

9 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2025, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Bachlaw Learning Centre. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers, children and young people and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work.

- Led by the headteacher, there is a strong ethos and culture of positive and nurturing relationships built on respect and high expectations for children and young people. This is leading very effectively to all children and young people feeling supported to do their best, to raised attainment and a sustained positive pattern of attendance.
- Strong partnership working between the school and residential staff supports children and young people very effectively to develop their life experiences. The motivating contexts are raising attainment in writing. Children and young people develop their writing skills very well and with enthusiasm.
- Staff support children and young people very effectively to regulate and manage their emotions. As a result, children and young people use personal strategies very well to manage their emotions and behaviours. This is leading to improved engagement and raising their attainment.
- Children and young people participate purposefully in a wide range of personal achievement activities. These develop very effectively their personal attributes and their skills for learning life and work.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from the Board of Advisors.

- Senior leaders and teachers should continue to develop planning across all areas of the curriculum. This will ensure that all learning takes account of what children and young people already know and leads to a wider range of qualification pathways in the senior phase to maximise young people's attainment.
- As planned, senior leaders and teachers should continue developing a skills plan to track more comprehensively the important life and work skills children and young people gain during their time at school. This will help all children and young people to understand the skills they are building and how these skills help them succeed in school and beyond.

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 Bachlaw Learning Centre

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	very 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: [Bachlaw Learning Centre | Education Scotland](#)

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

Emma McFarlane
HM Inspector