

23 April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Carstairs Junction 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.

- Children in the school and nursery are friendly and enthusiastic. They are proud of their school community and engage positively in their learning.
- All staff play an important role in the life of the school and nursery. Working well together, they create a highly inclusive learning environment for children that supports positive relationships and wellbeing.
- Senior leaders and staff track children's progress over time well. They use information effectively to identify children who require additional support for learning. They plan and implement timely interventions to improve progress in learning.
- Children in the nursery are making very good progress in their learning. They benefit from a range of stimulating nursery experiences which encourage them to be confident, independent, curious and creative learners.

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

- Senior leaders and teachers should continue to improve the overall quality of learning and teaching across the school and supported classes. They should ensure all learning activities are planned at the right level of difficulty to enable all children to make appropriate progress in their learning.
- Senior leaders should continue to work with parents and partners to improve attendance across the school and supported classes.
- Practitioners should continue to develop the quality and consistency of observations to identify the skills children are developing across the curriculum. They should help children to understand what they have learned and what they might learn next.

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 Carstairs Junction Primary School 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	good
Securing children's progress	very 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: [Find an inspection report | 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. South Lanarkshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Victoria Morgan
HM Inspector