

21 May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Thomas' RC Primary School. 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.

- Children are polite, caring and motivated to learn. Children across the school are very supportive of each other. Together, they are a unique community bringing together many nationalities who draw on their shared faith and values.
- Staff work effectively with a range of partners to support and improve children's wellbeing. This successful partnership approach ensures children make good progress in their learning.
- Senior leaders work well with the staff team to continually reflect on their practice. This is successful in improving outcomes for children.
- Teachers make very effective use of digital technologies across learning and teaching. Children use a range of digital tools and platforms confidently to enhance their learning across the curriculum, and to develop their digital skills.

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

- Senior leaders and teachers should continue to develop approaches to high-quality learning, teaching and assessment. This will help ensure all children experience greater depth and challenge in their learning.
- Senior leaders should have a more thorough understanding of how Pupil Equity Funding is helping children progress in their learning more quickly. They should show how this is closing any gaps in attainment between different groups or individuals.
- Senior leaders and teachers should make sure all children develop skills in leadership. They should support children to recognise their skills and talk about how they use them.

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 St Thomas' RC Primary 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: [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. Angus Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Nicola Drew
HM Inspector