

1 October 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Mossend 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 headteacher and the senior team are working hard to develop a nurturing approach across the school. There is a strong sense of community amongst the children, staff and the families of Mossend Primary. Children talk with pride about their school.
- Children are happy at school and positive about their learning experiences. Teachers use a good range of teaching approaches and learning environments to enrich children's classroom experiences.
- The staff in the school and the nursery practitioners place a strong focus on children's emotional wellbeing. Children are developing a range of effective ways to support their own wellbeing and that of others and can talk about these.

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

- The headteacher and senior team should continue to work with all staff to drive forward school improvement. Staff, parents and children now need to be involved in identifying improvement priorities. The school should have a stronger focus on using national guidance on Curriculum for Excellence.
- Staff should work together to develop a shared understanding of what constitutes high quality teaching and learning. This should include making links between planning, teaching, learning and assessment in order to raise attainment. The school should establish systems for tracking children's attainment over time.
- Staff should increase the pace and challenge of class activities to extend children's learning and progress. This will help to raise attainment across the school and ensure all children achieve their full potential.

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 Mossend Primary School and Nursery Class

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

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had no requirements and no recommendations. As a result of this inspection, there are no requirements and one recommendation.

Recommendation

Management and staff should develop further children's written personal plans and profiles which identify their needs and demonstrate how these will be met. This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that ‘My personal plan (sometimes referred to as a care plan) is right for me because it sets out how my needs will be met, as well as my wishes and choices.’ (HSCS 1.15) ‘My care and support meets my needs and is right for me’ (HSCS 1.19).

To achieve this consideration should be given to:

- Consistent content of paperwork within profiles.
- Children's prior experiences before starting nursery.
- Staff develop a more evaluative writing style, placing greater emphasis on children's significant learning and identifying and revisiting meaningful observations and next steps.
- Reviewed at least once every six months, with parents/carers or more often if there are any significant changes.
- Monitoring system developed and implemented to support children’s progress and the services on-going improvement focus.

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

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/north-lanarkshire/8512124> .

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. North Lanarkshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Ann Floyd
HM Inspector

Patricia Fox
Care Inspector