

25 June 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Mary'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 aspirational vision of the headteacher to drive forward changes in the school and create a culture of collaboration. Together with all staff, there is a shared commitment to lead change which will continue to improve outcomes for all learners.
- The nurturing climate for learning, where all children are valued. There is a strong, positive ethos, underpinned by gospel values, where all members of the school community are treated with respect.
- The high-quality learning and teaching found across the school, supported by staffs' commitment to professional learning to meet the needs of all children.
- The strong partnerships with the local community and businesses. These are enriching children's learning experiences and developing important skills for life, learning and work.

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

- Continue to develop approaches to improve attainment in literacy and numeracy.

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 St Mary's Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very 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/north-ayrshire/8213224>

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

Stuart Cathro
 HM Inspector