

9 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2020, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Longstone 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 supported by the deputy's, clear vision and sense of direction, promoting teamwork and professional learning to drive improvement in the school and nursery.
- The strong focus on children's emotional health and wellbeing, and caring relationships in the nursery and school, supporting children's welfare and readiness to learn.
- The quality of the nursery outdoor environment and the use of the forest to support children's awareness of the natural world around them.
- The senior leaders' work with partners to provide support for children and their families as they strive to promote equity.

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

- Continue to raise attainment in literacy, particularly in listening and talking; and in numeracy, giving greater emphasis to information handling and problem solving.
- Develop further how staff in the school and nursery class assess children's progress and use the information more effectively to plan children's learning.
- Build consistency in high quality learning experiences for all children in the primary classes, ensuring that time for learning is maximised. In the nursery class, review the structure of the day for 2-3 year old children, to support further their overall wellbeing and development.
- Increase the scope for all members of the school community, in particular staff and children, to contribute to school improvement by taking on leadership opportunities.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#) 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 Longstone Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>good</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a>	

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Securing children's progress</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale</a>	

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=3542>

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

Mary Ann Hagan  
HM Inspector