

27 August 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Crosshouse Primary School, Communication centre and Early Childhood Centre. 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 highly effective leadership of the headteacher who is very well respected by children, staff and parents. She has enabled the creation of a strong collaborative culture across the school. Together with the depute head teacher and principal teacher, senior leaders provide very strong guidance for all stakeholders. There is a very clear focus on continued improvement for all the children at Crosshouse Primary School.
- The very positive relationships and supportive learning environment provided by staff in the early childhood centre, across the primary school and in the communication centre. This is resulting in children being well-motivated in class. Children are very friendly, polite and proud of their school. They are beginning to play an increasing role in leading and assessing their own learning and the learning of others.
- There is a calm, purposeful and nurturing climate for learning in the early childhood centre and across the primary school and communication centre. Children are valued greatly and work well within an ethos of respect. Children support each other well within this highly inclusive school environment. Staff demonstrate well their approaches to valuing and celebrating diversity. There is a clear focus on the dignity and worth of individuals and as a result children demonstrate very high levels of empathy towards each other across the whole school.
- The very strong commitment from local community partners to widen learning experiences for all children. This is enriching greatly the quality of their learning and supporting the development of their achievements.

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

- Staff should continue to work together to ensure consistency in the provision of high quality learning and teaching across the early childhood centre, the primary school and the communication centre. This includes the need to increase pace and challenge. Learners need to be more aware of their targets, the skills they are developing and what they need to do to improve further.
- In the early childhood centre and across the primary school, senior leaders should proceed as planned to put in place, further strategies to secure continuing progress. Together with the children, staff should focus on evaluating progress and improvement

over time more regularly. This will support learners to work at the correct pace and with sufficient challenge and support.

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 Crosshouse Primary School and Nursery Class

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

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had no requirements and one recommendation. This recommendation was met. As a result of this inspection, there are no recommendations and no requirements.

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/east-ayrshire/8220425>

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

Aileen Monaghan
HM Inspector

Susan Dobson
Care Inspector