

27 August 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Newmilns 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.

- Children's confidence which is being developed well by the teamwork of practitioners within the welcoming ethos of the nursery.
- The headteacher's vision and aspirations for all children, staff and the Newmilns community.
- Children who enjoy learning and are kind and respectful of each other as they go about their work in school, the nursery and beyond.

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

- Continue to develop and improve leadership for learning at all levels across the whole staff team.
- Develop consistent approaches to learning and teaching ensuring an appropriate level of pace and challenge. This should include developing a progressive curriculum across all areas that is relevant, meets the needs of learners, and supports children to develop skills.
- To raise attainment for all children, revise approaches to planning learning and teaching to develop further arrangements for assessment and moderation. This should include robust tracking and monitoring of children's progress including their wider achievements.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#) 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 Newmilns Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a>	

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Securing children's progress</b>	<b>good</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale</a>	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/east-ayrshire/8223424>

### 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 Ayrshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

John Reilly  
HM Inspector