

27 February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Braemar Primary School and Nursery Class. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

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

- The positive nurturing relationships between children and staff in the nursery and school. Staff support children to be caring, articulate, confident and highly motivated to learn.
- The highly-effective leadership of the headteacher, who has created a supportive climate for learning. She has embedded the use of continuous self-evaluation and reflection which is benefitting all children and staff.
- Children's understanding of wellbeing in the nursery and school which includes talking about emotions. This is supporting all children to express how they feel and as a result, they focus well on their learning.
- At the primary stages, the well-developed pupil leadership opportunities enable children to be responsible, included and valued in the life of the school.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and representatives from Aberdeenshire Council.

- In the nursery and school, continue to develop, reflect and share good practice in planning and extending children's experiences. This will support all children to make sustained progress as they move across the early level and beyond.
- Continue to review approaches to assessment across the school. This will support children to transfer skills into new and unfamiliar situations.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#) and [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#) 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 Braemar Primary School and Nursery Class

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

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	good
Securing children's progress	good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Find an inspection report | 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. Aberdeenshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Nicola Drew
HM Inspector