

26 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2024, an inspector from Education Scotland visited Old Rayne Pre-school. During the visit, she talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the manager and staff.

The inspector found the following strengths in the setting's work.

- The manager and practitioners have created a positive and supportive ethos in the pre-school. They work together very effectively as a team to improve outcomes for children.
- All staff have a very good understanding of the wellbeing needs of all the children. As a result, all children, including those with potential barriers to learning, are making good progress.
- Children are enthusiastic learners. They engage well with the variety of valuable learning experiences which staff provide in the attractive indoor playroom and outdoor garden. They are developing a wide range of skills across the curriculum.
- Staff use forest visits well to develop children's physical skills, their awareness of safety and their understanding of the outdoor world.

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

- Continue to develop and provide high-quality literacy and numeracy experiences to further improve children's progress.
- Continue to develop assessment and tracking procedures to ensure that all children experience learning activities at the appropriate level of challenge.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the setting's work using quality indicators from [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#) Quality indicators help learning and childcare settings, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Old Rayne Preschool.

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	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: [Details | Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and Review | Education Scotland](#)

What happens next?

We are confident that the setting has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Aberdeenshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its settings.

May Geddes
HM Inspector