

26 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Stratherrick 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 are enthusiastic and respectful. They show resilience in times of change, learn and play well together and work hard.
- Staff are beginning to work well as a new team. Working together with children in the small school setting, they create a warm, family ethos.
- The Parent Council contributes considerable additional resources to enhance children's wider experiences. All children benefit from their work.

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

- The headteacher and staff should ensure children's learning activities are of a consistently high quality and set at the right level of challenge for all children.
- The headteacher should improve the approaches to tracking and monitoring children's progress. This will ensure that practitioners and teachers have a clear understanding of children's progress in all aspects of their learning.
- The headteacher and staff should improve further approaches to assessment to continue to improve children's attainment and achievement.

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 Stratherrick Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	weak
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
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:

[Details](#) | [Find an inspection report](#) | [Find an inspection report](#) | [Inspection and review](#) | [Education Scotland](#)

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 The Highland Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within one year of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with The Highland 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.

Shona ES Taylor
HM Inspector