

14 February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2022, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Bowhouse Primary School and the early learning and childcare (ELC) setting. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

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

- Polite children who are respectful of staff, practitioners, visitors and each other. Children are proud of their school and achievements, including those shared on attractive displays.
- Children's progress in their learning and development in the ELC and practitioners who ensure that children have the best possible start in their education. This respects their parents' role.
- Children's skills in digital technology which they use in different areas of their learning at the primary stages.
- The ELC and school's focus and arrangements for supporting and promoting wellbeing is having a positive impact on outcomes for staff, practitioners, children and their families.
- The headteacher is a strong and positive role model, with a clear vision for school improvement. Together, the headteacher, depute headteacher, principal teachers and senior early years officer provide high quality guidance and support to practitioners, support staff, teachers, children and families. This is having a positive impact on improving outcomes for the life and work of the school.

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

- Take forward plans to improve further the quality of learning and teaching at the primary stages, including using outdoor spaces.
- Continue to raise children's attainment at the primary stages, particularly in writing.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#) and [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#) 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 Bowhouse Primary School

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very 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	

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good
Securing children's progress	very good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: 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. Falkirk Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Moira Allan
Managing Inspector