

23 January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Newton 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.

- Children feel safe, secure and ready to learn. Across the school and nursery, children and adults have positive relationships with each other which support children to play, learn and grow.
- The effective leadership of the headteacher. Supported by the senior leadership and staff team, she inspires ambitious aspirations and expectations of all children and staff.
- Staff deliver motivating learning and teaching approaches across the school and nursery. Teachers and practitioners design well-considered, relevant and interesting learning experiences, which enhance children's progress in learning.
- Staff meet the needs of all children very well through high-quality planning. Approaches include very well-planned, targeted support for those children who require more challenge in their learning.
- The consistently high attainment and achievement of children in the school and nursery. Children maintain their progress through very good opportunities to achieve success and develop a wide range of skills.

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

- Senior leaders should continue to work with staff to streamline their improvement priorities and measures for success. In so doing, they should refine approaches to capture how progress will be measured and by when.

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 Newton Primary School and Nursery Class.

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	very 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	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good
Securing children's progress	very 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: [Details | Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and Review | Education Scotland](#)

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

Simon Gallon
HM Inspector