

27 March 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2018 a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Ronan's 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 staff's well-established links with partners and promotion of the school as a hub of learning activities for children, their families and the wider community.
- The school's shared values of honesty, respect and caring towards others as demonstrated by the courteous, confident and motivated children.
- The willingness of staff to develop their professional knowledge and skills and share the leadership of school improvement priorities.
- Progress made in creating purposeful, nurturing and calm learning environments to support children in the nursery and at Primary 1.

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

- Improve the school's strategic leadership and approaches to self-evaluation to ensure consistency in high quality learning, teaching and assessment.
- Raise expectations of what children can achieve through regular professional dialogue linked to moderation and progression in children's learning.
- Improve the school's use of data to monitor children's progress in Curriculum for Excellence leading to improved attainment for all.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#). Quality indicators help schools, education 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 evaluations of quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

## Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for St Ronan's Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators primary stages	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from <a href="#">How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> edition)</a> , <a href="#">Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a> .	

Quality indicators nursery class	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Securing children's progress</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from <a href="#">How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale</a>	

A more detailed document called summarised inspection findings will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/scottish-borders/5600421>.

### 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 Scottish Borders Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within 12 months of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with Scottish Borders 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.

Susan Gow  
HM Inspector