

12 June 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2018, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Garnock Valley Early Years Centre. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the head of setting and practitioners.

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

- Happy, confident and motivated children who enjoy their time at Garnock Valley Early Years Centre and who are making very good progress across their learning.
- The welcoming and inclusive environment where the head of centre and her team have established positive relationships and a strong sense of community with children and their families. This ensures wellbeing needs are well met.
- Positive partnership with other agencies who are very supportive of the setting and value the experiences that are provided for the children.
- Garnock Valley Early Years Centre provides a varied programme of family learning opportunities, where parents and carers can support their learning both at home and within the setting. This is well received by the whole community.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the head of setting and a representative from North Ayrshire Council.

- Continue to implement self-evaluation to drive improvements to ensure a more rigorous approach to identifying what is working well and what needs to improve. Monitoring and evaluation now needs to become more robust to clearly demonstrate the impact on improving outcomes for children and families.
- Develop further approaches to planning, observation and assessment of children's learning. These should ensure challenging, high-quality experiences that continue to support children to make the very best progress in their learning.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some quality indicators from [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#). Quality indicators help early learning and childcare settings, education authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each setting, the Scottish Government gathers evaluations of quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish early learning and childcare settings are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Garnock Valley Early Years Centre

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Securing children's progress	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale	

More detailed summarised inspection findings will be available from
<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/north-ayrshire/8215219>.

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. North Ayrshire Council will inform parents/carers about the setting's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its settings.

Dr Noreen Phillips
HM Inspector