

17 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2020, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Sacred Heart 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.

- Staff and children are supportive of each other within a positive and caring school environment. Children are happy and enthusiastic about school. They are polite, well-mannered and demonstrate good standards of behaviour.
- Across the nursery and school, teachers and practitioners work well together and always aim to do the very best for the children. Teachers benefit from working together with colleagues.
- Staff across the school and nursery have fostered positive and respectful relationships with children and their families.

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

- In the nursery and school, senior leaders and staff should work together to develop a whole school approach to learning, teaching and assessment. This should include a focus on ensuring learning is at the right level of difficulty for all children and is increasing opportunities for children to better lead their own learning.
- Improve children's attainment across the school. There should be a particular focus on increasing the expectations of what children can achieve across all areas of the curriculum.
- In the nursery, staff should increase and improve the opportunities for children to engage in stimulating and high quality learning outdoors.

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 Sacred Heart Primary School and Nursery Class

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

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=4268>

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

Ann Floyd
HM Inspector