

ST MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Midlothian



21st February 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

Please find attached a letter from Education Scotland detailing some key strengths and next steps identified during our joint inspection with Care Inspectorate which took place in November last year. A fuller report detailing Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be published on Education Scotland's website within a few weeks and a fuller Nursery Report will also be posted on the Care Inspectorate website.

We are delighted that the Inspection team validated our own self evaluation and identified a number of strengths in the school not least the positive and inclusive ethos that we share throughout the school and Nursery Class. Key strengths that we pride ourselves upon such as building positive relationships and partnerships, treating everyone with respect and promoting the holistic development of your children, were identified across the school and Nursery class. Your children have communicated to the Inspectors how much they enjoy learning at St Mary's and how motivated they are to learn and this was evidenced in all classes from Nursery to P7.

Requirements and next steps from the Inspection findings have been written up in the form of action plans – one for the Nursery and one for the school. The requirement regarding Child Protection Training has already been addressed. We are working closely with the Principal Teacher from the Early Years Community Team to implement the recommendations in the report and Mrs Macaulay and I have adjusted our own remits and responsibilities so that I have more time to lead developments with the Nursery Team and these are already progressing well. The Care Inspectorate will return to visit the Nursery Class after April this year.

Our Learning Community School Improvement Plan details a number of the key points raised by the inspectors in terms of quality assuring assessments and providing more challenge for higher achieving pupils, and we aim to continue this work across the St David's Learning Community.

The Inspection findings will be discussed at the Parent Council meeting on Tuesday 28th February – if you have any questions you would like raised please pass them to your class representative on the Parent Council. I would like to once again thank you for your continued support of the school and for your engagement with the Inspection process.

Yours sincerely

Liz Laird
Headteacher