

2 May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Wester Hailes High School. 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.

- Positive, mutually respectful relationships are evident between young people and staff across the school which encourage a calm learning environment.
- Improvements in literacy and numeracy qualifications, both from S1 to S3 and for young people leaving school.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from The City of Edinburgh Council.

- All teachers need to ensure that all young people experience learning activities which are suited to their interests, ability and are challenging enough. All young people should be encouraged to achieve as highly as possible.
- Young people would benefit from staff using the same, consistent approach to check their progress across the school. Staff should also encourage young people to set appropriately demanding targets for learning in order to raise attainment for all young people.

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 Wester Hailes High School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	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:

[Reports page | Inspection reports | 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. The City of Edinburgh Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Frances E. Graham
HM Inspector