

2 July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Deshar 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 effective leadership of the headteacher. She has developed a clear vision for change and improvement in the school and nursery class. The headteacher is well supported by the principal teacher.
- The caring and inclusive school environment where all children are valued as individuals. This has contributed to improving children's behaviour, and in developing positive attitudes to learning.
- Class teachers who are committed to learning and improvement. The staff team contributes fully to activity in the wider school community.
- The regular well planned opportunities for outdoor learning which motivate children and support the development of a range of skills. These activities are well supported by a range of partners.

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

- Continue to improve attainment to ensure all learners achieve their best and make appropriate progress across the whole curriculum.
- As planned, improve the curriculum to ensure that learning opportunities are more relevant to children's needs.
- Maximise the opportunities afforded by the planned new nursery building to provide all children with improved learning experiences which take full account of current national guidance.
- Improve learning and teaching to ensure children in the nursery and at the primary stages benefit from consistently high quality experiences.

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 Deshar Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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/highland/5145422>

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

Susan Duff
HM Inspector