

16 April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Lockerbie Academy. 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.

- The positive and calm learning environment across the school, which is underpinned by the school values. Young people are polite, respectful and are proud of their school.
- Motivated and enthusiastic staff are working hard to improve learning, teaching and assessment. They have established 'The Lockerbie Lesson', which is providing a clear structure for high quality learning, teaching, and assessment.
- There are a wide range of wider achievement activities and clubs for young people to participate in. These are enhancing young people's leadership, confidence and contributions to the school and community.

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

- Continue to improve the consistency of high-quality learning, teaching and assessment across the school, ensuring appropriate pace and challenge for all young people.
- Continue to implement the recently developed approaches to monitoring young people's progress. This will support staff to make better use of data to inform judgements and plan for learning more effectively.
- Continue to raise the attainment of all young people, with a particular focus on literacy and the percentage and quality of passes in S4-6.
- Senior leaders should ensure that additional qualifications in S4 are adding value to the attainment of young people.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using 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 Lockerbie Academy

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</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>	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Inspection and Review | 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 18 months 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.

Carolanne Calderwood  
HM Inspector