

20 June 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Langlands 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.

- Led by senior leaders, staff have developed a calm and nurturing learning environment based on the school's vision and values. All young people enjoy positive relationships with staff and are motivated and keen to learn.
- There is a strong sense of teamwork across the school. Teachers and learning assistants work well together, responding sensitively to young people's wellbeing and health needs.
- School staff and visiting speech and language therapists are supporting young people well to improve their communication skills.

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

- Staff need to ensure that all young people are engaging in learning activities that are matched to their level of needs, and that building on their existing skills and knowledge. In doing so, staff should provide young people with more learning opportunities to work together with peers.
- The school should ensure that all young people receive their full entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum across the school week. In taking this forward, staff should offer young people more learning activities which support skill development based on individual needs across all areas of the curriculum.
- Senior leaders need to strengthen how they track and monitoring young people's progress in their learning. This will better support staff to evidence the progress young people are making over time.
- Raise young people's attainment and achievement across the school. At the senior phase, staff need to offer young people an increased range of National Qualifications and wider awards to choose from.

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 Langlands 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:

[Reports page](#) | [Inspection reports](#) | [Education Scotland](#)

What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we think that the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. We will liaise with Dumfries and Galloway Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within one year of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with Dumfries and Galloway Council the details of this inspection. When we return to inspect the school we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

Emma McFarlane
HM Inspector