

30 April 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Garlieston 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 demonstrate a positive attitude to learning and are polite and well behaved.
- The headteacher, who has driven forward significant change in the school. In doing so, she has created a positive and welcoming ethos fostering a strong sense of family.
- The strong collaborative working practices across the school partnership. This is supporting improvements within the school.

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

- Continue to develop approaches to learning and teaching to enable children to take a greater lead in lessons and activities.
- Staff should continue to develop a clear and shared strategy for raising attainment and achievement for all. In doing so, develop further approaches to assessment to ensure an appropriate pace, breadth and depth in learning is achieved.
- Continue to improve further the school's approaches to self-evaluation to ensure greater rigour and impact.

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 Garlieston Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
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/dumfries-and-galloway/5900425>

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.

Sue Williams
HM Inspector