

3 September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Cowie 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 school provides a welcoming, nurturing and safe environment where children are happy and keen to learn. There are strong, positive and caring relationships between children, their peers and all staff.
- Reflective staff who work effectively as a team and have created a climate of ambition and improvement. They are committed to improving practice to provide stimulating experiences for children's learning.
- Effective partnership working which is reducing barriers to children's learning, ensuring higher levels of engagement and securing better outcomes for all children.
- The headteacher's skilled leadership of change and improvement and the way in which she empowers others to lead, resulting in increased attainment and achievement for all children.

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

- Through continuing to develop further the school's approaches to planning learning across the curriculum, staff should ensure that there is sufficient challenge for all learners and involve children more in leading their own learning.
- Continue to develop further approaches to assessment and moderation, providing more opportunities for children to apply their learning in a range of contexts.
- Continue to explore opportunities to engage a wider group of parents in the life of the school and increase representation within the parent council in order to support the improvement of outcomes for all children.

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 Cowie Primary School

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:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/stirling/5723728>

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

Susan Smith
HM Inspector