

30 October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2018, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Prestonpans Primary School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate aspects of the quality of leadership and children's achievements.

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

- The staff team know the children and families well. There is a welcoming, caring ethos in the school.
- The promotion of health and wellbeing which is developed through a range of clubs, activities and opportunities for wider achievement which is accessible to all.
- The friendly children who are proud of their school, in particular their accreditation in The John Muir Award.

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

- Raise attainment in literacy and English language and numeracy and mathematics.
- Led by the senior leadership team, staff should continue to improve approaches to self-evaluation to ensure rigorous and well planned activities have an impact on children's learning and achievement. Staff should work collegiately to make effective use of assessment information and data to improve children's experiences and progress across the school.
- To further develop a shared understanding of standards, expectations and levels of attainment and achievement. There is a need for staff teams to work collaboratively, within school and with partner schools in the community.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#). Quality indicators help schools, education 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 evaluations of quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland’s evaluations for Prestonpans Primary School

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Self-evaluation for self-improvement	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 .	

This letter and a more detailed document called the Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/east-lothian/5554721>.

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 East Lothian 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 East Lothian Council the details of this inspection. Following our return to inspect the school, we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

Mary McLean
Managing Inspector