

29 April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2025, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Nethermains 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.

- Senior leaders work effectively with staff across the school to ensure children experience consistently positive relationships. Underpinned by the school's values, staff work together well to improve outcomes for children and families.
- Staff have a sound understanding of the wellbeing needs of all children across the school and nursery. As a result, children feel safe and well cared for.
- Children are confident, respectful and welcoming to visitors. They are proud of their school and engage well in their learning. In the nursery, children are motivated, creative and curious. They are eager to learn as they play.
- In the nursery, practitioners' use targeted approaches to support children's early communication and language. This is leading to children developing these skills well.

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

- Continue to raise attainment in literacy and numeracy. Support teachers and practitioners to develop their confidence in assessing children's progress.
- At the primary stages, ensure that lessons are set at the correct level of difficulty and build on what children already know.
- In the nursery, continue to develop approaches to planning to have a clearer focus on the skills that children are 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 Nethermain 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	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:

[Nethermain Primary School | 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. Falkirk Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Emma McFarlane
HM Inspector