

21 August 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2018, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Dalry Primary School and Nursery Class. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate aspects of the quality of leadership and children's achievements.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work.

- Staff know the children and families well. The school promotes diversity, and creates a welcoming and friendly environment. Relationships are respectful between adults and children. School leaders consult well and give good direction to the staff team who are very supportive of each other.
- Almost all children are motivated to learn and engage well with the enriching and wide range of learning experiences available to them. Children are supported to learn and make good progress in literacy and numeracy.
- The active parent council and wide range of partners work together with staff effectively to support families and their children.

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

- Across the school, continue to develop opportunities to involve children more in decisions about their learning, and support them to have a better understanding of what they need to do to improve further.
- Engage further in opportunities for staff to work together with other colleagues within and beyond the school, sharing best practice. Continue to review the effectiveness of the wide range of interventions in place to further raise attainment and achievement for all children.
- Practitioners in the nursery class should develop further their early work to ensure all activities are challenging and build on children's prior learning across the early level.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#). Quality indicators help schools, education 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 evaluations of quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Dalry Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Self-evaluation for self-improvement	good
Raising attainment and achievement	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
Self-evaluation for self-improvement	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	good
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 gradings for the nursery class

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

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had no requirements and one recommendation to review the arrangements for children's nappy changing. This recommendation has now been met. As a result of this inspection, there are no requirements and no recommendations.

This letter and a more detailed document called the Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/edinburgh-city/5523028> and the [Care Inspectorate website](#).

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

Eleanor MacGregor
Managing Inspector