

27 August 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Balmuildy 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 strong and positive ethos for learning created by the headteacher and senior leadership team. They encourage staff to try out more innovative approaches to enhance children's learning experiences. This is resulting in children being more engaged, motivated and curious as learners.
- Children who are articulate, supportive of one another and who are proud to promote the Balmuildy community.
- The staff team who are motivated to lead aspects of school development and improvement, in order to move progress to the next level and raise the bar for all at Balmuildy Primary School. At the heart of all that they do in the life and work of the school community is the care, attainment and achievement of the children.

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

- Continue as planned to develop more streamlined and manageable approaches to tracking and monitoring of children's attainment, achievement and progress. Continue to review strategies and resources currently used for gathering assessment information.
- Continue to develop consistency in approaches to improving learning and teaching. Importantly, this should include plans for children to be more actively involved in leading aspects of their learning. Planned opportunities for staff to share effective practice more regularly will help to develop consistency in approaches to learning and teaching across the school.

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 Balmuildy 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/inspection-reports/east-dunbartonshire/8340226>

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

JohnPaul Cassidy
HM Inspector