

11 June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Benarty Primary School and Additional Support Classes (ASC). During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

Benarty Primary School Nursery Class was inspected by Care Inspectorate within the past 18 months. Therefore, we have agreed with the local authority and school that the nursery class is not part of this inspection.

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

- The strong and positive leadership of the headteacher who is highly regarded by children, staff and the school community. She is supported well by very effective senior leaders. Together they have created a clear vision for school improvement which is leading to positive change across the school and ASC.
- The respectful and caring relationships between children and adults. Children are polite, well-mannered and proud of their school. Staff help them to learn in a calm, nurturing and inclusive environment.
- The effective teamwork amongst the staff and their motivation for change and improvement. All staff are keen to develop their individual and collective skills to help improve children's experiences.
- The systems and processes to monitor children's progress in their learning and achievement. This allows staff to identify and plan successful support for children. This is allowing children who require additional support to make good progress in their learning.
- The quality of partnership working between ASC staff, partner schools, the Inclusive Practice Team and families. This is ensuring consistent, nurturing and child-centred approaches which are supporting children's engagement and progress with learning.

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

- Staff should continue to ensure learning activities are set at the right level of difficulty and meet the needs of individual children, particularly for higher-achieving learners.
- Senior leaders and staff should continue to prioritise raising attainment for all children across the school.
- Teachers should continue to develop the curriculum in the ASC, particularly for learners with the most complex additional support needs. In particular, review play-centred learning activities to ensure that they support children to engage consistently with learning.

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

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our school? (4th edition), Appendix 3: 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 school has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Fife Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Simon Gallon
HM Inspector