

# Follow-through Inspection Report

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## Newhills School

May 2004

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### **The Inspection**

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education HMIE published a report on standards and quality in Newhills School in May 2002 following their inspection of the school in February 2002. Working with the school, the education authority prepared an action plan indicating how they would address the main points for action identified in the original report. After consultation with HMIE, it was agreed that this follow-through report would be the responsibility of the education authority. Members of the Education Improvement Service visited the school in April 2004 to assess the extent to which the school was continuing to improve the quality of its work and to evaluate progress made in responding to the main points for action in the initial report.

### **Continuous Improvement**

The work of the school has moved on well and it continues to provide a very high quality education for its pupils. As well as responding to the action points identified by the HMIE inspection, the school has continued to improve other aspects of its work.

The school has taken forward some of the National Priorities in education as well as the education authority's priorities. It has worked to promote inclusion by further developing its links with Eastbank Academy by offering Newhills pupils experiences in Home Economics, Information Technology and Art and Design. Two pupils now attend Eastbank Academy for one day each week. The school plans to extend this link with Eastbank Academy. The school also plans to further develop its Health Education programme and has begun by arranging staff training which was provided by the Health Coordinator at Eastbank Academy.

The school has worked hard to promote achievement and attainment by developing an additional 12 courses in Higher Still at Access 1 level. The school now presents pupils for awards in 19 courses with all pupils who are presented gaining an award. To promote Values and Citizenship, the school has worked closely with staff from Social Work services, colleges, Enable and the Health Board to give both pupils and parents information about their entitlement. The school plans to extend this further.

Pupils have also benefited from a new Enterprise Education programme. The programme involves every pupil in an activity which requires them to

develop the skills of organising and decision-making to meet the needs of a 'customer'. For the second year in a row, the school has been awarded a Gold Level standard in Enterprise Awards.

The school clearly demonstrates its ability to continue to improve the quality of its work and is currently focusing on how to involve other agencies in better supporting its leavers in finding employment.

## **Progress Towards the Main Points For Action**

The initial inspection report identified 2 main points for action. This section evaluates the progress made with each of the action points and the resulting improvements for pupils and other stakeholders.

### **Main point for action 1**

**The school and education authority should address the accommodation issues raised in the report.**

*The authority has made good progress towards meeting this recommendation.*

The heating system has now been renewed and the school's window frames have been replaced. New access to the building for pedestrians has been created so that they do not have to enter at the same point as cars and buses.

New classrooms are being built to provide additional specialist teaching areas as well as additional storage. The new extension should be completed by July 2004.

The provision of a hydrotherapy pool will be kept under consideration in the context of the department's capital programme.

### **Main point for action 2**

**The school should continue to extend the good programme for work experience, seeking support from other relevant agencies including the local careers service and education business partnership.**

*The school has made good progress towards meeting this recommendation.*

With support from the local Careers Service, it has developed an Education for Work programme and policy. The programme includes Education for Work progress routes for all pupils from S1 to Post-17. All pupils in the school benefit from a planned programme of career education as well as work shadowing for some pupils within the school and year-long half or full day placements out of school for post-16 and post-17 classes.


Representatives from Enable Services, Social Work Services, Opus and Adult Services have worked with the school to support young people in

moving from school to college or work. The school has met with Careers Scotland representatives to discuss the support they can offer pupils in finding employment when they leave school. This is an area which the school hopes to develop further with appropriate support from Careers Scotland.

## **Conclusion and Next Steps**

Overall the school has made very good progress in addressing the two main points for action. At the same time the school has continued to improve by further developing the Higher Still curriculum and Enterprise Education. The school plans to build on its successful links with Eastbank Academy and continue to work with Careers Scotland to ensure the best possible support for its young people who wish to find employment.

As a result of the progress made by the school, HMIE will make no further visit in connection with the February 2002 inspection.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronnie O'Connor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'R' and a distinct 'O'.

Ronnie O'Connor  
Director of Education Services  
Glasgow City Council

