

16 December 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2017, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Cranston Country Nursery. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the directors and practitioners.

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

- Confident children who enjoy and engage well in their learning, particularly when learning outdoors.
- The leadership of the directors and senior management team, together with practitioners, in their commitment to making improvements to the setting. This secures good-quality learning and child care for children.
- The caring relationships within the setting which support children to make good progress across their learning.

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

- The senior management team should continue to develop a clearer rationale for the curriculum in line with national expectations and that reflects the uniqueness of the setting. This should include developing a shared understanding amongst stakeholders on the curriculum provided for children.
- The setting should continue to develop practitioners understanding of how young children learn to better inform what children need to learn next. This will allow practitioners to track children's learning and help children build on their prior learning to make even better progress.
- The setting should build on existing approaches to self-evaluation to ensure that there is a greater, and more measurable, impact on children's learning and progress.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some quality indicators from [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#) Quality indicators help early learning and childcare settings, education 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 evaluations of quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish early learning and childcare settings are doing.

## Here are Education Scotland’s evaluations for Cranston Country Nursery

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Securing children’s progress</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>good</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from <a href="#">How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale</a>	

More detailed summarised inspection findings will be available from <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/midlothian/9909108>.

### 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.

Alan Urquhart  
HM Inspector