

27 June 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Murray Primary School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

Murray 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.

- The highly effective and motivational leadership of the headteacher. She inspires and supports the staff team to create a warm and welcoming climate for learning. This promotes a very open, trusting and extremely positive learning environment.
- The very nurturing relationships and calm, purposeful ethos across the school. All staff and children demonstrate school values in their daily interactions. This creates the conditions for children to achieve the best possible outcomes for themselves in attainment and wellbeing.
- The well-paced, high-quality learning experiences delivered by enthusiastic staff. This leads to very high levels of engagement in children and supports them to make very good progress from prior learning.
- The highly inclusive approach to the provision of a wide range of learning experiences. Teachers make very effective use of their areas of expertise and interest to provide rich learning experiences for children. This supports children to develop their individual skills and talents and experience success.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from South Lanarkshire Council.

- Continue to develop implementation of play-based approaches to learning in the early level and engage with national practice guidance to improve further staff understanding of high quality play.
- As planned, senior leaders should continue to develop the school's processes for tracking the progress of children across all areas of the curriculum.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four 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 Murray Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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. South Lanarkshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Jacqueline Gallagher
HM Inspector