

23 January 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2017, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Croy Primary School and nursery class. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the acting headteachers and staff. At the time of inspection, there were two temporary acting headteachers in place at the school.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work.

- Children who are confident, willing and keen to learn. They are welcoming of visitors to the school.
- The ways in which children are encouraged to make full use of their school grounds for physical activity at break-times and lunchtimes. This, along with the positive school dining experience, is helping children to understand the importance of healthy eating and living.
- Commitment and motivation of newly-formed team within the nursery to take forward improvements for children and families, based on positive relationships with children and parents.
- The emerging positive start from the acting senior leadership team. They are beginning to support children, staff, parents and stakeholders on the next stages of Croy Primary School's journey to improvement. The school welcomes the partnership with parents, particularly in relation to supporting additional opportunities, such as the after-school clubs and fund-raising activities.

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

- Improve the pace of change across the whole-school community to help children make the best possible progress.
- To support leadership at all levels to secure improvements across the school and nursery there is a need to strengthen approaches to self-evaluation and strategic planning. This should ensure consistent high-quality learning and teaching and well-paced change. As part of this work, the school should continue to develop the curriculum to help children make better progress and raise attainment.
- Continue to put rigorous arrangements in place to assist those who need support in their learning and development. This includes the need to regularly check that children are being well-supported.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#). Quality indicators help schools, education 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 evaluations of quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

## Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Croy Primary School

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

Quality indicators nursery class	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Securing children's progress</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from <a href="#">How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> edition)</a> , <a href="#">Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a> .	

A more detailed document called summarised inspection findings will be available on the Education Scotland website at;

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/highland/5138523>

### What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we think that the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. We will liaise with The Highland Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within a year of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with The Highland Council the details of this inspection. When we return to inspect the school we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

Sally Stewart  
HM Inspector