

31 October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Martin's RC 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 polite, friendly children who proudly welcome visitors and demonstrate the school and nursery values well. They are enthusiastic and motivated in their learning.
- All staff play an important role in the life of the school and nursery. Working very well together, they create a highly inclusive learning environment for children that supports positive relationships and wellbeing.
- The headteacher and principal teachers who demonstrate effective leadership and are highly respected. They have created a nurturing and respectful culture where children succeed and achieve.
- Staff across the school and nursery know children and their families very well. Working with the community and partners, they provide high-quality support to reduce any barriers to learning.

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

- Continue to develop consistently high-quality approaches to learning and teaching. Ensure that learning activities are challenging enough and well matched to the needs of all children.
- Continue to improve approaches in the use of assessment to ensure all children are making the best possible progress in learning.
- Continue with plans to raise children's attainment further, with a particular focus on writing and numeracy.

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 St Martin's RC 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: [Inspection and Review | 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. East Lothian Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Anne Graham
HM Inspector