20 February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In December 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Aberfoyle 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.

- Positive relationships across the school and nursery which support children to be confident, articulate and engage very well in learning.
- Effective approaches developed and led by the headteacher to check how well children are making progress in the primary stages. This is helping to ensure children make very good progress in literacy and numeracy.
- The wide variety of opportunities provided for children to develop skills for learning, life and work.

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

- Staff should ensure children take a more active role in leading their learning. This should include supporting children to record the skills they develop through learning opportunities.
- In the nursery, staff should continue to develop approaches to measuring the progress children make over time.

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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 Aberfoyle Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	**good**
Raising attainment and achievement	**very 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
Learning, teaching and assessment	**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	

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We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the early learning and childcare setting using the quality indicators from A quality framework for daycare of children, childminding and school-aged childcare. The framework supports settings, providers and inspectors to assess what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each setting, the Scottish Government gathers details of our evaluations to keep track of how well early learning and childcare settings are doing. The Care Inspectorate evaluations are also used by local authorities when considering how settings are meeting the national standard for funded early learning and childcare.

The Care Inspectorate's evaluations for the early learning and childcare setting are:

Detailed evaluations	Evaluation
Key question 1: How good is our care, play and learning?	**very good**
1.1 Nurturing care and support	**very good**
1.3 Play and learning	**very good**
Key question 3: How good is our leadership?	**very good**
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	**very good**

Requirements and areas for improvement made by the Care Inspectorate for the early learning and childcare setting.

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had no requirements and no areas for improvement. As a result of this inspection, there are no requirements and no areas for improvement.

This letter and a more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:
Reports page | Inspection reports | Education Scotland

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

Robyn McIlroy
HM Inspector

Anne McBroom
Care Inspector

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