

7 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Craigclowan Preparatory School and Pre-School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the head of school and staff.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work.

- The highly effective leadership of the head of the school. Along with governors, the deputy head of school and senior leaders, she is deeply committed to ensuring the wellbeing of all children and staff. Together, the Board of Governors and promoted staff are leading a positive process of change which is improving outcomes for children.
- The dedicated staff team have a shared focus on nurture, inclusion and providing the right level of support for all children. The exceptional quality of relationships between children and staff means that children feel safe, respected and valued as individuals. The strong sense of community and teamwork ensures that all staff play an important role in the life of Craigclowan.
- Enthusiastic, confident, hardworking and articulate children who demonstrate kindness to each other. They are highly motivated by memorable and exciting learning experiences and are rightly very proud of their school and pre-school.
- High levels of attainment and achievement across the school. Children at all stages are supported to be successful. Their individual strengths and talents are recognised and nurtured by staff.
- Beneficial and supportive partnerships with parents, professionals and the local community, including with Perth and Kinross Council. These partnerships enhance and enrich children's experiences and exemplify the generous community spirit of all at Craigclowan.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher.

- Continue, as planned, to develop approaches to using assessment information, so that all children across the pre-school and school can make the best possible progress.
- As identified by the head of the school, continue to share best practice within the staff team to ensure children can lead, and have more say in their own learning.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#) and [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#) 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 Education Scotland's evaluations for Craigclowan Preparatory School and Pre-School

Quality indicators for the school	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our school? (4th edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale	

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Securing children's progress	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: <https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=2173>

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. The Board of Governors will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of the school.

Lesley A Allan
HM Inspector