

28 February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In December 2022, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Kirkcolm 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.

- The very positive relationships across the school community. They support children to develop as confident learners who are eager to engage in all aspects of school life.
- Children experience high quality learning and teaching. The headteacher works well with all staff to promote whole school approaches to learning, teaching and assessment that ensure children's needs are well met. This includes a strong focus on the development of skills and knowledge for learning, life and work. Children are making very good progress in their learning.
- The very effective integration of digital technologies across learning and teaching. Children use a range of tools and platforms confidently to enhance their learning across the curriculum, and to develop their digital skills.

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

- Continue to improve and increase opportunities for children to lead learning across the school.
- Continue to improve approaches to the learning and teaching of writing. Ensure children have regular opportunities to make choices about their writing, and write for a range of purposes, real life contexts, and audiences.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using 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 Education Scotland's evaluations for Kirkcolm Primary School

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

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

[Reports page](#) | [Inspection reports](#) | [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.

Susan Duff
HM Inspector