

12 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In December 2023 a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited The Montessori School, Edinburgh. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the Principal and staff. We gathered evidence to evaluate the quality of leadership and management, learning and teaching and children's successes and achievements.

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

- Children are engaged and independent in their learning. They collaborate effectively together to deepen their learning.
- Teachers provide high quality learning and teaching. They co-create learning experiences with children which build effectively on their interests.
- The Principal and staff offer an authentic Montessori Elementary curriculum which provides individualised and highly relevant programmes of learning for every child.
- Led by the Principal, the staff team have worked hard to establish the school, the daily routines and policies. They have developed very positive relationships with families.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the Principal:

- As planned, continue to develop the roles of the Advisory Group and establish self-evaluation processes.
- Continue to develop children's understanding of their own health and wellbeing.

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 The Montessori School, Edinburgh

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership and management of staff	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Curriculum	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our school? (4th edition)	

What happens next?

Recommendation for Registrar's consideration

As a result of the overall quality of education provided by the school, we will make no further visits in connection with this inspection. The Principal and Advisory Group will inform parents about the school's progress as part of their arrangements for reporting to parents on the quality of the school. Education Scotland will copy this report to the Registrar of Independent Schools for information.

Shona ES Taylor
HM Inspector