

26 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Saltersgate School. During our visit, we talked to parents/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.

- Staff have created a calm, caring and nurturing learning environment. There are strong relationships across the school. Children and young people are supported well to engage purposefully in learning activities.
- Children and young people use a wide range of approaches to communicate effectively. They listen well, make choices and confidently express their views.
- Staff have effective approaches to supporting young people well for life beyond school. They are working with a range of partners to tailor personalised programmes for each young person. As a result, young people are building their confidence to move on successfully to college or adult education.

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

- Senior leaders and staff need to continue to review and refresh the school curriculum to improve children and young people's learning experience. In doing so, they should ensure that all learning activities build on what children and young people have already learned.
- Senior leaders and staff need to introduce approaches to help them understand better the progress children and young people are making in their learning. They should use these approaches to help ensure children and young people are attaining as well as possible.

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 Saltersgate 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:

[Details](#) | [Find an inspection report](#) | [Find an inspection report](#) | [Inspection and Review](#) | [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. Midlothian Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Steven McPherson
HM Inspector