

24 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited North Muirton 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 positive relationships between staff, children and their families across the school and nursery.
- Collegiate and collaborative working between staff and partner agencies to create a supportive learning environment across the school and nursery.
- The steps taken by senior leaders in identifying improvement priorities which relate directly to learning, teaching and assessment.

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

- Improve the quality and consistency of learning and teaching across the school and nursery to ensure that all children are fully engaged in their learning.
- Continue to develop effective approaches to assessment, moderation and the use of data across the school to inform next steps for learners. In doing so, improve professional judgements of children's progress and achievement.
- Improve children's progress and attainment across the nursery and school.

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 North Muirton Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	weak
Raising attainment and achievement	weak
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	

Here are the Care Inspectorate's gradings for the nursery class

Care Inspectorate standards	Grade
Quality of care and support	good
Quality of environment	good
Quality of staffing	adequate
Quality of management and leadership	adequate

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had no requirements and no recommendations. As a result of this inspection, there are no requirements and three recommendations.

Recommendations

- Children should experience care that meets their individual needs in a way that is right for them. Staff interactions should be improved to ensure children's care is consistently delivered in a nurturing and inclusive way.
This is in line with the Health and Social Care Standard, I experience a high quality of care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice (4.11).
- Children should have confidence in the people who support and care for them. The manager should improve the induction process to ensure staff are appropriately supported to develop and reflect on their practice.
This is in line with the Health and Social Care Standard, I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisational codes (3.14).
- Children should have confidence in the people who support and care for them. The manager should improve the induction process to ensure that the service further develops and continues to improve through reflective practices.
This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standard which states I benefit from a culture of continuous improvement with the organisation having robust and transparent quality assurance processes (4.19).

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/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=3880>

What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we think that the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. We will liaise with Perth and Kinross Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within 12 months of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with Perth and Kinross Council the details of this inspection. When we return to inspect the school we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

Susan Smith
HM Inspector

Karen Hay
Care Inspector