

18 June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

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

Kelloholm 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.

- Children benefit from mutually respectful relationships with staff. Staff know their children and families well. Children are polite, well-mannered and eager participants in the wider life of the school.
- Staff make good use of digital technologies to engage and stimulate children during learning and teaching. Digital technologies are also used successfully as a support tool for children experiencing barriers to their learning.
- Senior leaders have established a number of effective partnerships within and beyond the local community. Staff work effectively with these partners to offer children well-considered experiences to support their wellbeing and sense of achievement.

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

- There is a significant need to improve leadership of change at all levels to improve learner outcomes. This should include involving staff, children, parents and partners in planning and evaluating the impact of improvement priorities.
- Senior leaders and staff should continue to improve the quality of learning, teaching and assessment across the school. This should ensure children experience increased pace in lessons and learning which is planned at the right level of difficulty to better meet their needs.
- Senior leaders and staff should raise the attainment of children, with a focus on improving children's success in literacy and numeracy.
- Senior leaders and staff should continue to explore ways to encourage parents to participate more fully in all aspects of the life of the school.

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 evaluation for Kelloholm Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>weak</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</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:

[Details](#) | [Find an inspection report](#) | [Find an inspection report](#) | [Inspection and review](#) | [Education Scotland](#)

### What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings, we think that they school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. We will liaise with Dumfries and Galloway Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within 12 months of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with Dumfries and Galloway Council the details of this inspection. When we return to inspect the school, we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

Graham Parry  
HM Inspector