

27 August 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

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

Dunbar Primary School 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:

- The headteacher's positive leadership during a period of change for the school. She is developing teachers' sense of ownership over improvement priorities. She, and senior leaders, established staff working groups which are beginning to support improvements.
- Staff foster positive and nurturing relationships with children which help establish a calm and purposeful learning environment. Children are respectful, welcoming and eager to learn.
- Children's developing appreciation of equality and diversity through various events, assemblies and learning in class. This is helping children to understand the need to treat others with respect and value what makes us different.

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

- Senior leaders should ensure all school improvements result in clear and measurable outcomes for children. They should extend the involvement of the wider school community in planning and evaluating improvement priorities.
- Senior leaders and staff should continue to improve the quality and consistency of learning, teaching and assessment across the school. This includes ensuring teachers confidently meet the needs of all learners.
- Staff should continue to raise children's attainment in literacy and numeracy. Teachers should continue to improve their confidence in applying national standards when making judgements about children's progress.
- Senior leaders and staff should continue to explore ways to encourage parents to participate more fully in all aspects of the life of the school.

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

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a>	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Details | Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and review | 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.

Graham Parry  
HM Inspector