

23 April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited East Calder Primary School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

East Calder Primary School Nursery Class was inspected by Care Inspectorate within the past 18 months. Therefore, we have agreed with the local authority and school that the nursery class is not part of this inspection.

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

- Children across the school are happy, confident and respectful towards each other and adults. They have a genuine interest in their learning and benefit from many valuable opportunities to achieve success and develop a wide range of skills.
- The strong commitment of the staff team to improving their skills and knowledge. This culture of professional learning and shared values is enhancing approaches to learning, teaching and assessment.
- Senior leaders and staff use data about children's learning very effectively. This is helping staff to have a firm understanding of children's progress and maintain consistently high levels of attainment over time.
- Staff use digital technology very well to extend and enhance children's learning. As children move through the school, they become increasingly skilled in using digital technology creatively to support their learning.

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

- As planned, staff should continue to develop further their approaches to high-quality learning, teaching and assessment.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#). 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 East Calder Primary School

Quality indicators	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	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Reports page | Inspection reports | 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. West Lothian Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Helen Mulholland
HM Inspector