

25 April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Athanasius' 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.

- The headteacher, well supported by the leadership team, demonstrates highly-effective leadership across the school and nursery. Together with staff, senior leaders have created an environment where children are included and enthusiastic about their learning.
- Children in the school and nursery are well-behaved and welcoming towards visitors. They are proud of their school and the important leadership roles they undertake.
- In the school, staff's commitment to professional learning is having a very positive impact on learning and teaching. Children are motivated to learn and engage very well with learning experiences.
- In the nursery, practitioners offer children a wide range of opportunities to develop and use their early writing skills in their play. As a result, children are making very good progress in their written communication skills.

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

- In the nursery, continue to identify and extend children's next steps in learning. Staff should continue to develop and refine the ways they record the progress that children are making.
- In the school, senior leaders should continue to support teachers to analyse and respond to information from assessments. This will support teachers to improve further children's learning experiences to continue to raise attainment in literacy and numeracy.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#) 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 St Athanasius Primary School

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>good</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a>	

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Securing children's progress</b>	<b>very good</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale</a>	

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

Gillian Frew  
HM Inspector