

18 December 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2018, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited South Parks 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 headteacher's extensive knowledge of the school and its community. She places the wellbeing of children, their families and her staff at the heart of the work of the school and nursery.
- The caring, welcoming environment for learning. As a result, children enjoy being in the school and nursery, are well behaved and keen to learn.
- The teamwork of staff across the school and nursery. They support each other well and are keen to develop their practice.
- The good start made with family learning. Parents and a range of partners are encouraged to be more involved in the school community.

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

- Make better use of information on children's progress to raise attainment.
- Improve the quality and consistency of teaching across the school and nursery, to ensure that all children are sufficiently challenged in their learning.
- Improve the curriculum to ensure clear progression pathways in all curricular areas, to allow children to build on prior learning as they move through the school.
- Take steps to ensure that approaches to tracking and monitoring of children's progress are more rigorous and robust. Provide opportunities for staff to work with other schools and nurseries to develop further shared understanding of standards.

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 South Parks Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/fife/5402425>

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

Liz Angus
HM Inspector