

22 August 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Bun-sgoil Inbhir Pheofharain - Dingwall Primary School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

Bun-sgoil Inbhir Pheofharain - Dingwall Primary School was inspected by Care Inspectorate within the past 18 months. Therefore, we have agreed with the local authority and school that the nursery class is not part of this inspection.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work.

- Across the school children are friendly and enthusiastic and proud of their achievements. They benefit from the very positive relationships and the caring approach of staff.
- Senior leaders and staff develop strong relationships to support increased opportunities for children to participate in wider experiences within the local community. Staff work effectively with their partners to enrich children's learning across a range of contexts.
- All children learn Gaelic, either through immersion or as an additional language in classes taught through English. Staff are skilled in their use of immersion approaches. The acting headteacher and staff have raised the profile of Gaelic in the Dingwall community through effective partnerships and intergenerational links.

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

- Senior leaders and teachers should continue to improve the quality of learning, teaching and assessment. This will ensure that learning is brisk and appropriately challenging consistently across all classes and meet the needs of all children. In doing so children will be enabled to progress at a faster pace.
- The senior leadership team and staff should continue to raise attainment in literacy and numeracy.
- Continue to embed and grow Gaelic language, immersion and culture in the curriculum so that all learners attain to their full potential.

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 Dingwall Primary 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:
<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-and-review/find-an-inspection-report/find-an-inspection-report/details?id=2352>

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

Gillian Whitford
 HM Inspector