

18 February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Belmont Academy. 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.

- The highly effective leadership of the headteacher, and other senior leaders, is creating an effective culture of trust and respect across the school. This is empowering staff and young people well to take on increasing responsibility and leadership opportunities which are improving experiences for all.
- All staff place high importance on nurturing positive health and wellbeing. Supported by partners, they provide a rich learning environment to enable all young people, including those who require additional support, to succeed. Appropriate flexible learning pathways are used to enhance young people's learning.
- Young people have a wide range of achievement opportunities available to them. This motivates them to develop key skills, gain success and accreditation, and engage fully in the life of the school community.
- The positive and respectful relationships across the school provide an inclusive learning environment in which young people are supported well to attain and achieve.

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

- Continue to ensure that learning, teaching and assessment meets the needs of all young people more consistently.
- Continue to develop approaches to tracking and checking the progress of young people within the broad general education. This should help to identify young people requiring additional support.
- Continue to work to raise aspirations and standards of attainment and achievement for all young people, especially those in the senior phase.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four 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 Belmont Academy

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>very good</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/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=1637>

### 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. South Ayrshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

John Reilly  
HM Inspector