

23 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2020, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Riverside 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 community. Staff across the primary stages and in the nursery know children and their families well and demonstrate care and support in all aspects of school life. The friendly children are proud of their school.
- Staff work well as a team. In the nursery and primary stages staff are keen to engage in professional learning to help improve outcomes for children.
- The high quality nursery environment where children choose their play activities in a well-resourced playroom and outdoor setting.
- Children's improved interest and progress in reading. Children are motivated to read and appreciate the choice of books available.

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

- School leaders should review whole school processes for self-evaluation to ensure coherent, rigorous and focused approaches to continuous school improvement. There is a need to improve strategic leadership across all aspects of school life.
- Improve learning, teaching and assessment. In doing so, staff should work together to ensure planned learning is at the right level of difficulty to better meet the needs of all learners.
- Continue to raise attainment and achievement for all children. Ensure all children make progress across all areas of the curriculum.

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 Riverside Primary School and Nursery Class.

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory
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	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Securing children's progress	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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:

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=4198>

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

Susan Duff
HM Inspector