



sustainable thriving achieving

East Dunbartonshire Council

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**EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
EDUCATION SERVICE
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT REVIEWS**

School – Oxgang Primary
Date of review – October 2009
Purpose of the review
<p>The purpose of the review was to evaluate the school’s capacity for improvement based on its own self-evaluation of key areas within How Good Is Our School? 3</p> <p>The review team visited classes, sampled pupils’ work, scrutinised key documentation and met with groups of staff, pupils, parents and members of the school/local community. In evaluating how well the school was progressing, the review team assessed the school’s processes for self-evaluation and the impact of improvement planning.</p>
Background
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oxgang Primary School is set in the centre of Kirkintilloch within East Dunbartonshire Council.• In October 2009 the school roll was 174 pupils spread over 7 classes.• The school supports children with a range of additional support needs.• The Oxgang Learning Centre provides a nurturing approach for children Primary 1 – Primary 3 whose behaviours cannot wholly be met within a mainstream classroom.• The OK Zone provides support for Primary 4 – Primary 7 pupils who would benefit from inclusion in social groups.• The school’s values are Happy and Healthy, Achieving and Ambitious, Included and Valued and Caring and Compassionate.• The current FME of the school is 12%.
Key strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The caring and inclusive ethos of the school has created a nurturing climate based on equality, fairness and shared values which extends across the whole school community.• Relationships between pupils and staff impact positively on the learning environment and achievement.• There is successful partnership working to support vulnerable children within the school. The Oxgang Learning Centre and the OK Zone have substantially increased the social and emotional development of identified children.• Systematic self-evaluation processes which impact positively on developments are well established and involve every member of the school community.• There is a clear focus on improving learning and teaching with a strong emphasis on developing literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing skills across the school in line with Curriculum for Excellence.

- A range of data is used consistently and has raised attainment in all areas.
- Robust and rigorous monitoring and tracking systems are in place to provide a basis for dialogue between the Senior Management Team and class teachers. This ensures that pupils' needs are met and that their learning is appropriately challenged.
- Formative assessment strategies are used effectively to enhance learning and teaching.
- A wide variety of active learning methodologies has resulted in the effective engagement of pupils in their own learning.
- There is a wide range of opportunities for pupils to contribute effectively to wider school developments.
- Very good communication with parents ensures that they are closely involved in the life of the school and fully consulted in new initiatives.

Areas for development

The school should continue to:

- develop planning formats to support the delivery of a Curriculum for Excellence;
- develop techniques which challenge more able pupils;
- develop active and collaborative working through ICT;
- clearly link written feedback on pupils' work to the learning intentions and success criteria;
- support pupils' skills in reflecting and commenting on their own learning.

Agreed action/support requirements

Capacity for improvement

The school has demonstrated a strong capacity for improvement through the highly effective leadership of the headteacher who is very well supported by the depute headteacher. They are highly effective in supporting and motivating all staff. Teaching staff are increasingly involved in developments and pupils have many opportunities to contribute to school improvement, adopt roles of responsibility and impact on the wider life of the school. The school is therefore well placed to continue to develop all aspects of its work.