

20 December 2016

Dear Parent/Career

In October 2016 a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Houston Primary School and Nursery Class. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and young people and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We gathered evidence to evaluate the quality of leadership and management, learning provision and young people's success and achievements.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work:

- Highly motivated and engaged children who are keen to learn.
- The leadership of the head teacher and her deputies in bringing about change.
- The strong collaborative working of all staff which is taking forward school improvement.
- The high levels of attainment in literacy and numeracy.
- The strong positive relationships between the school and its community which are supporting children in their learning, wellbeing and development.

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

- Develop further the approaches to learning and teaching to promote increased personalisation and choice, and enable children to become more independent learners.
- Within the nursery, continue to improve how staff track and monitor children's progress over time.

**Quality indicators help schools, education authorities and inspectors to judge what is good 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? for the primary stages and for the nursery class, How good is our Early Learning and Childcare?*<sup>1</sup>. Following the inspection of each school, the Scottish Government gathers evaluations of three important quality indicators to keep track of how well all Scottish schools are doing.

## Here are Education Scotland’s evaluations for Houston Primary School:

<b>Leadership of Change</b>	<b>Very Good</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>Very Good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>Very Good</b>

## Nursery class

<b>Leadership of Change</b>	<b>Very Good</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Securing children’s progress</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>Very Good</b>

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<sup>1</sup> *How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) 2015; How good is our Early Learning and Childcare? 2016* – [How Good Is Our School?](#) [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#)

## Here are the Care Inspectorate's gradings for the nursery class

<b>Quality of care and support</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Quality of environment</b>	<b>Very Good</b>
<b>Quality of staffing</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Quality of management and leadership</b>	<b>Very Good</b>

### Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the nursery class:

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the nursery had one requirement and two recommendations. From these, one requirement and one recommendation have been met. Outstanding issues relating to recording observations to show children's progress and how this is being tracked are carried forward in this inspection. As a result of this inspection, there are no requirements and one recommendation

The letter is available on the Education Scotland and Care Inspectorate websites at <http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/inspectionandreview/reports/school/primsec/HoustonPrimarySchoolRenfrewshire.asp> and

<http://www.scswis.com/>

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

A notification from the Care Inspectorate will be sent to the Provider to complete an action plan to address any Requirements and Recommendations made as a result of this inspection.

Charles Rooney  
HM Inspector

Malcolm Wilson  
Care Inspector

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