

28 July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In July 2025, HM Inspectors published a letter on Kirkhillgait Nursery. The letter set out a number of areas for improvement which we agreed with the setting and East Renfrewshire Council. In November 2025, the nursery ceased trading as Kirkhillgait Nursery and is now under new ownership. The nursery is now called Kirkhillgait Nursery Limited.

In June 2026, HM Inspectors visited after the change of ownership and this report is based on a visit to the new setting. During our visit, we talked to children and worked closely with the owner and staff. As a result, we were able to find out about how the setting is supporting children's learning and achievements.

Since November 2025, the new owner has been proactive and worked tirelessly to make improvements. She has increased the range of resources available for children across the nursery which means staff can provide more developmentally appropriate experiences for children. With the support of the Parents' Forum, the outdoor garden area has improved significantly. Children engage well in imaginative play when playing in this area.

Within the playrooms for children under three, staff provide a range of inviting experiences for children to explore. There is greater focus on supporting children's sensory development by providing an increased range of materials and objects for children to explore and investigate. Children enjoy the cosy corners created by staff. They enjoy hearing stories or having time to rest and relax in a comfortable area. Children engage positively within playrooms as a result of experiences and resources being more relevant to their stage of development.

Older children are confident in their playroom and are engaging positively with the range of resources and relevant learning experiences. They are motivated in their play and eager to learn. We have asked the team to continue to improve learning opportunities to ensure all children have suitable levels of challenge in their play. Most children would benefit from increased opportunities to develop their early literacy and maths skills.

Staff continue to develop their knowledge and skills through professional learning. The owner has plans in place to access further training for staff. We have asked the owner to focus now on professional learning that will support staff to develop further the quality of learning and teaching. This should include how children learn and the role of the adult in supporting learning through play. The staff team welcome the support provided by the local authority. Recently, working together, they have had a focus on observing children and planning for their learning. Staff will require continued support to help them become more confident and to plan, assess and track children's learning more effectively.

**HMIE**

His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education in Scotland
Luchd-sgrùdaidh an Rìgh airson Foghlam ann an Alba

What happens next?

The setting has made positive progress since November 2025. 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. East Renfrewshire Council will inform parents about the setting's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools and settings.

Sandra Kehoe
HM Inspector

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