

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE

19 MAY 2015

EDUCATION SCOTLAND INSPECTION OF ARBIRLOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

BACKGROUND

Each year Education Scotland inspects and reports on the quality of education in a sample of pre-school centres, primary schools, secondary schools and other education services. To support improvement, the inspection evaluates the quality of children and young people's learning and achievement. There is a key focus on the development of children and young people's skills and understanding in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing, which enables access to the highest possible learning within a broad general education and beyond.

The inspection team evaluates the school's capacity to improve and answer the following questions:

- How well do children learn and achieve?
- How well does the school support children to develop and learn?
- How well does the school improve the quality of its work?

Inspectors use quality indicators from 'How good is our school?' to support evaluations and provide information on how the school can improve. They also indicate any continuing engagement activities. Arbirlot Primary School and attached nursery class was inspected during the week beginning 23 February 2015. The inspection report was published on 28 April 2015 and can be found at:

http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/ArbirlotPSIns280415_tcm4-857282.pdf

The report takes the form of a letter to parents, which provides a response to the questions highlighted above.

This inspection found the following key strengths:

- Well-behaved, friendly and confident children who want to do their best and show a strong school identity
- The quality of learning experiences in the primary stages and very good use of the outdoors in the nursery to support and enhance learning
- A strong, cohesive staff team, which works very well together, and is keen to improve the school
- Leadership of the Head Teacher in supporting school improvement

The School and Education Scotland agreed that the school should:

- Extend consistency of use of self-evaluation from nursery to P7 to ensure children's experiences and achievements continue to improve
- Develop further links and joint working with other schools, including through the use of digital technologies, to enhance learning
- Continue to improve the curriculum

Education Scotland were satisfied with the overall quality of provision and that the school's self-evaluation processes are leading to improvements. They will make no further evaluative visits in connection with this inspection.

Education Scotland's evaluations for Arbirlot Primary School are as follows:

Improvements in performance	Good
Learners' experiences	Very good
Meeting learning needs	Good

Nursery class

Improvements in performance	Good
Children's experiences	Good
Meeting learning needs	Good

We also evaluated the following aspects of the work of the school and nursery class

The curriculum	Good
Improvement through self-evaluation	Good

Contact for further information:
Pauline Stephen, Head of Schools and Learning
Email: PEOPLE@angus.gov.uk