27 October 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In August 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited The Royal High 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.

- Senior leaders and staff who engage very effectively in relevant professional learning. They use this positively to improve their own classroom practice and support children's learning and wellbeing across the school. As a result, children learn in calm, respectful and nurturing environments where they feel safe, valued and included.

- Staff who use information about children's progress very well to inform their planning. This enables staff to meet the specific needs of individuals and groups of children successfully.

- Senior leaders' highly effective strategic leadership of wellbeing. Through robust self-evaluation, very effective use of data and strong partnership working, staff are improving the wellbeing outcomes of all children.

- Children who have a strong understanding of wellbeing. They take a positive lead in making significant improvements across the school community.

- Staff in the nursery who interact well with children to enhance and extend their learning. They make good use of questioning and dialogue to promote children's curiosity and a sense of wonder.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from The City of Edinburgh Council.

- Senior leaders and staff should continue to take forward their plans to embed consistently high-quality approaches to learning and teaching. This should support senior leaders and teachers to ensure that all children receive appropriate levels of challenge in their learning.

- Staff in the nursery should continue to develop approaches to planning and assessing children's learning. In doing so, staff should ensure planned learning activities reflect better children's age and stage of development to maximise engagement in learning.

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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 The Royal High Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	**good**
Wellbeing, equality and inclusion	**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 two quality indicators from the Quality improvement framework for the early learning and childcare sectors.

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

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the HMIE website at: The Royal High Primary School | Inspection Report | His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education in Scotland

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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. The City of Edinburgh Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Fraser Gillan
HM Inspector

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

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