

22 January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2018, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Perth High School. 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 Better Relationships Policy, which is beginning to improve clarity, communication and consistency in how positive relationships are developed across the school. It is helping teachers across all classrooms to establish a more positive climate for learning.
- The range of opportunities which young people have to achieve and develop their skills. These include after-school and lunch-time clubs in music and sports, and a very proactive and successful chaplaincy group.
- The increasing and successful nature of the school's work with local, national and international partners. This is providing young people with new and interesting experiences to enhance their learning.

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

- Develop a clearer, unified sense of direction and purpose in taking forward key aspects of school improvement. This should be informed carefully by information which the school has gathered on its own strengths and weaknesses and take account of the views of staff, young people, parents and partners.
- Review the curriculum so that all young people receive their entitlement to a broad general education.
- Ensure that all young people can engage consistently in challenging, motivating, well-paced learning experiences which meet their needs.
- Further provide staff with planned opportunities to engage together in professional learning. These should be linked to helping them develop their skills and confidence in assessing, tracking and monitoring young people's progress effectively. They should also be linked to developing their understanding of how to support the needs of all young people consistently.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four 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 Perth High School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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: <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/perth-and-kinross/5351030>

What happens next?

We will ask Perth and Kinross Council for a report on progress with the agreed areas for improvement within a year of the publication of this letter. Taking account of the progress report, we will then decide whether further engagement with the school is required. This may involve another inspection visit. Perth and Kinross Council will write to you again detailing the improvements the school has made and outlining any further action that we intend to take, as agreed with Perth and Kinross Council.

Celia McArthur
HM Inspector