

27 August 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Netherlea School. During our visit, we talked to parents and carers, and children and young people, and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

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

- Led effectively by the headteacher, the school has a calm, welcoming and settled learning environment. Staff and learners demonstrate positive, respectful relationships with each other. This is helping children and young people to feel safe and valued, and able to engage in their learning.
- The wide range of opportunities for children and young people to achieve outdoors and in the local community. These achievements are tailored in line with children's and young people's needs, interests and ambitions.
- Improvements in children's and young people's wellbeing across the school. Children and young people are improving their fitness, eating healthily and building their confidence.

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

- Improve approaches to planning and assessment across the school. Teachers need to develop their use of a range of evidence to identify progress and what learners need to do next.
- Continue to raise children's and young people's attainment.
- Develop the curriculum to ensure that all children and young people experience well planned learning pathways. In doing so, increase the number of National Qualifications and wider awards which learners are able to achieve.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using 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 Netherlea School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</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:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/dumfries-and-galloway/5980240>

### 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. The proprietor will inform parents and carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Liz Angus  
HM Inspector