

4 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In December 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Dunfermline 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.

- Staff work very well with young people to help them to understand their progress in learning. As a result, young people have a strong understanding of how to be successful in their learning.
- Staff work well with community partners. This is helping to reduce the cost of the school day and widen access to various clubs and activities for more young people.
- Confident, polite and articulate young people. They show real pride in their school community and demonstrate well the values of the school. Young people feel empowered to share their views to influence school improvement.
- Staff support for young people is well planned and of a high quality. Their nurturing and caring approaches are helping young people to be more confident and achieve well.

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

- Continue to raise the attainment of all young people at all stages. There is a need for senior leaders and teachers to review young peoples' experiences in S6 so that their attainment at this stage improves.
- Senior leaders need to work more collaboratively to ensure that school improvement priorities progress at an improved pace.
- Senior and middle leaders should prioritise planning clear learning pathways at all stages for all learners. This should be underpinned by the needs, ambitions and aspirations of all learners.
- Senior leaders and staff should work with young people to help them understand and express their wellbeing. Young people would benefit from having a deeper understanding of the role and importance of wellbeing in their learning and development.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four 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 Dunfermline High School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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: [Dunfermline High School | Inspection Report | 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. Fife Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

JohnPaul Cassidy
HM Inspector