

10 December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Eday 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 new headteacher's appropriate focus on improvement and involvement of parents and partners in the development of the school.
- Positive relationships fostered between the headteacher, staff, parents and children. Children are well supported in moving from nursery into P1 and onward to other schools.
- Polite children who are developing skills of independence and positive attitudes to their learning.

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

- Raise attainment and improve children's progress in learning.
- Ensure effective professional learning and development results in improved quality of learning and teaching.
- Develop rigorous self-evaluation based on robust evidence leading to improved outcomes for children.
- Continue to improve the learning environment and curriculum.

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 Eday Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	weak
Raising attainment and achievement	weak
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale	

Here are the Care Inspectorate's gradings for the nursery class

Care Inspectorate standards	Grade
Quality of care and support	good
Quality of environment	adequate

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class

Requirements

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had no requirements and one recommendation. As a result of this inspection one recommendation has been carried forward.

Recommendation

- To ensure children receive high quality early learning and childcare, the provider should ensure all children are able to access a range of resources which stimulate their imagination, curiosity and creativity.

This ensures that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state, 'As a child, I have fun as I develop my skills in understanding, thinking, investigation and problem solving, including through imaginative play and storytelling'. (HSCS 1.30)

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=2495>

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 Orkney Islands Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a joint support visit with Orkney Islands Council within six months of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with Orkney Islands Council the details of this support visit. When we return we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

Susan Gow
HM Inspector

Lorraine Hendry
Care Inspector