

25 June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Burnhouse Skills Centre. 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.

- Whole school community involvement in improving the work of the school. Pupil participation has led to positive changes in healthy eating and lunchtime menus and activities.
- Caring and supportive relationships across the school leading to young people who feel safe when learning.
- Young people's involvement in exploring their wellbeing and being able to express views on their progress including contributing to their next steps in learning.
- A strong understanding of the needs of young people and their families. Senior leaders and staff provide equitable support to ensure that the cost of the school day is not a barrier to wellbeing or pupil participation in activities.

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

- Continue to improve the consistency of learning and teaching, ensuring all activities are motivating and well matched to the needs of young people.
- All young people need to receive their full entitlement to education. Staff should now improve the curriculum to ensure that they widen all young people's experiences, leading to better learning.
- Reduce exclusions and improve young people's attendance to raise attainment across all areas of the curriculum.

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 Burnhouse Skills Centre

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	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: [Find an inspection report | 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. West Lothian Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

David M^cKellar
HM Inspector