

25 August 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited Southmuir 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.

- Across the school, nursery and supported classes, children show the school values well in their interactions. They are welcoming, caring and proud of their school.
- The headteacher has worked well with senior leaders and staff to establish a positive and well-structured ethos for learning across the school and supported classes. This supports children to learn with their teachers and peers in an inclusive, calm and constructive environment.
- Senior leaders and staff use data effectively to track children's attainment and progress over time in the school. This supports staff well to address gaps in learning and raise attainment.
- Staff in the Beehive and Rainbow Room supported classrooms support children very well to experience learning which meets their individual needs. They track children's progress carefully using a range of effective approaches to gather evidence. This demonstrates well the good progress children make with their literacy, numeracy and wellbeing targets.
- Staff have established well organised and creative learning environments in the nursery class. Children have regular access to exciting indoor and outdoor spaces which stimulate their curiosity. This helps them to progress well in their learning.

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

- Staff should continue to build on successful approaches to learning and teaching to ensure they provide appropriate challenge for all children across all aspects of the curriculum.
- Senior leaders and staff should extend how they track and monitor children's achievements in the school. They should use this information to ensure all children experience opportunities to achieve success. As part of this, they should support children to understand the skills they are developing.

- Senior leaders need to support staff in the nursery class to build their individual and collective skills in planning progressive learning. This should build capacity across the team and help children to make the best possible progress in their learning.

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 Southmuir Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	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	

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	good
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:

[Southmuir 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. Angus Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Graeme M Brown
HM Inspector

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