

18 February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Strathmiglo 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.

- Children across the school are motivated, enthusiastic and articulate. Staff provide high quality feedback about their learning in literacy and numeracy. As a result, children know what they are good at and what they need to do to improve.
- Across the school and nursery, the headteacher and staff have created a positive learning environment. Supportive and respectful relationships contribute to a nurturing ethos where the views of children are valued.
- Staff and children ensure that the school is an integral part of the village. Children contribute very well to improving the local community and involving residents in the life of the school.
- Children in the school benefit from well-planned learning and teaching opportunities within interesting contexts. As a result, they are attaining very well and have a thorough understanding of the relevance of their learning. Children are making good links between the skills they are developing and how they will use them beyond school.

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

- Across the school and nursery, staff and practitioners should continue to improve how they assess the progress children are making. They should make better use of assessment information to plan learning.
- Staff in the school and nursery need to develop a curriculum rationale that identifies what children will learn as they progress through the school and nursery.
- Staff in the school should support children to use what they are learning to make healthy choices and develop a better understanding of their own wellbeing.
- The headteacher and practitioners should continue to ensure there is a clear strategy for taking forward improvements in the nursery. Practitioners should support children to gain a better understanding of their own learning.

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 Strathmiglo Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	very 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	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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:

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=4869>

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

Monica McGeever
HM Inspector