

26 May 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited Carleith 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 engagement, enthusiasm, and motivation of children across the school and nursery supports an exceptionally positive learning environment. Children understand themselves very well as learners. They fulfil the school vision of 'learning and playing together to be our best'. They are polite, welcoming and caring towards each other and the wider community.
- The outstanding leadership of the headteacher and depute headteacher is improving the learning experiences for children in the school and nursery. They have a very strong, clear and well-considered vision for delivering consistently high-quality learning experiences for all children. They very skilfully ensure their vision is shared by staff, children and parents. Their relentless focus on continuous improvement is improving outcomes for all children.
- The exceptionally strong teamwork by all members of staff ensures that children in the school and nursery achieve their best. They provide children with dynamic and exciting learning experiences of the highest quality. This results in consistent, highly effective learning, teaching and assessment approaches across the school and nursery.
- Senior leaders and staff support children very well to recognise their many achievements across their school and nursery experiences. Staff have a clear focus on providing all children with a wide range of opportunities to be successful.

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

- In the school and nursery, senior leaders and staff should now consider how best to further extend the learning of children capable of achieving even more.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using two 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 HMIE's evaluations for Carleith Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	excellent
Raising attainment and achievement	very good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our school (4th edition) Appendix 3: The six-point scale	

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the ELC's work using three quality indicators from the [Quality improvement framework for the early learning and childcare sectors](#).

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Curriculum	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Wellbeing, inclusion and equality	very good

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the HMIE website at: [Carleith Primary School | Inspection Report | His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education in 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. West Dunbartonshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Fraser Forsyth
HM Inspector

On behalf of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland