

7 November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Cultercullen School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the two job-share headteachers and staff.

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

- The confident, friendly and responsible children. Children are proud of their school and are engaged in their learning. They play an important role in leading change and improvement. Children benefit from the caring and supportive ethos and, as a result, feel safe and valued.
- The committed, proactive and enthusiastic staff team. The headteachers and all staff work successfully together to improve outcomes for children. Staff lead aspects of improvement well and strive to develop their individual and collective skills for the benefit of children.
- The effective partnership working. The headteachers have successfully created a culture of collaboration which is underpinned by trust, respect and effective communication. Partners, parents and local residents actively support the work of the school. Their contributions are valued by all and have a positive impact on children's learning and achievements.

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

- Develop a more strategic approach to evaluating the impact of resources, approaches and interventions on children's attainment and wellbeing. This will help to inform future planning for improvement.
- Develop a more streamlined process for planning across the curriculum that clearly identifies what is to be learned and how it will be assessed. This will help teachers to ensure improved outcomes for children.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#). 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 Cultercullen School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>good</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>	

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?

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

M. A. Speirs  
HM Inspector