

5 November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Athelstaneford 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.

- The warm, friendly and inclusive ethos in the school and nursery. All children and staff demonstrate care and respect in their interactions with each other. Children feel safe, secure and happy in their learning environment.
- The commitment to children's rights in the school and nursery. All children and staff have a clear understanding of the importance of children's rights, and this is evident in all aspects of learning.
- The approaches taken to promoting achievement for all. All children in the school and nursery have opportunities to achieve. They are proud of the skills and attributes they are developing through a range of activities.

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

- The headteacher, teachers and practitioners should work together to streamline the planning and tracking formats used in the school and nursery. This should help them to identify more clearly children's progress in learning.
- The headteacher and teachers should work together to ensure that all learning activities provide appropriate levels of challenge for all children at the primary stages. This should help children to make the best possible progress in their learning and raise attainment.

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 Athelstaneford Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	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
Learning, teaching and assessment	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: [Athelstaneford Primary School | Inspection Report | Education Scotland](#)

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

M. A. Speirs
HM Inspector