2 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2025, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Summerlea House Nursery. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the manager and staff.

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

- The positive and nurturing relationships practitioners have with children. Children are happy when they are at nursery. They arrive eager to play.
- The recent increase in resources and improvements made to the nursery garden. This is offering children a wider range of experiences.
- The use of the local community to provide children with real-life experiences.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the manager and representatives from North Ayrshire Council.

- Improve further the quality of staff interactions to support and extend children's learning more effectively. The manager should seek training to support staff to develop these skills.
- Continue to improve, and sustain through effective monitoring, the quality of observations on children's learning. This should help practitioners to continue to identify key skills children are developing. In doing so, they should be able to determine relevant next steps to help children to make better progress in their learning.
- Review and amend the current planning process to focus more clearly on children's learning. The nursery 'Big Books' need to demonstrate the range of experiences and skills children develop across the curriculum.

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We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the setting's work using quality indicators from How good is our early learning and childcare?. Quality indicators help learning and childcare settings, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Summerlea House Nursery

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	**satisfactory**
Securing children's progress	**satisfactory**
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: Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and review | Education Scotland

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. North Ayrshire Council will inform parents/carers about the setting's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its settings.

Sandra Kehoe
HM Inspector

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