

17 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2020, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Forehill Primary School and Early Years Centre. 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 enthusiastic, happy and eager to learn. They are respectful of each other and of adults.
- The highly effective headteacher, together with the leadership team, who successfully lead a team of motivated and enthusiastic staff. Together, they use assessment information well to plan appropriate learning experiences and support for children across the school and early years centre.
- The school's approaches to raising attainment, particularly in listening and talking. Children are confident and articulate when speaking to adults, each other and to larger audiences.
- Approaches to planning and tracking children's opportunities for wider achievement within and outwith the classroom and early years centre. As a result of their participation, children are developing a wide range of skills. In particular, creative approaches to music are leading to increased confidence, participation and motivation for learning.

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

- Continue to improve further creative approaches to learning and teaching across the school and early years centre.
- Continue to refine approaches to planning and assessment and extend opportunities for children to plan and lead their learning.

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 Forehill Primary School and Early Years Centre

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	very 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 early years centre	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	very 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:

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=2622>

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

Marion Carlton
HM Inspector