

13 February 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

We are trying out some new approaches to inspection. You can find out about our engagement with stakeholders and the approaches we are trying out as a result at [Future approaches to inspection and review](#) on our website. The inspection of your school was carried out using one of our new approaches.

In December 2017, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited your school for a total of two days. 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:

- The involvement of parents, partners, children and staff in self-evaluation which has led to improvements in the school and nursery class.
- The capacity for the school and early learning centre to continue to improve further under the very effective leadership of the headteacher and the teamwork of the staff.
- Friendly, confident children who collaborate in their learning and who have been active in developing aspects of their school and nursery class.
- The nurturing and inclusive ethos evident throughout the school and nursery class which ensures that children have opportunities to learn and achieve.

The following area for improvement was identified by inspectors:

- Continue to develop rigour in approaches to moderation and assessment leading to securing improvements in children's progress and raised attainment.

Quality indicators (QIs) help schools, education authorities and inspectors to identify what is working well and what needs to be improved in the work of the school. You can find these quality indicators in the publication *How good is our school*¹? 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 Ardrishaig Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Self-evaluation for self-improvement	very 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	very good
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	

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/argyll-and-bute/8100926>

¹ How good is our school? (4th Edition) 2015 [How good is our school? \(fourth edition\)](#)

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

Morag Gunion
HM Inspector