

10 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Achahoish 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.

- Children who respect and look after each other. They show a positive attitude to learning, are polite and well behaved.
- The headteacher and her staff, working together to develop a positive learning environment across the school.
- The school's use of the outdoors, which provides rich opportunities for children to learn in a real-life context.

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

- Improve children's progress and attainment in literacy and English and numeracy and mathematics.
- Improve approaches to planning and assessing children's learning to ensure tasks and activities build on children's prior learning and enable all children to make appropriate progress.
- Increase the pace of learning to ensure all children are suitably challenged across all curriculum areas.

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 Achahoish Primary School

| Quality indicators | Evaluation |
|--|---------------------|
| Learning, teaching and assessment | satisfactory |
| Raising attainment and achievement | weak |
| 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:
<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=1345>

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 Argyll and Bute Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within twelve months of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with Argyll and Bute 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.

Sue Williams
HM Inspector