

19 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Forrester High School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and young people and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work.

- Staff foster respectful and positive relationships with young people. These relationships support a calm and caring climate for learning.
- Senior leaders and staff have a clear focus on improving learning and teaching across the school. This is beginning to support improved classroom routines and the structure of lessons.
- Staff offer a range of strategies and opportunities to young people which promote equity, achievement and help individual young people to progress with their learning.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from The City of Edinburgh Council.

- Senior leaders and teachers should continue to improve the consistency and quality of learning and teaching. Teachers need to understand better national standards across the broad general education (S1 – S3) so that they can plan tasks and activities which are set at the right level of challenge for all young people.
- Senior leaders should improve their strategic overview of the attainment of young people in S1 – S3. They should use this information with staff to support young people to make the best possible progress with their learning.
- Senior leaders and staff need to raise the attainment of young people. They should have higher expectations of all learners and improve the number and quality of National Qualification passes.

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 Forrester High School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>weak</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <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: [Inspection and Review | Education Scotland](#).

### What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we think that the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. We will liaise with The City of Edinburgh Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within 12 months of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with The City of Edinburgh Council the details of this inspection. When we return to inspect the school we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

Graham Parry  
HM Inspector