

29 April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2025, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Mary's Nursery. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the managers and staff.

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

- Children who are enthusiastic, curious and increasingly independent. They benefit from a wide variety of play experiences and opportunities to explore their local area. Children learn about road safety as they explore their local community.
- A long-established team who know individual children very well. Senior leaders and practitioners have developed positive relationships with children and their families. They support children well to enable them to make good progress in their health and wellbeing.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the managers and a representative from East Dunbartonshire Council.

- Senior leaders should work with the church, parents, children and partners to review and improve their use of indoor and outdoor learning spaces. The team need to work together to increase children's access to high-quality outdoor learning.
- Practitioners are now ready to continue to improve how they plan, assess and monitor the progress children make in their learning. They should use this information to better inform how they plan more challenging learning experiences for all children.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the setting's work using quality indicators from [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#). Quality indicators help learning and childcare settings, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for St Mary's Nursery

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	satisfactory
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: [St Mary's Nursery School | Inspection Report | Education Scotland](#)

What happens next?

We are confident that the setting has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. East Dunbartonshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its settings.

Margaret Paterson
HM Inspector