

30 April 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Beath High 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 recently appointed headteacher, along with his deputies, is providing strong leadership for the school. Together with stakeholders they are developing a clear vision for taking Beath High School forward.
- The effective work to improve relationships across the school. This is helping to establish a calm, secure environment to support more effective learning and teaching.
- Across the school, staff are enthusiastic, committed and determined to improve the school through innovative and creative approaches.

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

- Building on the determination for improvement, staff should define and agree their expectations of high-quality learning, teaching and assessment to ensure a consistent approach across the school. This should help to ensure an inclusive learning environment which provides flexible pathways to meet the wider range of needs across all young people.
- Develop robust tracking and monitoring systems to have a better understanding of progress in broad general education. This will support staff to more effectively identify and evaluate the interventions which will improve attainment and achievement for all young people.
- Ensure change is well-paced with appropriate, clear priorities for improvement in which the roles of all stakeholders are clearly understood. This should include a clear and shared understanding of effective leadership at all levels, particularly middle leadership.

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 Beath High School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	weak
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:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/fife/5447232>

What happens next?

We are not at present confident from our visit that the school has effective arrangements for ensuring continuing improvement in the quality of education for all learners. We will return within 18 months to explore this further. We will ask Fife Council for an interim report on progress with the agreed areas for improvement within one year of the publication of this letter and will continue to monitor progress. This may include a support visit from Education Scotland. After the return inspection we will report our findings to you.

David Drysdale
HM Inspector