

28 November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Kells Primary School. 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.

- Staff have established nurturing and caring relationships across the whole school that reflect the school values. Children benefit from this positive and supportive ethos.
- Staff work effectively as a team. They have high expectations of themselves and children. This is resulting in children making good progress in their learning.
- Children across the school are happy, confident and engaged in their learning. They listen respectfully to each other and confidently express their views.
- Staff make good use of digital technology to enhance learning and teaching.

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

- Staff should continue to develop planning across all areas of the curriculum. This should ensure children experience a wide range of learning.
- Senior leaders and staff should continue to improve systems to track the achievements of children. This should form part of more regular sharing of children's progress in their learning with parents and carers.
- Staff should continue to develop and implement approaches to learning through play.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#). 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 Education Scotland's evaluations for Kells Primary School.

| Quality indicators                                                                                                                                       | Evaluation  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>                                                                                                                 | <b>good</b> |
| <b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>                                                                                                                | <b>good</b> |
| Descriptions of the evaluations are available from:<br><a href="#">How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a> |             |

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Details | Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and Review | Education 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. Dumfries and Galloway Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Louise Phillips  
HM Inspector