

10 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Carolside Primary School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

Carolside Primary School Nursery Class was inspected by the Care Inspectorate within the past 18 months. Therefore, we have agreed with the local authority and school that the nursery class is not part of this inspection.

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

- The outstanding and inspirational leadership of the headteacher. Together with highly effective senior leaders, he has created a culture where children, parents, staff and partners are empowered and motivated. They work collaboratively and constructively to lead and improve the school. This is impacting positively on children's experiences and outcomes in a number of important areas.
- Creative and responsive approaches to planning children's learning experiences. Teachers design learning experiences which take account of children's motivations and interests and promote active engagement in learning.
- The highly effective approaches to ensuring children's wellbeing. Staff have worked well with children to develop a highly inclusive and nurturing environment. As a result, children's wellbeing and learning needs are met very well by highly skilled and caring staff.
- The very good progress children make in their learning in literacy and numeracy. High levels of attainment and achievement are sustained across the school.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from East Renfrewshire Council.

- Continue with improvement priorities to build on highly effective practice in learning and teaching and the support of children's wellbeing.
- As planned, develop approaches to tracking and monitoring of children's wider achievements and progress in all curricular areas.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#). Quality indicators help schools, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each school, the Scottish Government gathers details of our evaluations to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Carolside Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	excellent
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	very good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our school? (4th edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Reports page | Inspection reports | Education Scotland](#)

What happens next?

We are confident that the school has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. East Renfrewshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Graeme Brown
HM Inspector