

10 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Kirkcudbright Primary School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

Kirkcudbright Primary School nursery class was inspected by Care Inspectorate within the past 18 months. Therefore, we have agreed with the local authority and school that the nursery class is not part of this inspection.

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

- The newly-appointed headteacher and acting depute headteacher's strong focus on improving learning and teaching. Their introduction of clear systems to improve learning and teaching is already making a significant difference to children's learning experiences.
- The caring and trusting relationships between staff and children which creates a nurturing ethos across the school. These positive relationships help to develop children who are considerate, articulate and able to talk confidently about their learning.
- The wide range of experiences children take part in which are provided in partnership with local organisations and the community. This helps children to be responsible learners and have a greater understanding of their role in the local community.

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

- Staff should agree a consistent approach to delivering high-quality learning and teaching across the school. They should ensure the pace of learning is brisker and lessons and activities are well matched to the needs of all children. This will support children to make the best possible progress in their learning.
- Staff should continue to develop their understanding of national standards to show how much and how well children are progressing. This will lead to increased confidence in teachers' professional judgements of children's progress and attainment.
- Staff should raise children's attainment in literacy and numeracy.

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 Kirkcudbright Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
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: [Kirkcudbright Primary School | Inspection Report](#)

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.

Nicola Drew
HM Inspector