

10 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Channelkirk Primary School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

Channelkirk nursery class was inspected by Care Inspectorate within the past 18 months. Therefore, we have agreed with the local authority and school that the nursery class is not part of this inspection.

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

- Staff provide children with an inclusive learning environment and build positive relationships with them. As a result, children are confident and successful learners who are kind to each other.
- The headteacher, who provides strong leadership of learning. She sets high standards and has effective processes to review and improve the quality of learning and teaching.
- All staff work together well as a team to develop their professional skills and knowledge. These shared professional values are improving children's learning experiences.
- The highly effective reading culture that motivates children to read for enjoyment. This is developing children's reading skills well.

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

- Staff should continue to develop approaches to high-quality learning and teaching, including learning through play and developing progressive outdoor learning experiences.
- The headteacher and staff should continue to develop approaches to assessment through further use of the national Benchmarks and increasing moderation activities.
- Children would benefit from more regular opportunities to consolidate and apply their numeracy and mathematical skills in different contexts.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#). 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 Channelkirk Primary School.

Quality indicators	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	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Channelkirk 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. Scottish Borders Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Helen Mulholland
HM Inspector