

10 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Kirktonholme 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.

- The very effective strategic leadership of the headteacher who empowers children and teachers to lead change across the school. This results in positive outcomes and experiences for children and teachers.
- The highly inclusive learning environments that staff create in the school and nursery. This supports children well to be respectful, supportive and motivated learners who are very proud of their school and nursery.
- The high levels of care, respect and nurture that senior leaders and all staff demonstrate to children and their families. This enables them to meet children's wellbeing needs very well.
- The sustained high levels of children's attainment and achievement. Senior leaders and staff have a clear strategy in place to raise children's attainment further.

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

- In the school and nursery, teachers and practitioners should continue to develop consistent approaches to providing children with high-quality learning experiences. This will ensure all children make the best possible progress, including those who require further challenge in their learning.
- As planned, continue to raise attainment in literacy and numeracy for all children. All staff should continue to gather robust attainment evidence to ensure that pupil equity funding is accelerating the progress of identified children.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four 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 Kirktonholme Primary School and Nursery Class

| Quality indicators for the primary stages | Evaluation |
|--|------------------|
| Leadership of change | very good |
| Learning, teaching and assessment | 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 | |

| Quality indicators for the nursery class | Evaluation |
|--|------------------|
| Leadership of change | very good |
| Learning, teaching and assessment | good |
| Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion | very good |
| Securing children's progress | very good |
| 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: [Kirktonholme PSNC | 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.

Helen Mulholland
HM Inspector