

27 February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Lasswade Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare Setting. 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 effective leadership from the headteacher across the school and early learning and childcare setting. She is supported well by senior leaders and motivated staff. This is leading to a culture that reflects the vision, values and aims of the school and early learning and childcare setting very well.
- Children who are proud of their school and early learning and childcare setting. Children are happy, friendly, respectful and interact well. They are keen to learn and contribute to the life of the school.
- Staff who maintain a focus on wellbeing across the school and early learning and childcare setting. They help develop children who are responsible, able to find solutions to challenges, engage well in activities, and are proud of their successes.
- Staff's success in addressing gaps in children's attainment. Staff in the early learning and childcare setting support children well to accelerate their learning, particularly in developing their early communication, language and wellbeing skills.

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

- Continue to develop approaches to learning and teaching. Teachers should make sure that activities are set at the right level of difficulty for all children.
- Increase outdoor learning experiences across the nursery and primary as part of the curriculum.
- Continue to raise attainment, including how the school and early learning and childcare setting checks that all children are making good progress.

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 Lasswade Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Reports page | Inspection reports | Education Scotland](#)

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

David M^cKellar
HM Inspector