

26 June 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2018, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Beattock Primary School and Nursery Class. 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's sustained and highly effective focus on a rights based approach to improving children's wellbeing which in turn has impacted significantly on raising children's attainment in key aspects of their learning.
- Confident, resilient, happy children who are very well supported in an inclusive nurturing environment by staff who are passionate about providing children with every opportunity to succeed. As a result, children are achieving well both in and out of school.
- Successful partnerships with parents, a wide range of community partners and other agencies who by working together have built strong community engagement within the village of Beattock and surrounding areas.
- The highly effective headteacher, leadership team and staff and their collective vision, values and aims which reflect the unique context of Beattock Primary School and Nursery Class.

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

- Continue to improve attainment in literacy and numeracy. In particular to improve the quality of children's writing as identified by the school.
- Continue to involve children in setting learning targets, planning their learning and documenting progress in their learning.
- As planned continue to involve all nursery practitioners in self-evaluative activities which will inform future improvements to teaching approaches and the curriculum.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the schools 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 Beattock Primary School

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good

Descriptions of the evaluations are available from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#), [Appendix 3: The six-point scale](#).

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Securing children's progress	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good

Descriptions of the evaluations are available from [How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale](#).

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/dumfries-and-galloway/5945526>.

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

Marion Burns
HM Inspector