

22 November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2022, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Coaltown of Balgonie 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 school is a warm and caring community. The learning needs of all children are identified clearly and met well. Staff work well with children and parents to plan learning, set targets for children and evaluate their success. Staff and children make good use of digital approaches to support learning. Partners and parents are well involved in supporting children's learning. Children enjoy learning at Coaltown of Balgonie and are proud of their school.
- The school is very successful in achieving positive outcomes for children. Attainment is high in key areas such as literacy and numeracy. Children make good progress in their learning across the school. The achievements of all children are encouraged, supported and celebrated throughout the work of the school.
- Staff work together very well as a team. They support each other to learn and develop professionally. As a result, they focus their work on effectively meeting the needs of children as best they can. Staff ensure that all children are well supported to achieve to the best of their abilities.

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

- As planned, staff should continue to develop the extensive grounds to more fully extend outdoor learning and explore how best to track the skills children develop across their learning. This will help them ensure that children build on their prior learning and skills.
- Staff should continue to develop regular opportunities to work with others to ensure a clear, agreed understanding of standards.

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 Coaltown of Balgonie 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. Fife Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

David Drysdale
HM Inspector