

23 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2020, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Stobhill 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 headteacher's caring and inclusive approach supports strong relationships across the school and its community. She works well with staff, children and parents to ensure the school vision and values impact positively on ethos and culture.
- Children are confident, articulate and speak proudly of their nursery and school. Increasingly, they participate meaningfully in school improvement and are eager to share their thoughts and ideas.
- The whole staff team are involved in professional development. They share their learning well with each other. This is improving experiences for children.
- All staff have established a caring and nurturing ethos throughout the nursery and primary stages, where children's wellbeing is central to the work of the school. Children are included, settled and are engaging well in their learning.

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

- Senior leaders should continue to develop effective ways to monitor and evaluate what is working well and what still needs to improve. This should include measuring the difference that targeted support makes to children's learning.
- All staff need to continue to improve approaches to learning and teaching. They should ensure children are given regular experiences to lead their own learning and to apply their skills in high quality play and real-life contexts.
- Working together, senior leaders and staff in the nursery and primary stages need to ensure that planning supports all children to make better progress in their learning. Overall, there needs to be a stronger focus on raising attainment for all.

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 Stobhill 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	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	satisfactory
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	

Here are the Care Inspectorate's gradings for the nursery class

Care Inspectorate standards	Grade
Quality of care and support	good
Quality of environment	good

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had no requirements and no recommendations. As a result of this inspection, there no requirements and no recommendations.

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=4832>.

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

Lisa Marie McDonnell
HM Inspector

Linda James
Care Inspector