

26 August 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2025, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Andrew's 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 welcoming, inclusive ethos where the school values are evident in the positive relationships across the school. Children make positive contributions to the work and life of the school and to the creative heritage of their community.
- The effective approaches to improving learning and teaching across the school. The headteacher has worked very well with staff to improve the quality and consistency of children's learning experiences at all stages.
- The whole school approach to improving attainment in writing. Children are highly motivated and enjoy writing. There is clear evidence of improved outcomes for children across the school.

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

- Continue to raise the attainment of all children with a focus on improving outcomes in numeracy and mathematics.
- Continue to develop approaches to learning and teaching with an increased focus on providing children with increased challenge in their learning and developing their creativity skills.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#). 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 St Andrew's Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>good</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:

[St Andrew's Primary School | Inspection Report | 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. Orkney Islands Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Marion Carlton  
HM Inspector