

## Appendix 1

### FAMILY, EDUCATION AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE – 15 AUGUST 2024

#### EDUCATION SCOTLAND INSPECTION OF ST THOMAS' R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL

In March 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Thomas R.C. Primary School to undertake a full inspection. During the visit, the inspection team spoke to parents/carers and young people; and worked closely with the Head Teacher and staff.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work:

- Children are polite, caring and motivated to learn. Children across the school are very supportive of each other. Together, they are a unique community bringing together many nationalities who draw on their shared faith and values.
- Staff work effectively with a range of partners to support and improve children's wellbeing. This successful partnership approach ensures children make good progress in their learning.
- Senior leaders work well with the staff team to continually reflect on their practice. This is successful in improving outcomes for children.
- Teachers make very effective use of digital technologies across learning and teaching. Children use a range of digital tools and platforms confidently to enhance their learning across the curriculum, and to develop their digital skills.

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

- Senior leaders and teachers should continue to develop approaches to high-quality learning, teaching and assessment. This will help ensure all children experience greater depth and challenge in their learning.
- Senior leaders should have a more thorough understanding of how Pupil Equity Funding is helping children progress in their learning more quickly. They should show how this is closing any gaps in attainment between different groups or individuals.
- Senior leaders and teachers should make sure all children develop skills in leadership. They should support children to recognise their skills and talk about how they use them.

Education Scotland's evaluations for St Thomas' R.C. Primary School are as follows:

1.3 Leadership of change	good
2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	good
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	good
3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	good

In the final letter published on 26 March 2024 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 via <https://education.gov.scot/media/j0tlu5jx/st-thomas-rc-ps-ins-210524.pdf> on the Education Scotland website.