

18 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2020, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Keir Hardie Memorial 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 positive impact of steps that staff and leadership team are taking to improve relationships across the school.
- Children are well behaved and eager to learn within the calm learning environment.
- Partnership work with other agencies to support children's learning and health and wellbeing.

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

- The leadership team should provide clear leadership and direction to the school and nursery to support staff and nursery practitioners to deliver consistent high quality learning and teaching.
- Across the school and nursery, staff should continue to develop approaches to tracking children's progress and monitoring the work of the school. In doing this, they should ensure an increased focus on identifying gaps in children's learning and raising their attainment as a matter of urgency.
- Develop the curriculum across the school and nursery to help children build on their prior learning as they move stages. In doing this, staff should use the National Benchmarks to help them make accurate judgements on children's progress in learning as they move through the school.
- Review approaches to how the school and nursery support children with additional support needs. Parents, staff and children should be fully involved in setting and reviewing targets. Staff need to improve how they track progress.

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 Keir Hardie Memorial 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	weak
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	weak
Securing children's progress	weak
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	adequate

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had one recommendation. This has been met. As a result of this inspection, there are three recommendations.

Recommendations

1. Information within Personal (care) plans must be sufficiently detailed so it is clear about the support in place for individual children.

- Targets for children should be appropriate with timescales attached to each one can be effectively monitored.
- Techniques and strategies that will be used to help children reach their potential should be detailed.
- At each review with parents and where appropriate children, there should be a record of children's progress so the effectiveness of the plan is assessed.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that 'my personal plan is right for me because it sets out how my needs will be met, as well as my wishes and choices'. (HSCS 1.15) and 'I am fully involved in developing and reviewing my personal plan, which is always available to me'. (HSCS 2.17).

2. Staff should review the current snack and mealtime routines so that they are positive experiences for children and help them develop healthy eating habits and self-help skills.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that 'I can choose suitably presented and healthy meals and snack, including fresh fruit and vegetables, and participate in menu planning'. (HSCS 1.33), 'If I need help with eating and drinking, this is carried out in a dignified way and my personal preferences are respected'. (HSCS 1.34) and 'I can enjoy unhurried snack and mealtimes in as relaxed an atmosphere as possible'. (HSCS 1.35).

3. Consideration needs to be given to having a changing area nearer to the nursery so children can be changed in a timely manner.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that 'If I require intimate personal care, there is a suitable area for this, including a sink if needed'. (HSCS 5.4).

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=3119>

What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we identified areas where improvements are required. In light of the current circumstances, we will liaise with North Lanarkshire Council to discuss our findings and support for the school. We will provide you with an update on next steps once the school has reopened.

Sadie Cushley
HM Inspector

Lynne Vekic
Care Inspector