

13 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2022, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Danestone 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 and supportive environment in the school and nursery, where children's rights and learner participation are key features. Older children have a very good knowledge of their rights and relate this well to different areas of learning.
- Senior leaders take a proactive approach to improving the quality of learning and teaching across the primary classes. They do this through the use of team teaching, modelling lessons and working together with staff to provide relevant professional learning.
- Children across the school and nursery who are confident, respectful, motivated and keen to learn.

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

- Staff should continue to improve the consistency and quality of learning and teaching across the school and nursery. In doing so, they should ensure all children are challenged sufficiently in their learning and play.
- Practitioners, in the nursery, need to deepen their understanding of how children develop and learn through the use of Curriculum for Excellence. In doing so, they should improve their approaches to capturing and recording children's progress.

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 Danestone 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	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	satisfactory
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:

[Reports page](#) | [Inspection reports](#) | [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. Aberdeen City Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Susie Smith
HM Inspector