

22 January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2018, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Clyde Cottage Nursery. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the manager and practitioners.

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

- Children, who are keen to learn, enjoy their time at nursery and benefit from regular and effective use of the local community. This enhances and enriches their learning.
- The strong sense of community and positive ethos across the setting that fosters mutual respect. There is a shared responsibility for ensuring children's wellbeing and development.
- Long-standing, successful partnership working between the voluntary and local authority settings. As a result, a flexible service is provided that meets the needs of children and their families well. In particular, children who require additional support with their learning are supported effectively.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the manager and a representative from Argyll and Bute Council.

- Review and refresh approaches used to plan and support children's learning. There should be increased opportunities for children to lead their own learning indoors and out with appropriate pace and challenge for all.
- Develop a more strategic approach to identifying what is working well and what needs to improve. This should have a clear focus on ensuring practice reflects current thinking in early learning and makes full use of available data to support continuous improvement. Overall, there should be a clear focus on monitoring the quality of learning and teaching and the progress children make.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some of the setting's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#). Quality indicators help early learning and childcare settings, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each setting, the Scottish Government gathers details of our evaluations to keep track of how well Scottish early learning and childcare settings are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Clyde Cottage Nursery

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Securing children's progress	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/argyll-and-bute/8100314>

What happens next?

We are confident that the setting has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Argyll and Bute Council will inform parents/carers about the setting's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its settings.

Margaret Paterson
HM Inspector