**  
**July 2010**

The full report is available on request from the Head Teacher

## 1. Purpose of the review:

The purpose of the review, which was carried out in November 2009 was to

- moderate the rigour and robustness of the school's self-evaluation procedures;
- support the school in improving the rigour and effectiveness of their self-evaluation;
- provide the school with the opportunity to highlight its success and demonstrate examples of good practice;
- provide the school with the opportunity to demonstrate progress made in taking forward the school improvement plan;
- identify areas for future work and development; and
- enable the council to identify and disseminate examples of good practice.

There was considerable delay from the time of the review to the report being published due to staffing issues within the review team. Many of the recommendations detailed in this summary report have already been included in the school's improvement plan for 2010/2011.

## 2. Background:

Arkleston Primary School is a non-denominational school in Renfrew with a current roll of 367 pupils and 4.4% free meal entitlement and the clothing grant is 18.9%. There is a parent council. The head teacher has been absent through illness for a period of time. There are two depute head teachers and one principal teacher. The senior depute head teacher has been acting head teacher since June 2009.

## 3. Key strengths

The review team identified the following key strengths:

- A great sense of pride in the school by both children and staff which was reflected through the very positive school ethos;
- Children's views were valued and respected;
- Children who were very well mannered and courteous;
- A very good focus on teamwork, shared understanding, shared goals and responsibilities;
- The school's approach to pastoral care and welfare; and
- The lunch and TLC clubs were seen as examples of excellent practice.

## 4 Evaluation of key areas

1.1	Improvements in performance	Good
2.1	Learners' experiences	Good
4.2	The school's success in working with and engaging the wider community	Very good
5.1	The curriculum	Good
5.2	Teaching for effective learning	Good
5.3	Meeting learning needs	Very good
5.6	Equality and fairness	Very good
5.8	Care, welfare and development	Very good
5.9	Improvement through self-evaluation	Satisfactory
9.3	Developing people and partnerships	Very good
9.4	Leadership of improvement and change	Good

The full report that was provided to the headteacher has greater detail and has a number of quality indicators in each key area. The quality of each indicator is judged against six levels below.

### Levels:

excellent	outstanding, sector leading
very good	major strengths
good	important strengths with some areas for improvement
satisfactory	strengths just outweigh weaknesses
weak	important weaknesses
unsatisfactory	major weaknesses

## 5. Continuous improvement

The review team identified the following areas for improvement:

- A more structured approach is needed to classroom observations where feedback is clearly linked to previously agreed criteria;
- A greater use of technologies to support learning across the curriculum;
- The SMT needs to ensure consistency throughout and across all areas of learning in relation to AifL, allowing learners to focus on the next steps;
- The sharing of learning intentions and success criteria should be used as a meaningful and useful starting point in dialogue with pupils;
- Teachers' plans and evaluations need to identify the principles of CfE, with a more consistent approach throughout the whole school being established;
- A robust and systematic approach to self-evaluation; and
- The robust monitoring and tracking system that had been recently introduced to track pupil attainment now needs to be extended to ensure progression between levels.

## 6. If you wish to comment

Anyone associated with the school, or who may have an interest in the work of the school, can comment on this report by contacting the authority at the address below. Views on the service we provide are always welcome as Renfrewshire Council is committed to continuous improvement in the services it provides to the public.

Renfrewshire Council  
Education and Leisure Services  
Renfrewshire House  
Cotton Street  
Paisley  
PA1 1LE

Tel: 0141 842 5663

Email: [els@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:els@renfrewshire.gov.uk)