

20 June 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

**Coupar Angus Primary School and Nursery Class
Perth and Kinross Council**

In March 2016, HM Inspectors published a letter on your child's school. The letter set out a number of areas for improvement which we agreed with the school and Perth and Kinross Council. Recently, as you may know, we visited the school again. During our visit, we talked to children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We heard from the headteacher and other staff about the steps the school has taken to improve. We looked at particular areas that had been identified in the original inspection. As a result, we were able to find out about the progress the school has made and how well this is supporting children's/young people's learning and achievements. This letter sets out what we found. The Care Inspectorate inspected the nursery class at the same time and that report will be available at www.careinspectorate.com

Develop and agree a curriculum rationale and review the curriculum, including inter-disciplinary learning.

The school has developed a curriculum rationale together with staff, children and parents. There is now a clear purpose for the curriculum and focus for staff to evaluate changes. The review of inter-disciplinary learning involved careful consideration of the principles of curriculum design. The evaluation of the effectiveness is expected to be completed by the end of the current session. We have asked the school to continue to develop and evaluate the curriculum, with the help of children, parents and partners.

Improve the use of tracking and monitoring by all staff to better inform self-evaluation and increase rates of progress in children's learning.

The school has developed an effective tracking and monitoring system. This is enabling teachers to gather detailed and accurate information about children's progress in learning. As a result they can analyse this information to provide more effective support for learners. This is helping to ensure that any barriers to learning which children may have are being effectively addressed. Early learning staff know children well and are working alongside the school to extend the tracking and monitoring system into the early level. Almost all children are making appropriate progress in their learning. However the pace of progress is not always consistent across different stages of the school. We have asked the school to continue to

develop a culture of excellence so that there are consistently high expectations of children at all stages.

Increase pace and challenge across learning to maximise progress for all children with learning experiences that are motivating, sustain interest and ensure active participation in the learning process.

Across the school children are now more actively engaged in their learning. Children and parents say that children now have more input into what and how they learn. Parents describe children as enjoying their learning more and being enthusiastic about going to school. Children know what they are expected to learn and they engage well with their teachers in dialogue during learning activities. Children speak well about their Learning Journey and Caterpillar folders. They clearly describe the pieces of work and experiences of which they are most proud. While pace and challenge in learning has improved these are not yet consistent across all stages in the school. We have asked the school to ensure that there is a continued focus on appropriate pace of learning for all children. We have also asked that they continue to work with parents to develop ways in which parents can effectively support their children's learning.

What happens next?

The school has made good progress since the original inspection. 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. Perth and Kinross Council will inform parents about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

David Drysdale
HM Inspector

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