

30 January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Broughton 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 friendly and welcoming environment in the school and nursery. There are positive relationships between all members of the school community. All staff are caring and considerate in their interactions with children. Children feel safe, happy and looked after.
- The respectful, settled and polite children in the school and nursery. They listen attentively to staff and to each other. They are keen to engage and co-operate well when playing and learning.
- The high quality learning experiences in the nursery indoor environment. The staff team in the nursery are successfully helping children to make good progress in their learning.

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

- Improve approaches to leadership of change in the school and nursery. The headteacher needs to ensure that key improvement priorities are identified through robust self-evaluation and addressed in a rigorous manner.
- Improve the overall quality of learning and teaching in the school to meet better all children's needs. This will help to raise attainment in literacy and numeracy across the school.
- Improve approaches to planning learning and teaching in the school. Teachers need to plan learning for individuals and groups of children across all curricular areas. In doing so, they should plan tasks and activities which are appropriately matched to all children's level of ability.
- Improve approaches to assessment within the school. Teachers need to gather stronger and more relevant assessment evidence to support planning for learning that meets all children's needs.

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 Broughton Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	weak
Learning, teaching and assessment	weak
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	weak
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	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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:

[Details](#) | [Find an inspection report](#) | [Find an inspection report](#) | [Inspection and Review](#) | [Education Scotland](#)

What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we think that the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. We will liaise with Scottish Borders Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within one year of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with Scottish Borders Council the details of this inspection. When we return to inspect the school, we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

M. A. Speirs
HM Inspector