

19 March 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Lochaline 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.

- Creative, articulate and kind children, who are rightly proud of their school and their many achievements. They make the most of the varied and exciting learning experiences offered to them.
- The inspirational leadership of the headteacher in nurturing a thriving and vibrant school community. His dedication and passion for ensuring that no child misses out is ensuring equity of opportunity for all.
- The consistently very high-quality teaching at the primary stages, which ensures that all children are making very good progress in all areas of their learning.
- The outstanding sense of teamwork amongst the school community. All staff willingly take on leadership roles, and parents play a key role in supporting the school to continue to succeed.
- The dedication of all staff in creating an ethos of nurture and achievement, where children and adults alike feel valued and respected. The wellbeing of the whole school community is central to the work of all.

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

- Across the school community, continue to build on the memorable and dynamic learning experiences, which will prepare children well for the future.

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 Lochaline Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	excellent
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	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:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/highland/5131227>

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.

Lesley A Johnstone
HM Inspector