

6 March 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2017, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Gallowhill Primary School and nursery class. 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.

- Children who are enthusiastic and eager to be involved in further improving their school.
- The hard working staff team, and the positive steps they have taken to work with parents, carers and partners in the local community.
- The high quality of caring interactions and wide range of learning experiences for children in the nursery.

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

- There is a need to raise attainment for all children in literacy and numeracy. There are a range of initiatives in place to support children and staff should evaluate the impact they are having on learning.
- Improve learning, teaching and assessment to ensure the needs of all children are met and they are all are fully engaged in their learning.
- Staff should further develop the curriculum with a clear focus on raising attainment.
- The school should improve how they track the progress children are making in their learning and use the information to plan next steps.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#). Quality indicators help schools, education 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 evaluations of quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Gallowhill Primary School

Quality indicators primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	weak
Raising attainment and achievement	weak
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from How good is our school? (4th edition) , Appendix 3: The six-point scale .	

Quality indicators nursery class	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Securing children's progress	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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 will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/renfrewshire/8625026>

What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we think that the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. We will liaise with Renfrewshire Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within one year of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with Renfrewshire Council the details of this inspection. When we return to inspect the school we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

Monica McGeever
HM Inspector