

25 June 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Calderbank 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 welcoming and caring ethos of the nursery and school which supports positive relationships between children and staff. Children who are eager to learn and who enjoy their school.
- Children in the nursery are making good progress in their learning and development.
- The positive start made by the head teacher to developing team work amongst staff. She is developing collaborative approaches necessary to bring about the improvements needed in the school.
- The approach to partnership working which is supporting the wellbeing of children in the school and nursery. Working in partnership with the local community provides additional opportunities for children to achieve well.

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

- Develop a more rigorous approach to self-evaluation and school improvement. As planned, involve children, parents and staff more meaningfully in these processes. Use these to inform appropriate interventions and priorities for improvement at a whole school level to ensure better outcomes for children.
- All staff now need to improve the quality and consistency of children's learning experiences. This will include raising expectations and increasing the pace and challenge in lessons in order to raise further children's attainment.
- Across the nursery and school, there is a need to improve planning, assessment, monitoring and tracking of children's attainment and achievements. The headteacher has identified that clear processes to support this are required. She should now ensure that these are implemented and used effectively by all staff. Approaches to sharing of standards for the achievement of a Curriculum for Excellence level should be more robust and reliable.
- Staff should now take forward plans to review the curriculum and learning pathways, taking into account national advice, to ensure children build on their knowledge and skills as they move through the school.

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 Calderbank Primary School and Nursery Class

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

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/north-lanarkshire/8501920>

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 North Lanarkshire 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 North Lanarkshire 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.

Frances E Graham
HM Inspector