

5 November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Whitecraig 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.

- Happy, welcoming children who feel cared for and enjoy coming to school. Parents value the pastoral support staff provide for the children.
- Staff in the nursery and across the primary school have a commitment and enthusiasm for professional learning and improvement.

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

- Develop children's knowledge of themselves as learners and their skills of working independently.
- Improve approaches to learning, teaching and assessment leading to raised attainment in literacy and numeracy for children.
- Improve approaches and outcomes for the wellbeing of children and staff.
- Ensure that planning, tracking and monitoring of learning and teaching leads to planned tasks and activities that meet children's needs.

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 Whitecraig Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	weak
Raising attainment and achievement	weak
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	

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

Care Inspectorate standards	Grade
Quality of care and support	adequate
Quality of environment	adequate

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had inserted no requirements and no recommendations. As a result of this inspection, there are no requirements and three recommendations.

This letter and a more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/east-lothian/5550726>

What happens next?

We will liaise with East Lothian Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. Within 12 months of this letter we will return to carry out a further inspection of the school. We will discuss with East Lothian Council the details of this inspection. Following our return to inspect the school, we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

Elizabeth C Montgomery
HM Inspector

Sarah Hermiston
Care Inspector