

23 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In December 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Lawfield 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.

- Staff's positive engagement with professional learning which is planned well and directed effectively by the headteacher. This is beginning to improve key aspects of learning and teaching across the primary school and nursery.
- Children's support for one another in the primary classes and when involved in activities out with class. Children in the nursery are kind and considerate of each other.
- Strong teamwork in the nursery class, which is helping to improve the support and learning experiences for children and their families. This includes positive changes to planning approaches, and improvements to practice.

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

- Raise children's attainment across the nursery and primary school.
- Ensure children benefit from consistently high quality learning and teaching, which includes increasing opportunities for children to lead their own learning.
- Improve assessment approaches across the primary stages. Ensure all teaching staff use information gathered from children's learning and assessment activity more effectively to plan learning experiences which meet the needs of all children.

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 Lawfield Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
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	satisfactory
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/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=3376>

What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we identified areas where improvements are required. In light of the current circumstances, we will liaise with Midlothian Council to discuss our findings and support for the school. We will provide you with an update on next steps once the school has reopened.

Rosalind J Webster
HM Inspector