

23 January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Castle Kennedy 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.

- The headteacher and staff value children's rights. They have created a positive and inclusive climate for learning and achievement.
- Children are friendly, polite and enjoy learning. They work well together, support one another, and demonstrate the school's values well.
- Staff work together effectively as a team. They recognise the positive impact of recent changes and are keen to continue to improve the school.

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

- The headteacher should further develop approaches to evaluate the work of the school. Staff should use the information gathered to inform future priorities to ensure all children make very good progress in their learning.
- Teachers should continue to develop a shared understanding of high-quality learning, teaching and assessment. Teachers should ensure that they plan learning experiences that build on what children already know. This will ensure all children are provided with the right level of difficulty across the curriculum.
- Staff should continue to raise attainment in literacy and English and numeracy and mathematics.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#). 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 Castle Kennedy Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a>	

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. Dumfries and Galloway Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Victoria Morgan  
 HM Inspector