



West Lothian
Council

EDUCATION QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

VALIDATED SELF EVALUATION: BOGHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

REPORT BY HEAD OF EDUCATION (QUALITY ASSURANCE)

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To bring to the Committee's attention the Validated Self Evaluation (VSE) Report and identified actions arising.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee note the contents of the report and the school's Standards and Quality Report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; Being honest, open and accountable; Developing employees; Making best use of our resources; Working in partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	None
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	HMI quality indicators are used to measure the performance of schools
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	Positive inspection reports are used as a key outcome measure in the Single Outcome Agreement. Positive is measured by satisfactory or better in the quality indicators used by HMI.
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	School's Devolved Budget
VII Consideration at PDSP	Not applicable
VIII Other consultations	None

D. TERMS OF REPORT

Background

Validated Self Evaluation (VSE) is a process which aims to build the capacity of schools to evaluate their own performance and improve the quality of outcomes for learners. The purpose of VSE is to support, extend and challenge the school's own self evaluation, and validate the accuracy of the self evaluation, or not. It is led by the school and involves staff from within the school working together with the Quality Improvement team to validate the judgements made in answering the key questions of self evaluation:

- How well are we doing?
- How do we know?
- What are we going to do now?

The school's self evaluation informs its Standards and Quality Report and strategies for improvement in the school Improvement Plan. The Standards and Quality Report forms the starting point for validation activities.

Validated Self Evaluation Report

The VSE in Boghall Primary School took place in late November to early December 2013. The school serves the Boghall area of Bathgate. The head teacher (HT) has been in post since 2003 and is supported by a principal teacher (PT). Due to the increasing roll, the school is now eligible for a Depute Head Teacher (DHT) post. At the time of the VSE the school roll was 270.

The focus of the VSE was:

- Ensuring school self evaluation is rigorous, systematic and positively impacts on learning and teaching and outcomes for children and young people.
- Implementation of CFE and impact on learning. There was a particular emphasis on ensuring that curricular programmes and pathways provide breadth, depth and progression across all curriculum areas and enable children and young people to develop appropriate knowledge and skills.
- Monitoring and tracking progress in literacy and numeracy and health and wellbeing. This included ensuring continuity and progression at the transition stages from nursery into P1 and between P7 and S1.
- The effectiveness and impact of partnership working with stakeholders, the community, agencies and employers and their involvement in school self evaluation.

The VSE visit to Boghall Primary School enabled the school to reflect on its performance through the benefit of gathering and analysing evidence within a wider team. This process affirmed and strengthened the accuracy of the standards and quality report of June 2013. Senior managers and staff have a sound understanding of the school's strengths and areas for improvement. They have successfully raised standards by increasing children's capacity to learn effectively.

E. CONCLUSION

The school's arrangements for self-evaluation are very effective. The school has robust self-evaluation processes and is well-placed to continue to improve. The school made accurate judgements about its performance in all but 8.1 (Partnership with the community, educational establishments, agencies and employers). In view of the range and nature of evidence gathered during the VSE, this cautious judgement was increased from very good to the status of excellent. Other judgements rated as very good were validated. The head teacher will share the VSE report with parents/carers.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments: 2

Validated Self Evaluation Report

Boghall Primary School Standards and Quality Report

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