17 November 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited Northmuir 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.

- Relationships across the school and nursery are caring, nurturing and respectful. Children learn in calm, purposeful learning environments and demonstrate positive attitudes to learning. They have a strong sense of belonging and are proud of their school and nursery.
- The outdoor learning environment enhances children's learning experiences in the school and nursery. Staff make effective use of the outdoor environment to engage children in meaningful learning opportunities. Children are motivated by outdoor experiences and develop their confidence, independence and collaborative skills.
- In the school, senior leaders have implemented well-planned, strategic approach to improve reading. Staff track how well children are doing and quickly identify those who need extra help. Staff provide additional support where it is needed, helping most children make positive progress in reading. As a result, reading standards are improving across the school.

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

- Senior leaders and staff in the school should continue to develop approaches to ensure high-quality learning and teaching in all classes.
- Senior leaders and staff in the school and nursery should strengthen planning and tracking across all curricular areas. Staff should use this information to improve children's experiences across all aspects of learning.

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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 Northmuir 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 two quality indicators from the Quality improvement framework for the early learning and childcare sectors.

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	**good**
Children's Progress	**good**

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the HMIE website at: Northmuir Primary School | Inspection Report | His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education in Scotland

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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.

Catriona Smith
HM Inspector

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

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