

26 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Arrochar Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) 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.

- Highly positive relationships in the school and ELC class. Senior leaders and all staff work very well together to ensure a warm, nurturing and inclusive ethos where children flourish. They enjoy learning and support each other very well.
- Consistently high-quality learning and play experiences provided by staff, particularly through use of the outdoors. This enhances all children's learning and supports them to attain and achieve very well.
- Highly effective partnership working with local community and partner organisations. Purposeful, authentic experiences are regular features of school and ELC life and support all children to learn, achieve success and grow in confidence.
- Children's sustained high standards of progress and attainment in literacy, numeracy and wellbeing. Children successfully apply their skills and knowledge to a wide range of contexts across their learning.

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

- As planned, staff should continue to review and refine approaches to planning and assessment across the ELC class and school. This should include supporting children to set and reflect on individual targets.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using 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 Arrochar Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	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
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Securing children's progress	very 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: [Details | Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and Review | Education Scotland](#)

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. Argyll and Bute 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