

23 January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Kirkhill Nursery School. 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 setting's work.

- Senior leaders and practitioners ensure children benefit from positive, supportive and caring relationships. Children are secure and confident in the setting, showing independence when following their interests, indoors and outdoors.
- Practitioners plan appropriate experiences and have developed a well-considered environment to meet the different needs of children. As a result, children engage well and make good progress in their learning.
- Practitioners use symbols, visual prompts and a communication system based on British Sign Language across the setting. This literacy-rich approach supports children to develop well their communication skills.

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

- Practitioners should continue to develop their use of questioning to support and extend children's learning and ensure it is consistently high quality across the team.
- Senior leaders and practitioners should work together to streamline planning and tracking documents. This will support practitioners to clearly capture the progress all children make.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the setting's work using quality indicators from [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#). Quality indicators help learning and childcare settings, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Kirkhill Nursery School

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	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Details | Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and Review | Education Scotland](#)

What happens next?

We are confident that the setting 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 setting's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its settings.

Gillian Frew
HM Inspector