

30 January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Tayvallich Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare (ELC). 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 have created a nurturing, inclusive ethos, across the school and ELC. Strong, positive relationships between adults and children are based on mutual respect and understanding.
- The polite, happy children who work well together in the mixed age classes. They are keen to learn and show respect and kindness to each other.
- The successful partnership working between staff and parents. This results in parents feeling valued partners in their child's learning.
- Staff in the ELC provide children with rich, real-life learning opportunities using the local environment and the wider community well.
- ELC staff work well with school staff to plan valuable opportunities for children to learn and play with children in the primary school.

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

- The headteacher and staff should continue developing approaches for planning learning. This will help them to raise attainment further.
- The headteacher and staff should continue to develop and embed consistent approaches to assessing children's learning. They should continue to work together to achieve consistency in their judgements about children's progress and attainment.

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 Tayvallich Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare

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

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good
Securing children's progress	very 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