

13 May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2025, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Bucksburn Academy. 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.

- Young people demonstrate a sense of pride in Bucksburn Academy. Learners benefit from a range of experiences across the school which support and develop their confidence. Staff and young people enjoy trusting relationships and this leads to a calm and purposeful environment for learning.
- Senior leaders and staff have worked together to develop a common framework for learning, teaching and assessment across the school. Teachers use this framework well. This is leading to more consistent learning experiences for young people.
- Young people enjoy a range of experiences and activities which allow them to collaborate, demonstrate their skills and consider their learning well through a wider context of life and work. Young people are very aware of the transferable skills they are developing and understand well how to apply them to their learning and wider lives.
- Learners who attend the ASN wing benefit from high-quality relationships, which help them settle confidently and well into their learning. Learning experiences in the ASN wing are appropriately challenging and matched very well to young people's needs.

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

- Staff should continue to improve consistency in the quality of learning experiences. This should include further use of effective practice to adjust planned learning to better meet the needs of all young people.
- Teachers should work to improve the quality of passes in National Qualifications in order to raise attainment for all young people.

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 Bucksburn Academy

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
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: [Bucksburn Academy | 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. Aberdeen City Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Graeme M Brown
HM Inspector