

31 January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2022, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Girvan 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 headteacher provides effective leadership to the school community. She is supported well by the senior leadership team. Their continued focus on involving staff, children and families in school improvement is helping children to achieve positive outcomes.
- The warm, positive relationships among children and between children and staff. All staff share a focus on wellbeing which is helping children feel safe, valued as individuals, and cared for in the school and Support and Wellbeing Department.
- Senior leaders and teachers make effective use of a range of data to identify any gaps in children's learning and provide support to help children to make progress in their learning. This is helping them to raise attainment of children and close the poverty related attainment gap in writing and numeracy.

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

- Continue to develop approaches to improve learning and teaching to ensure there is consistently high-quality practice across all classes. Senior leaders and teachers should ensure that learning is at the right level of difficulty for all children.
- Continue to develop approaches to fully involve all children in leadership and school improvement to help them understand how their views improve the work of the school.
- Teachers in the Support and Wellbeing department should continue to improve planning that helps children develop individual skills to overcome difficulties in learning.

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 Girvan Primary School

Quality indicators	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	

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=2713>

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

Katharine Crombie
HM Inspector