

3 October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2022, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Hamilton Grammar School. 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 strong caring ethos, led by the headteacher and supported by all staff. The school values of 'equality, commitment, respect and inclusion' are reflected in daily interactions in school. This creates a very nurturing environment for learning.
- The School Improvement Teams, Equity Team and Integrated Support Team provide a wide range of support which is beginning to have a positive impact on young people's numeracy, literacy and employability skills.
- Staff have a clear focus on ensuring young people attain well. They have been successful at maintaining, and at times increasing, levels of attainment in S4 and S5. This is supported by effective processes for ensuring that young people are on track to achieve.

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

- All staff should continue to develop approaches to learning and teaching, with a focus on S1 to S3, to enable all young people to have consistently high quality experiences.
- Senior leaders should ensure there is a clear overview of young people's progress and attainment in S1 to S3. This will provide staff with the necessary evidence to support young people to achieve fully their potential.
- Staff should monitor and track the range of activities and skills young people develop through their participation in activities outwith class.

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 Hamilton Grammar School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	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: [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. South Lanarkshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Jacqueline Gallagher
HM Inspector