

25 February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Machanhill 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 headteacher and depute headteacher's skilful leadership which has established strong relationships across the school and its community. The school's values are embraced and underpin successfully the 'Machanhill family'.
- Staff's effective teamwork across the establishment and with partners which removes barriers to children's learning and enables them to learn and achieve in a calm, purposeful environment. Children's understanding and support of each other is a significant feature of the inclusive ethos.
- Happy, settled children who are enthusiastic, motivated and engaged in their learning. They are confident, articulate and speak proudly of their nursery and school.

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

- Staff should continue, as planned, to develop clear curricular pathways which ensure children experience continuity and progression in their learning as they move through the nursery and school.
- The headteacher and depute headteacher should continue to share effective practice across the staff team, in order to provide consistently high quality learning and teaching across the nursery and school. Children need more regular opportunities to lead their own learning.
- Together with staff, the headteacher should increase further children's attainment in literacy and English and numeracy and mathematics.

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 Machanhill Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	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	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Securing children's progress	good
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=3573>

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

Lisa Marie McDonnell
HM Inspector