

29 November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2022, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Cradlehall 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 inclusive, nurturing ethos across the school and nursery where children feel valued, supported and happy.
- Staff across the school and nursery who are undertaking professional learning and leading change in order to improve what children experience and achieve.
- The range of leadership opportunities and enriching experiences available to children which develop their skills and confidence well.

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

- Continue to improve the quality and consistency of learning and teaching across the school and nursery. This includes plans to make better use of digital technology and outdoor learning spaces for all children, as well as improving the indoor environment and facilities for the nursery class.
- Senior leaders should develop a clearer way to track children's progress so that this information can be used to identify next steps more accurately at an individual, class and whole-school level.

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 Cradlehall Primary School

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory
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	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
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: [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. The Highland Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Susie Smith
HM Inspector