

18 December 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2018, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Huntercombe Hospital School. 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.

- Well-paced, engaging learning experiences which helps young people to be motivated to learn.
- Skilful and creative teaching approaches including high quality questioning.
- Positive relationships between education staff and young people which helps young people to feel safe and impacts positively on their wellbeing.
- High level of attainment achieved by young people in nationally accredited awards.

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

- Revisit the length of the school week and continue to develop the curriculum.
- Develop more rigorous approaches to self-evaluation and better monitor the impact of school improvement priorities.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's 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 Huntercombe Hospital School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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/west-lothian/1003364>

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

Steven McPherson
 HM Inspector