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# HM Inspectors of Schools

## Follow-up to the Inspection of Windsor Park School

### Falkirk Council

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#### Main points for action

1. *Clear remits should be established for all promoted staff.*

The school has fully achieved this recommendation.

The new headteacher, in consultation with her promoted colleagues, had devised clear and appropriate remits for all promoted staff.

2. *Senior staff should monitor and evaluate classroom practices in a more systematic and focused manner, promote self-evaluation and engage staff in discussions about raising pupils' attainment.*

Good progress has been made by the school in meeting this recommendation.

Senior staff now regularly monitor teachers' work plans and examine pupils' written work to promote progression in pupils' learning. Staff are developing approaches to self-evaluation to help to identify and build on good classroom practice. Useful pupil profiles are being developed and there is now a greater emphasis on pupils' peer and self-assessment. Class teachers had visited other schools to observe good practice.

3. *In consultation with the Health Trust, the current procedures for testing the hearing of pre-school children should be reviewed in order to ensure that the time of promoted staff is used more effectively to address the challenges facing the school.*

The school had fully met this recommendation.

Following the publication of the inspection report in May 1999, pre-school children were no longer tested at the school for hearing loss. Since this change had taken place, the school had received only limited information about children likely to require future support from its hearing impairment staff.

4. *Clear guidelines on the integration of all pupils into Bantaskin Primary School and Falkirk High School should be established and the resources required to support pupils agreed. Staff in these other schools should be provided with training which gives them the expertise they need to support pupils with hearing impairments.*

Good progress has been made by the school in meeting this recommendation.

An integration policy had been agreed in consultation with relevant staff in Falkirk High School and Bantaskin Primary School. This was being implemented and would be reviewed in the light of experience. Visiting service staff have participated in in-service training aimed at developing their confidence in sharing

their expertise with other teachers. Windsor Park staff have provided some teachers in Falkirk High School and Bantaskin Primary School with very good in-service training on the implications of having hearing impaired pupils integrated into mainstream classes.

5. *Steps should be taken to ensure that the legislation regarding the opening of Records of Needs and their regular review is fully met. Staff, pupils and their parents should receive advice from psychological and social work services and be supported appropriately by specialist technical staff.*

This recommendation has been fully met by the school.

All pupils enrolling at the school now have a Record of Needs opened for them. Regular reviews of pupils' needs take place and parents play a full part in this process and in agreeing learning targets contained in pupils' individualised educational programmes. Psychological services are delivering a much improved level of service to staff, pupils and parents. Links with social work services have also improved.

6. *A clearer description of the Total Communication policy should be agreed and shared with associated schools and parents. The effective implementation of this policy should be monitored and regularly reviewed.*

The school has made very good progress in addressing this recommendation.

The school has devised a clear policy statement about its approach to Total Communication. This has been shared with staff in associated schools and with parents. The headteacher intends to monitor the implementation of the policy closely. Commendably, many staff and pupils in Falkirk High School and Bantaskin Primary School have engaged in training courses led by Windsor Park School staff to develop sign language skills.

7. *Individualised educational programmes should be devised for all pupils highlighting their short and longer term learning goals.*

Good progress has been made by the school in addressing this recommendation.

All staff have received in-service training on devising individualised educational programmes (IEPs). Each pupil now has an IEP. Further attention should be given to identifying short-term learning goals for each pupil which are specific, measurable and set within a clear time framework.

8. *The balance of time given to curriculum areas in the primary classes and the content of programmes for environmental studies, expressive arts and personal and social development should be revised to ensure more systematic development in pupils' learning.*

Good progress has been made by the school to address this recommendation.

Considerable staff development has focused on improving the balance of time pupils spend on different curriculum areas and to the content of pupils' programmes of study. Teachers' planning formats match those used in Bantaskin Primary School. Policy statements to support teachers in delivering aspects of the curriculum have been reviewed and are being appropriately updated.

9. *The school development plan should be revised in the light of this report. The education authority should take steps to support necessary developments and regularly monitor and evaluate the progress made towards meeting identified priorities.*

The school has met this recommendation.

The school development plan was revised to reflect the action points outlined in the inspection report of May 1999. The education authority has given very good support to the headteacher and her staff in addressing these action points. An Education Officer meets regularly with the headteacher to monitor and review progress made.

**The headteacher and the school, supported by the education authority, have made very good progress towards addressing the main points for action in the report. As a consequence of the overall good progress which has been made, HM Inspectors will not make any further visits to the school in connection with the 1999 report.**