

17 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Patrick's Primary School (Shotts) 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 effective leadership of the headteacher, supported by senior leaders and staff, has created a positive learning environment. This supports children to learn in a safe, caring, and nurturing environment.
- Senior leaders and staff carefully discuss, monitor, and track the progress of all children. Teachers use tracking information to plan carefully and deliver effective interventions. This is leading to improvements in children's progress.
- Children are confident, well behaved, and proud of their school and community. Relationships across the school are respectful and warm.

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

- Across the school and nursery, staff should continue to improve approaches to learning and teaching to ensure a consistently high-quality learning experience for all children. This should include reviewing approaches to planning and the development of play pedagogy.
- Staff should continue to raise attainment further across the nursery and school. Senior leaders should provide staff with opportunities to share and learn from others.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using 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 St Patrick's Primary School (Shotts) and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	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
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	satisfactory
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: [Details | Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and review | 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. North Lanarkshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Carolanne Calderwood
HM Inspector