

17 September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Macmerry 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 welcoming environment where staff have positive relationships with children and their families. Children are polite, eager to learn and proud to be part of the Macmerry community.
- The partnership working across the school and community which enriches some learning experiences.
- The nursery team's commitment to establishing positive relationships with children and families and improving the quality of provision for children.

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

- Develop strategic leadership across the school and nursery class to drive forward improvements at an increased pace of change. In so doing, develop robust approaches to self-evaluation to identify areas for improvement.
- Improve staff and children's understanding of the wellbeing indicators to ensure that the needs of all children are met. Children should be supported to set meaningful targets and discuss their wellbeing with confidence in order to ensure that they all feel respected, responsible and included.
- Across the school, develop and ensure consistency in high quality learning, teaching and assessment.
- The school needs to raise children's attainment. Staff need to develop their approaches to moderating assessment and have a better understanding of national standards.

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 Macmerry Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	weak
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
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	weak
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	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/east-lothian/5554128>

What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we think that the setting needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. We will liaise with East Lothian 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 East Lothian 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.

John Reilly
HM Inspector