

8 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2020, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Pentland 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 senior leadership team has provided stability in the school. Together with staff, senior leaders have a clear focus on improving the school.
- Children are motivated to learn and are engaging well with tasks and activities.
- The school's promising start in raising attainment and achievement in literacy and numeracy.

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

- Take steps to reduce the number and length of school exclusions. This is needed to enable all children to access fully their education and make the best possible progress.
- The senior leadership team and staff need to continue to improve their approaches to promoting positive behaviour. Children need to be better supported to make choices which do not result in conflict or disruptive behaviour.
- As planned, continue to develop the curriculum to meet the needs of all children.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four 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 Pentland School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	weak
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:

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=4021>

What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we identified areas where improvements are required. In light of the current circumstances, we will liaise with North Lanarkshire Council to discuss our findings and support for the school. We will provide you with an update on next steps once the school has reopened.

Steven McPherson
HM Inspector