

26 March 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Gorebridge 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 who are motivated and enthusiastic learners and take great pride in their school.
- The newly-appointed headteacher who has a clear vision for the school and is beginning to bring about positive change. He is building on the strong relationships and partnerships across the school community to support continued improvements.
- The senior leadership team and staff across the primary stages and nursery class who provide a supportive and nurturing ethos for children and their families.
- Partnership working within Newbattle Learning Community which takes good account of children and families. In particular, the early intervention and prevention project which is working well with families and leading to positive outcomes.

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

- Continue to develop greater consistency in learning and teaching across the primary stages and nursery class to enable all children to make the best possible progress.
- Improve approaches to tracking and monitoring children's progress. To support this to be robust and reliable, continue to develop approaches to assessment and moderation.
- Continue to develop the curriculum as planned. In doing so, increase opportunities for outdoor learning and the use of digital technologies to support learning.
- Continue to review approaches to recording safeguarding and wellbeing concerns across the primary stages and nursery class.

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 Gorebridge Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory
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
Securing children's progress	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale	

Here are the Care Inspectorate's gradings for the nursery class

Care Inspectorate standards	Grade
Quality of care and support	adequate
Quality of environment	good
Quality of staffing	adequate
Quality of management and leadership	adequate

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had no requirements and three recommendations. From these, two recommendations have been met and one has not been met. Outstanding issues relating to the previous inspection are carried forward in this inspection. As a result of this inspection, there is one requirement and two recommendations.

Requirements

- In order to ensure children are effectively safeguarded the provider must review the child protection policy and procedures so that there is a clear and consistent process for acting upon and recording concerns by 1 March 2019. The provider must review all children's files and the systems used to record concerns to ensure that they provide clear information in line with current best practice guidance by 1 March 2019. This is in order to comply with Regulation 4(1)(a) Welfare of users of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011/210 and ensure that care and support are consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, which state that 'I am protected from harm, neglect, abuse, bullying and exploitation by people who have a clear understanding of their responsibilities' (HSCS 3.20).

Recommendations

- To ensure that staff effectively support and track children's learning, observations and next steps in children's learning folios should be improved. The service should support staff to develop their understanding of how to assess children's learning and record quality observations so that they can effectively monitor and track children's progress. This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, which state that 'I am supported to achieve my potential in education' (HSCS 1.27).
- To ensure children's health and wellbeing is maintained, the nursery should ensure clear and consistent systems are in place for the recording and administration of medication. They should ensure that records clearly identify the symptoms and plan of action to be taken. The medication policy should be updated to ensure it provides clarity on the recording, administration, and storage of medication in line with current best practice. This

is in order to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, which states 'I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice' (HSCS 4.11).

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/midlothian/5543428>

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

Jackie Maley
HM Inspector

Sarah McGahey
Care Inspector