

ANGUS COUNCIL

FAMILY, EDUCATION AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE – 25 MARCH 2025

ANGUS SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORT

REPORT BY NEIL LOWDEN, ACTING DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING

1. ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report is to update members of the Family, Education and Justice Committee on the recent publication of an Education Scotland report on Montrose Academy.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN

- 2.1 This report aligns to the following outcome contained in the Angus Council Plan 2023-28:
- We will support children, young people and adults to access appropriate opportunities which allow them to progress in their learning.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Family, Education and Justice Committee:
- (i) considers the areas of strength identified in the school inspection;
 - (ii) considers the areas for improvement identified in the school inspection;
 - (iii) considers the evaluation of the Quality Indicators in the school inspection;
 - (iv) considers the expression of confidence for the school inspection; and
 - (v) request the Acting Director of Education and Lifelong Learning to submit a copy of the return visit report to this Committee.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Education Scotland oversees a system of independent external evaluation to determine what is working well in the education system, areas which show improvement and areas where further development is needed. This role includes carrying out inspections of individual schools and nursery classes.
- 4.2 Montrose Academy was inspected week beginning 11 November 2024. The inspection report was published on 25 February 2025.

5. CURRENT POSITION

- 5.1 A short model inspection was carried out at Montrose Academy comprising the following quality indicators (QIs):
- QI 2.3 – Learning, teaching and assessment
 - QI 3.2 – Raising attainment and achievement

5.2 Appendix 1 provides a summary of the inspection, including the areas of strength, areas for improvement, evaluations of the QIs and an expression of confidence in the school's capacity to improve.

6. PROPOSALS

6.1 It is proposed that the Family, Education and Justice Committee:

- (i) considers the areas of strength identified in the school inspection;
- (ii) considers the areas for improvement identified in the school inspection;
- (iii) considers the evaluation of the Quality Indicators in the school inspection;
- (iv) considers the expression of confidence for the school inspection; and
- (v) request the Acting Director of Education and Lifelong Learning to submit a copy of the return visit report to this Committee.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

8.1 There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

10. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT , HUMAN RIGHTS AND FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

10.1 A full Equality Impact Assessment is not required. A screening EIA has been completed.

11. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND WELLBEING IMPACT ASSESSMENT

11.1 A Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment has been undertaken and a full assessment is not required as the "General Principles" do not apply to this proposal.

12. CONSULTATION

12.1 Head Teacher, school staff, children and parents/carers from Montrose Academy were consulted by Education Scotland in the preparation of the inspection report.

The Director of Finance and Acting Director of Legal, Governance and Change have also been consulted on the contents of this Report.

NOTE: No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Inspection Summary Report.