

28 November 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

We are trying out some new approaches to inspection. You can find out about our engagement with stakeholders and the approaches we are trying out as a result at [New approaches to inspection](#) on our website. The inspection of your school was carried out using one of our new approaches.

In October a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited your school for a total of two days. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate aspects of the quality of leadership and children's achievements.

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

- The strong leadership and clear direction provided by the headteacher in developing an effective learning community for all. Staff involvement in the learning community and the success in implementing the shared vision and values. This is beginning to have a positive impact on children's experiences.
- Children who are empowered, committed and active in evaluating and improving their school.
- The supportive relationships between staff and children and the partnerships with all stakeholders. They are working together to improve the learning experiences and outcomes for all children.

The following areas for improvement were identified by inspectors:

- Continue to develop effective self-evaluation using robust tracking and monitoring approaches to improve attainment in literacy and numeracy for all children.
- Further improve learning, teaching and assessment. Agree shared expectations to enable all children to make appropriate progress from prior learning, raising their attainment and achievement.

Quality indicators (QIs) help schools, education authorities and inspectors to identify what is working well and what needs to be improved in the work of the school. You can find these quality indicators in the publication *How good is our school*¹? Following the inspection of each school, the Scottish Government gathers evaluations of quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Newmill Primary school:

QI 1.1 Self-evaluation for self-improvement	good
QI 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory

This letter and a more detailed document called the Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/moray/5207924>

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

E MacGregor
HM Inspector

¹ How good is our school? (4th Edition) 2015 [How good is our school? \(fourth edition\)](#)

If you would like to receive this report in a different format, for example, in a translation please contact the administration team on the telephone number below and we will let you know what is available.

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