

23 April 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Morebattle 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 is providing strong and effective leadership. He works hard to ensure that all members of the school community are valued and respected. He actively seeks the views of children, parents and staff in bringing about improvements in the school and nursery.
- Children are friendly, polite and enthusiastic. They are proud of their school and nursery. They are supportive of each other and eager to learn and do well. Relationships between children and staff are very positive.
- Staff work well as a team to create a nurturing and caring ethos across the whole school community. They show commitment to ensuring the needs of all children are met. Staff are keen to engage in the process of change and school improvement.

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

- Continue to engage children and staff across the school community in developing high quality approaches to learning and teaching. Staff should provide more opportunities for children to lead their own learning whilst ensuring appropriate levels of pace and challenge for all. This will ensure children continue to be motivated and fully engaged in their learning.
- Continue to raise attainment and achievement further. This should include the effective use and understanding of assessment, and monitoring and tracking of children's progress across all curriculum areas. Children should be given further opportunities to evaluate their own progress and next steps.
- In the nursery, as the new team settles, they should continue to work together to review the impact of the new planning, assessment and recording procedures. This will help them to refine and embed the process to ensure it leads to positive outcomes for children.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using 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 Morebattle Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	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
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	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/scottish-borders/5631726>

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

Dennise Sommerville
HM Inspector