

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE - 18 SEPTEMBER 2018

EDUCATION SCOTLAND INSPECTION OF MATTOCKS PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY CLASS

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 team 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.

Quality indicators help schools, education authorities and inspectors to judge what is good and what needs to be improved in the work of the school. You can find these quality indicators in the publication *How good is our school? (4th edition) for the primary stages and for the nursery class, How good is our Early Learning and Childcare?* The quality indicators (QIs) that inspectors report on in an inspection are:

- QI 1.3 Leadership of change
- QI 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment
- QI 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement
- QI 3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion?

A further QI is also chosen by the school. The inspection team does not assign an evaluation using the six-point scale to this QI. Mattocks Primary School chose QI 2.7 Partnerships. Feedback in relation to this QI will help the school plan future improvements in this area.

Mattocks Primary School was inspected during the week of 21 May 2018. The inspection report was published on 21 August 2018.

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

Children who are confident, respectful and articulate across the whole school and nursery community and who have high expectations of themselves and others. Children of all ages learn and play very well together in a very positive and inclusive learning environment.

Leadership of the headteacher who has taken forward improvements, based on an understanding of the needs of the school, and in an open and approachable manner. He has quickly gained the confidence and respect of staff, children, parents and the wider community.

Very positive and respectful relationships between staff, children and all involved in the life of Mattocks school and nursery.

High quality learning experiences offered to children across the school and nursery, by a whole staff team who work very well together, supported by parents and partners. This includes the extent to which children in the nursery and early primary stages enjoy and share their learning together across the early level.

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

Continue to maintain high levels of attainment, whilst developing tracking of achievements and progress across all curricular areas. Use this information to support linking of skills for learning, life and work throughout the school.

Continue to extend family learning and share learning together more in partnership with parents and partners. This could involve parents and partners further in the leadership of change through on-going consultation and evaluation of school improvement projects and planning priorities for continuous improvement.

Continue with the development of children's leadership roles through a wider focus on global citizenship and supporting and informing school and wider community improvement, in creative and innovative ways.

Education Scotland inspectors noted that they 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.

Education Scotland's evaluations for Mattocks School are as follows:

PRIMARY STAGES

Leadership of change	Good
Learning, teaching and assessment	Very good
Raising attainment and achievement	Good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Good

NURSERY CLASS

Leadership of change	Good
Learning, teaching and assessment	Very good
Raising attainment and achievement	Very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Very good

The letter and more detailed summarised inspection findings are available on the Education Scotland website.