

6 November 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2018, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Forthill 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 headteacher is providing very strong leadership for the school and nursery setting. This is creating the conditions for well-informed change. Good use is being made of evidence about how the school is performing to ensure that it continues to improve.
- Staff are welcoming the increased opportunities to provide leadership and are committed to take responsibility for aspects of school improvement. They are keen to work together to continue to develop their practice.
- Children in the school and nursery are happy, respectful, articulate and motivated to learn. The culture and ethos is supporting strong relationships throughout. This is creating a calm environment for constructive play and learning.

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

- Develop more consistent approaches to learning, teaching and assessment across the school and nursery setting. This should more clearly inform planning for learning to ensure that all children experience appropriate pace and challenge.
- Continue to develop the curriculum, making appropriate links with partners and the community, to enhance children's learning experiences.
- Continue to develop tracking of children's attainment to maintain a detailed understanding of children's progress in learning. This should support all children to understand their learning and make the best progress they can. In turn, this will help to ensure consistently high levels of attainment.

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 Forthill Primary School

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Securing children's progress	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/dundee-city/5325129>

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. Dundee City Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

David Drysdale
HM Inspector