

11 July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Camperdown Nursery. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the manager and staff.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the setting's work.

- The children are very happy, settled and keen to learn. They engage well with the wide range of play contexts and are progressing well in their learning and development.
- The staff team provide children and families with a very high level of care. They have developed strong and productive partnerships with parents and carers. These achievements lay important foundations for effective learning and teaching.
- The recently appointed manager has a clear vision for the future development of the nursery. In her short time in post, she has made important improvements to learning and teaching, and to the nursery environment, most notably in the rich outdoor areas. These provide an effective environment in which children learn and progress well.
- The clear focus on staff training and development is having a positive impact on the overall quality of provision.

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

- Staff should, as planned, work in partnership with the Council to develop approaches to planning and assessment. This will enable staff to track children's learning experiences in each curriculum area and provide them with reliable information on how well children are progressing.
- Staff should use more open-ended questioning and explanations in their interactions with children. This will enrich children's learning and provide increased challenge.
- To improve learning, teaching and children's progress further, staff should develop approaches to evaluating the work of the nursery, using national guidance and building on current strengths. All staff should be involved in the nursery's development, with a strong and consistent focus on improving outcomes for children.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the setting's work using quality indicators from [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#) Quality indicators help learning and childcare settings, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Camperdown Nursery

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	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: [Reports page | Inspection reports | Education Scotland](#)

What happens next?

We are confident that the setting 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 settings.

May Geddes
HM Inspector