8 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited St Catherine's RC Primary School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

St Catherine's RC Primary School nursery class was inspected by Care Inspectorate within the past 18 months. Therefore, we have agreed with the local authority and school that the nursery class is not part of this inspection.

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

- Children demonstrate a positive attitude to their school. They are friendly, respectful and take pride in being part of the school community. They behave well and participate actively in their learning.
- Led effectively by senior leaders, staff have developed a caring, nurturing, inclusive environment where children feel supported. Relationships across the school are positive, built on trust, respect and a sense of community.
- Teachers provide children with engaging learning experiences using digital technologies. Children use a variety of tools and platforms with confidence to enhance their learning and develop digital skills across the curriculum.
- Senior leaders and staff know children and their families very well. They use this knowledge effectively to provide appropriate support and enable children to achieve success in a range of ways.

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

- Staff should work together to ensure consistent high-quality learning and teaching across the school. This includes opportunities for children to have greater independence and take more of a lead in their learning.
- Staff should continue to raise attainment in literacy and numeracy.

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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 St Catherine's RC Primary School

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

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the HMIE website at:
St Catherine's RC 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. 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.

Jennifer Wadley
HM Inspector

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

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