

8 October 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Colinton 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.

- Happy, friendly children who warmly welcome new pupils and visitors to the school and nursery.
- The willingness and enthusiasm of staff to lead aspects of the school and nursery's work to improve outcomes for learners.
- Partnership working which enhances learners' experiences and ensures effective transitions both at key points and for children and families who arrive or leave during the academic session.

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

- Improve approaches to learning, teaching and assessment. In doing so, ensure all staff have a shared understanding of progress and achievement.
- The headteacher should provide strong strategic leadership to raise the attainment and achievement of all. In taking this forward it will be important that the school and nursery develop more robust and reliable approaches to self-evaluation.
- Increase the opportunities of children across the school and nursery to take greater responsibility for their learning and to have a greater role in school improvement.

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 Colinton Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
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	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	weak
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale	

This letter and a more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/edinburgh-city/5522129>

What happens next?

We are not at present confident from our visit that the nursery, as part of the school, has effective arrangements for ensuring continuing improvement in the quality of education for all learners. We will return within one year of the publication of this letter to explore this further. After the return inspection we will report our findings to you.

Susan Smith
HM Inspector