

23 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2020, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Dean Park 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 start made by the new acting headteacher and leadership team, over a short space of time, to raising attainment. As a result, the school is well placed to move forward.
- The highly effective professional learning undertaken by most staff which is beginning to support improvement to children's learning experiences across the nursery and primary stages.
- The able, enthusiastic and articulate children who are keen to take part in school and community activities.
- The effective engagement of the school and nursery class with the wider community.

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

- Continue to raise attainment and achievement across the nursery class and primary stages. This includes working as a team to meet the needs of all children through the provision of consistently high quality learning and teaching experiences.
- Continue to develop further opportunities for children to identify and apply their skills in real life contexts within their daily learning and be more involved in creating their own learning experiences.

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 Dean Park Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very 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	

Here are the Care Inspectorate's gradings for the nursery class

Care Inspectorate standards	Grade
Quality of care and support	very good
Quality of environment	very good

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had one requirement and one recommendation. From these, one requirement and one recommendation have been met. As a result of this inspection, there are no requirements and no recommendations.

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=2328>.

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. The City of Edinburgh Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

James P. McCrory
HM Inspector

Sarah Hermiston
Care Inspector