

3 October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Lincluden Primary School and Nursery Class. 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 new headteacher and staff are working together well to identify priorities for improvement.
- Children across the school and nursery are friendly and keen to learn.
- Practitioners provide a wide range of well-planned learning experiences that meet children's needs and interests well. As a result, most children in the nursery are making very good progress in their learning.

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

- Staff should improve approaches to promoting and supporting positive relationships and behaviour across the primary school.
- Staff need to review current approaches to learning, teaching and assessment in the primary school. They should plan lessons and activities at the right level to meet the needs of all children.
- Staff should raise attainment in literacy and numeracy across the primary school.
- The headteacher, working with all staff, should now develop robust systems to check on children's progress in the primary school. This will help staff to take appropriate action when children are not reaching the expected levels of attainment.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#) and [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#) 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 Lincluden Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>weak</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>weak</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a>	

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Securing children's progress</b>	<b>very good</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale</a>	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

[Reports page | Inspection reports | Education Scotland](#)

### 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 Dumfries and Galloway Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within one year of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with Dumfries and Galloway 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.

Judith Reid  
HM Inspector