

4 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2025, an inspector from Education Scotland visited Minnigaff Community Nursery. During the visit, she talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the manager and practitioners.

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

- Children who are eager to learn and engage well with the resources. They are curious and show good imagination in their play. They are developing independence and making new friends.
- The caring, nurturing and well-developed relationships between practitioners, children and families. This helps children to settle well and feel safe and secure.

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

- Practitioners should improve how they observe, record and share information about children's progress. They should use this information to ensure children are challenged in their play. Stronger assessment evidence is needed to improve playroom experiences and planning for individual children.
- The manager should work with practitioners to use a wider range of self-evaluation activities to drive improvements in practice. The staff team should make use of national advice to audit their own approaches against recognised best practice.
- The manager and practitioners should review the flow of the day to ensure it better meets children's needs. They should consider the appropriateness of planned group time for very young children. Practitioners should improve the arrangements for snack and lunch so that they provide positive, pleasant social experiences.



We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some of the setting's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#). Quality indicators help early learning and childcare settings, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each setting, the Scottish Government gathers details of our evaluations to keep track of how well Scottish early learning and childcare settings are doing.

## Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Minnigaff Community Nursery

| Quality indicators   | Evaluation          |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Leadership of change</b>  | <b>satisfactory</b> |
| <b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>   | <b>satisfactory</b> |
| <b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>  | <b>satisfactory</b> |
| <b>Securing children's progress</b>  | <b>satisfactory</b> |
| Descriptions of the evaluations are available from:<br><a href="#">How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale</a> |                     |

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Minnigaff Community Nursery | 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. Dumfries and Galloway Council will inform parents/carers about the setting's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its settings.

May Geddes  
HM Inspector