

16 January 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2017 a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Pumpherston and Uphall Community 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 high quality, inclusive ethos which permeates the school. As a result children, staff and stakeholders feel valued and respected.
- Happy, confident and caring children who are eager to learn. They have a strong voice and contribute enthusiastically to bringing about change in their school.
- The quality of the learning experiences in the nursery. As a result, children are making very good progress.
- The leadership of the headteacher in creating the conditions for staff to build on their strengths and take forward the agenda for school improvement.

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

- To raise attainment, build on the best practice already in the school and nursery to continue to develop the consistency of learning and teaching. Ensure learning is sufficiently challenging for all children.
- Continue to strengthen approaches to planning, tracking and monitoring to identify which interventions are having the greatest impact on outcomes for all children.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#). Quality indicators help schools, education 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 evaluations of quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

## Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Pumpherston and Uphall Community Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators primary stages	Evaluation
<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>good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>very good</b>

Descriptions of the evaluations are available from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#), [Appendix 3: The six-point scale](#).

Quality indicators nursery class	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Securing children's progress</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>very good</b>

Descriptions of the evaluations are available from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#), [Appendix 3: The six-point scale](#).

A more detailed document called summarised inspection findings will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/west-lothian/5500028>.

### 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.

Shona ES Taylor  
HM Inspector