

16 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2020, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Cargenbridge 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.

- A culture of self-evaluation modelled by the headteacher and nursery manager. There is a strong sense of teamwork and willingness amongst the whole staff to share leadership to improve the school and nursery class.
- The school's success in creating a warm and welcoming environment where everyone feels included and valued. The highly motivated and ambitious children are proud of their school. They play a valuable role in making decisions about important school matters.
- The opportunities provided by the school for children to participate in projects with a range of partners, including parents and local businesses. These are enhancing children's learning and development, including skills for learning, life and work.
- The high quality of children's writing.

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

- Streamline the school's priorities for improvement to ensure a greater focus on improving attainment.
- Continue to improve learning and teaching across the school, ensuring an appropriate level of pace and challenge for all learners.
- Promote learning about equality and diversity to ensure children gain an understanding of the wider world in which they live and will work.

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 Cargenbridge Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Securing children's progress	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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=1931>

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

Guch Dhillon
HM Inspector