

25 February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Sophia's Primary School. 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 leadership of the headteacher in embedding a caring, nurturing culture where children and families feel valued and supported. Children are keen to learn and motivated to do well.
- The school's well established partnerships with the community and the church, which enhance children's learning and wider achievements.
- Staff engagement with professional learning which is having a positive impact on the quality of learning and teaching, children's experiences and progress in numeracy and writing.

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

- Continue to develop effective self-evaluation to support further improvement in planning learning, teaching and assessment.
- Continue to improve children's progress and attainment across all curriculum areas.

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 St Sophia's Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
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/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=4768>

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

Susan Duff
HM Inspector