

MINUTE of MEETING of the EDUCATION (QUALITY ASSURANCE) COMMITTEE held within WEBEX VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 27 APRIL 2021.

Present – Councillors Stuart Borrowman (Chair), David Dodds, Bruce Fairbairn, Charles Kennedy, John McGinty, Andrew McGuire, Andrew Miller, George Paul and Moira Shemilt; Appointed Members Lynne McEwen, Myra MacPherson and Margaret Russell

Apologies – Councillors Pauline Clark, Peter Heggie, Chris Horne, and Carl John; Appointed Member Derek Cornwall

1        DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2        MINUTES

The committee approved the minute of its meeting held on 9 March 2021.

3        UPDATE REPORT: RIVERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY CLASS

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Primary) providing an update on the progress made by Riverside Primary School since its Education Scotland Inspection in February 2020 and previous report to committee in November 2020. Fiona McPhail, Head Teacher, was in attendance to provide an update on the school's progress and to answer questions from committee members.

During discussion, the Head Teacher explained that the school identified and addressed barriers to learning through proactive communication with children and their families. Various anti-poverty strategies were also discussed, as well as mental health support offered to children and staff, especially in the Covid circumstances.

It was recommended that the committee note the contents of the report and the school's arrangements for continuing improvement.

Decision

To note the contents of the report and the update from the Head Teacher.

4        QUALITY ASSURANCE OF SQA PROVISIONAL RESULTS FOR 2020-21

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Interim Head of Education (Secondary) informing members of the quality assurance processes in place in secondary schools to ensure robust SQA results for Session 2020-21.

During discussion, it was clarified that currently schools were not holding exams but were gathering assessment evidence on which to base provisional SQA results. It was also explained that while assessment standards had been set by the SQA, local authorities had been allowed flexibility as to their assessment approaches. Members were assured that mechanisms existed for ensuring quality consistency of assessment across local authorities.

It was recommended that the committee note the contents of the report and the authority's approaches for quality assuring SQA provisional results this session.

#### Decision

To note the contents of the report.

5

#### WORKPLAN

A workplan had been circulated for information.

It was clarified that any changes that might be required to the workplan would be implemented using appropriate processes and channels.

#### Decision

To note the workplan.