

19 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In January 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Kilninver Primary School and Pre-Five Unit. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

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

- The headteacher and staff across the school and early learning and childcare setting (ELC) have created a calm, inclusive learning environment. Children feel cared for and happy as a result.
- Children are enthusiastic and eager to learn. They are polite, friendly and have a well-developed understanding of their own wellbeing.
- Children in the ELC are motivated and engaged in their learning. Skilled practitioners help them to make good progress in their learning. They provide stimulating learning experiences that build on children's interests and promote curiosity.

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

- The headteacher should use national guidance to strengthen the approaches for school improvement.
- The staff team at the primary stages should work together to improve children's progress and attainment across the curriculum, particularly in writing.
- The headteacher should work with teachers to develop greater consistency in learning, teaching and assessment. They should ensure the pace of learning is brisker and lessons and activities are well-matched to meet all children's needs. This will help children to make the best possible progress.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#) and [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#) 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 Kilninver Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory
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	

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	good
Securing children's progress	good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: 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. Argyll and Bute Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Rosalind J Webster
HM Inspector