



Education Resources
Executive Director **Jim Gilhooly**

Parents/Carers

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Your ref:
If calling ask for: Jim Gilhooly
Phone: 01698 454379
Date: 7 February 2013

Dear Parent/Carer

HM Inspection Report – Lanark Grammar School

Lanark Grammar School was inspected in September 2011 as part of the inspection programme by HM Inspectorate of Education (HMIE).

As a result of the good performance, the strong record of improvement and the effective leadership of the centre, HM Inspectors agreed to make no further report in connection with this inspection. An action plan was prepared to address recommendations made by HM Inspectors and South Lanarkshire Council was asked to report on the progress of this plan.

The following provides a summary of the progress made in relation to each recommendation:

- **Continue to work with partners to develop a coherent curriculum.**
Work is taking place within the school to enhance curriculum provision through the ongoing implementation of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE). This focus includes an emphasis at transition with associated Primary Schools in Literacy, Numeracy, Modern Languages and Science. Other curricular areas will come on board at a later date. Within the Broad General Education (S1-S3) particular emphasis has been placed on personalisation and choice to enable pupils to continue to study all curricular areas but also to focus their learning within specific contexts.

In S4 the school has continued to extend its curricular provision through partnership links, with Active Breaks personnel to increase participation in Youth Achievement Awards; with Universal Connections through horticultural skills development; with Community Learning and Development personnel through a programme designed to enhance communication and through the introduction of a Cosmetology course delivered in school. The school is also in the process of setting up a Business Partnership with Border Biscuits.

Consultation with pupils, staff and parents has enabled the school to shape provision for the Senior Phase of CfE (S4-S6) to ensure all pupils are provided with opportunities to undertake an appropriate range of certificate examinations.

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- **Continue to improve the quality of learners' experiences to more effectively meet the needs of all learners and raise attainment at S4.**

The ongoing focus on raising attainment at S4 has included the introduction of a tracking and monitoring programme to support pupils' progress across the full range of their courses. This involves target grades being set and progress toward meeting them being monitored throughout the session by both subject and Pupil Support staff.

Parents/carers of S4 pupils have been issued with a range of materials to support home learning and examination preparation. This will continue throughout the session. An enhanced whole-school focus on examination preparation through assemblies, at departmental levels and in Social Education will, combined with the partnership with parents/carers and the rigour applied, support pupils' increased attainment.

- **Continue to develop the school as a learning community which gives all young people a real and relevant role in its life and work.**

The Pupil Council has extended its links with the Parent Council and Community Council in order to enable pupils to contribute more broadly to the school and the wider community.

The school is currently in the process of seeking Rights Respecting Schools accreditation involving pupils and staff. This will build on excellent relationships across the school community, enhance engagement in learning, develop positive behaviour and increase attendance.

The Champions for Change Anti-Sectarian Group, Holocaust Awareness focus, and Fair Trade activity, which also has a social enterprise element, helps to promote fairness and equality and stamp out prejudice and racism. Continued involvement in the John Walker Equalities Competition helps to promote the values involved in equal opportunities and to develop positive attitudes toward diversity within society. Involvement in such activities helps to raise pupils' self-esteem and self-confidence and to foster rights-respecting attitudes and language.

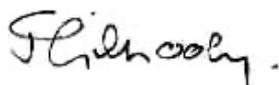
A wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities provide further opportunities for pupils to enhance further their commitment to the school community.

The significant involvement of pupils in shaping the implementation of CfE has provided them with insight into their educational experiences and given a strong foundation to the principles which underpin the school's developing practice.

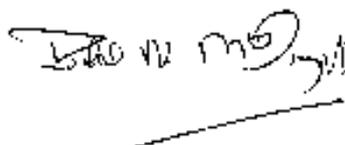
Overall, the school and the education authority have made good progress in meeting the main points for action identified in the original report.

Education Resources will not provide any further report in connection with the original report of September 2011, but will continue to monitor and support procedures within the establishment as part of its commitment to ensuring the highest quality of education for all pupils.

Yours sincerely



Jim Gilhooly
Executive Director
(Education Resources)



Isobel MacDougall
Head of Education (Hamilton/Clydesdale)