

22 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited Dens Road 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.

- In the school and nursery class, senior leaders have developed a highly inclusive, calm, nurturing ethos, with a strong focus on children's voice, rights and diversity. This helps children feel listened to, valued and increasingly engaged in their learning.
- In the school, staff have created well-organised, consistent and purposeful learning environments. These together with the effective use of digital technology and high expectations, support learning successfully and promote children to be independent.
- In the school and the nursery class, senior leaders ensure that children progress well. This means that children who require additional support with their learning are identified early and appropriate supports put in place. As a result, the attainment gap in literacy is narrowing.
- In the nursery class, partners work very well with practitioners to ensure that children experience a high-quality curriculum and learn meaningfully about the area in which they live.

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

- Teachers should continue to work together to fully embed high-quality teaching across the school. This should include providing tasks and activities set at the right level to ensure children remain fully engaged in learning. Teachers should also use a wider range of questioning techniques to develop children's critical thinking skills.
- Teachers should continue to engage in a range of regular high-quality activities within and beyond the school to further strengthen classroom practice and support children's progress in learning.
- Teachers should continue to raise attainment for children across all areas of the curriculum.

- In the nursery, staff should continue to review their approaches to recording and sharing observations of children's learning. This should help children, parents and staff see more clearly what children are learning and the progress they are making.

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 Dens Road 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	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Wellbeing, inclusion and equality	very good

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the HMIE website at: [Dens Road 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. Dundee City Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Frances E. Graham
HM Inspector

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