

4 June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Scots Corner Early Learning and Childcare Centre. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the manager and practitioners.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the setting's work.

- The manager's leadership and focus on wellbeing of all children, families and practitioners. Together, the whole team ensure a very positive and nurturing ethos throughout nursery life. They provide strong support to children and families when a parent is deployed to work away from home for extended periods of time.
- Children who are happy and achieve well through a broad range of enjoyable learning and play experiences both indoors and outdoors. As a result, they engage confidently in conversation with adults and their peers.
- Senior leaders and practitioners are highly reflective, undertaking research about their practice and ongoing professional learning to support improvements in practice.
- The strong relationships with parents and the diverse range of partners who support children's learning and needs. Parents and partners value highly the welcome and open approach from all, with a key focus on supporting children.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the manager and representatives from Midlothian Council.

- Senior leaders should refine approaches to leading and monitoring change and improvements, to become more focused and a key part of regular routines. In doing so, they should ensure their changes and improvements are making clear differences to children's experiences and outcomes.
- Senior leaders should continue to develop further their approaches to assessing and tracking children's learning and achievements across the curriculum. There is a need to support children to secure greater progress over time.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some of the setting's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#). Quality indicators help early learning and childcare settings, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each setting, the Scottish Government gathers details of our evaluations to keep track of how well Scottish early learning and childcare settings are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Scots Corner Early Learning and Childcare Centre

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very 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: [Details | Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and review | Education Scotland](#)

What happens next?

We are confident that the setting has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Midlothian Council will inform parents/carers about the setting's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its settings.

Sally Stewart
HM Inspector