

**Delayed Office Opening
for Employee Training**

*This office will be closed from
8.45 am - 11.00 am on the first
Thursday of each month.*



Parents/Carers of pupils at
Blackford Primary School

Education and Learning

Strategic Lead - Sheena Devlin

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Our ref NT/LW

Your ref

Date 18 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Quality Improvement Review Visit – 25 & 26 November 2024

In November 2024 a team of central officers visited Blackford Primary School for a Quality Improvement Review. During our visit, we visited classrooms to observe learning and teaching. We talked to staff and children and worked closely with the Headteacher.

During our visit the team found the following strengths in the school's work:

- The Headteacher has established with all stakeholders a very clear vision, values and aims that underpin the work of the school. As a result, there are positive, respectful relationships between all staff and children. Children feel listened to and respected and behaviour is good across the school.
- Children are motivated and enthusiastic learners, who enjoy learning and engage well in learning tasks across the school.
- The whole staff team have worked hard to develop an inclusive environment for learning. Children benefit from a range of universal approaches that meet their learning needs and enable them to access the learning. They understand the purpose of learning and how to be successful. Skilled questioning is used to extend children's thinking, and there is well timed support and intervention for learners.
- Attainment is good overall, most children across the school are currently working at the expected level for maths and numeracy and the majority in all aspects of literacy. Children make good progress in their time at the school.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the Headteacher and staff:

- Continue to work with all stakeholders to create a shared understanding of highly effective learning, teaching and assessment and promote consistency in practice across the school. Children would benefit from further opportunities to lead their learning.
- Further develop the strategic approach to gathering, analysing and acting upon a range of self-evaluation data and activity, ensuring staff, children and parents are effectively included. This will enable senior leaders to measure the effectiveness of the school's work and set further steps for improvement to ensure positive outcomes for children.
- The Senior Leadership Team should now work with the school community to develop a positive relationships policy for the school. This work will support the school's values that are evident within the school's ethos and culture.

Following the visit the school will take forward these actions as part of their ongoing improvement work. The Headteacher will report on progress through the Standards and Quality Report to parents and carers.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nick Thomson', with a stylized, flowing script.

Nick Thomson
Quality Improvement Officer