

ANGUS COUNCIL**CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 19 September 2023****INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD April 2023 to June 2023****REPORT BY KELLY MCINTOSH, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING****ABSTRACT**

This report provides information to members with regard to services in the Education and Lifelong Learning Directorate, albeit that a decision is not required in terms of the current Scheme of Delegation to Officers and the Order of Reference of Committees.

1. BACKGROUND

Angus Council, at a special meeting on 19 November 2013 took a number of decisions which changed the way the Council conducted its committee business. Fundamental to this was the streamlining of processes with a focus on key strategy and policy matters.

One element of this was the production of “Information Reports”. These information reports summarise information that would in the past have gone to a council committee for “noting”.

The information schedules are in accordance with that principle.

2. SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION - SCHEDULES

There is one schedule which contains key background information related to services delivered in the Education and Lifelong Learning Directorate for the period April 2023 to June 2023. These are accessed via the Council’s internet page.

Where there are references to other documents (eg: consultation documents/audit reports) that are associated with the relevant schedule a link to that document has also been included.

3. REPORT AUTHOR

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List of Appendices:

Schedule 1 – Education Scotland Inspection of Arbroath Academy School

Schedule 2 – Education Scotland Inspection of Inverkeillor Primary School

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 19 SEPTEMBER 2023
SCHEDULE 1 - EDUCATION SCOTLAND INSPECTION OF ARBROATH ACADEMY

Each year Education Scotland inspects and reports on the quality of education in a sample of pre-school centres, primary schools, secondary schools and other education services. To support improvement, the inspection team evaluates the quality of children and young people's learning and achievement. There is a key focus on the development of children and young people's skills and understanding in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing, which enables access to the highest possible learning within a broad general education and beyond.

Quality indicators help schools, education authorities and inspectors to judge what is good and what needs to be improved in the work of the school. You can find these quality indicators in the publication [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#) for the primary stages, and for the nursery class, [How good is our Early Learning and Childcare?](#)

The inspection of Arbroath Academy took the form of a short model. The short model inspection reports upon the following quality indicators (QIs):

- QI 2.3 – Learning, teaching and assessment
- QI 3.2 – Raising attainment and achievement

Arbroath Academy was inspected in April 2023. The inspection report was published on 27 June 2023. The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work:

- Senior leaders and staff have developed a supportive climate for learning where relationships are very positive between young people and staff. Young people are polite, courteous and demonstrate a readiness to learn.
- Young people are developing important skills and attributes through their participation in a range of well-planned out of class activities.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from Angus Council:

- Teachers need to develop a shared understanding of high-quality learning, teaching and assessment. This includes the need to plan learning which offers greater levels of challenge to meet the needs and aspirations of young people.
- Middle leaders and teachers, supported by senior leaders, need to gather and use data on young people's progress more effectively to inform a range of strategies to raise attainment. This includes having a school overview of how well all young people are progressing and attaining from S1-S3.
- Senior leaders and staff need to continue to develop an aspirational culture across the school to raise attainment at all levels.

Education Scotland's evaluations for Arbroath Academy are as follows:

SECONDARY STAGES

Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	weak

As a result of the inspection findings the inspection team think that the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. They will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within 12 months of the publication of the inspection letter.

The letter and more detailed summarised inspection findings are available on the Education Scotland website.

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-and-review/find-an-inspection-report/find-an-inspection-report/details?id=1426>

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 19 SEPTEMBER 2023
SCHEDULE 2 - EDUCATION SCOTLAND INSPECTION OF INVERKEILOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

Each year Education Scotland inspects and reports on the quality of education in a sample of pre-school centres, primary schools, secondary schools and other education services. To support improvement the inspection team evaluates the quality of children and young people's learning and achievement. There is a key focus on the development of children and young people's skills and understanding in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing, which enables access to the highest possible learning within a broad general education and beyond.

Quality indicators help schools, education authorities and inspectors to judge what is good and what needs to be improved in the work of the school. You can find these quality indicators in the publication [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#) for the primary stages, and for the nursery class, [How good is our Early Learning and Childcare?](#)

The inspection of Inverkeilor Primary School and Nursery Class took the form of a short model. The short model inspection reports upon the following quality indicators (QIs):

- QI 2.3 – Learning, teaching and assessment
- QI 3.2 – Raising attainment and achievement

Inverkeilor Primary School and Nursery Class was inspected during the week of 8 May 2023. The inspection report was published on 20 June 2023. The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work:

- Strong, nurturing relationships between staff and children across the school and nursery. As a result, children are calm, relaxed and enthusiastic about their learning.
- Staff who work well as a team to improve the school and meet the needs of all children. This is resulting in most children making good progress in their learning.
- The well considered approaches to meeting the needs of children who find learning challenging.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from Angus Council:

- Provide children with opportunities to increase their self-confidence by leading their own learning and having more of a say in the life of the school.
- Continue to raise attainment across the school and nursery.
- Continue to improve approaches to learning, teaching and assessment in the nursery so that children can make better progress.

Education Scotland's evaluations for Inverkeilor Primary School and Nursery Class are as follows:

PRIMARY STAGES

Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good

NURSERY

Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory

Education Scotland expressed confidence that the school has the capacity to continue to improve and will make no more visits in connection with this inspection.

The letter and more detailed summarised inspection findings are available on the Education Scotland website. <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-and-review/find-an-inspection-report/find-an-inspection-report/details?id=3057>