

14 January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Crown 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.

- Articulate, well-behaved children across the school and nursery who are eager to learn. They are proud of their school and talk confidently about their achievements and successes.
- Collaborative working amongst staff and the sharing of effective practice across the school which is having a positive impact on children's learning.
- Partnerships across the school community. Staff are pro-active in engaging with a range of local organisations and partners to support and enhance children's learning and wellbeing.
- The promotion of children's wellbeing and rights by staff across the school and nursery class. As a result, children are confident in understanding equalities, and in their ability to challenge discrimination.

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

- The nursery now needs to continue to improve approaches to learning, teaching and assessment. Practitioners need to have shared, raised expectations and provide appropriate challenge to ensure all children achieve their best outcomes.
- As planned, senior leaders should review arrangements for leadership of change within nursery and develop consistent approaches across early level to support children's progress.
- The school and nursery need to continue to improve the curriculum to ensure children make appropriate progress across all areas of the curriculum.

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 Crown Primary School and Nursery Class

| Quality indicators for the primary stages | Evaluation |
|--|-------------|
| Leadership of change | good |
| Learning, teaching and assessment | good |
| Raising attainment and achievement | good |
| 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 | satisfactory |
| 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 one recommendation. From this, one recommendation had not been met. Outstanding issues relating to the environment are carried forward in this inspection. As a result of this inspection, there are no requirements and one recommendation.

Recommendations

- It is a recommendation that the carpet from the nursery is replaced due to its dirty and stained appearance and that a more suitable floor covering is put in its place.

Health and Social Care Standards 5.22 – I experience an environment that is well looked after with clean, tidy and well maintained premises, furnishings and equipment.

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=2251>

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

Susie Smith
HM Inspector

Patricia Matheson
Care Inspector