

17 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Gerardine Primary School Nursery. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the manager and staff.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the setting's work.

- Happy, confident and independent learners. Nurturing, respectful relationships between children, practitioners and families support children to feel secure and settle quickly. Children benefit from a wide variety of learning experiences in their playroom and local community.
- Practitioners who work well with parents. The team understand and value children's individual achievements and interests. They use this information effectively to respond promptly to what children would like to participate in or learn more about. This supports children to be motivated and make good progress in their learning and development.

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

- Approaches to observation and assessment of children's learning need to be improved. The team should develop further how they use their observations of children's learning to inform their planning of spaces and experiences. Practitioners need to identify more opportunities for children to apply and develop further their skills.
- New approaches to record and track children's learning over time should now be implemented. As planned the manager should work with practitioners to better evidence the progress children make over their time spent in nursery.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the setting's work using quality indicators from [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#). Quality indicators help learning and childcare settings, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for St Gerardine Primary School Nursery

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Securing children's progress	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:

[St Gerardine Primary School | Inspection Report | Education Scotland](#)

What happens next?

We are confident that the setting has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Moray Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its settings.

Margaret Paterson
HM Inspector