

18 June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited George Heriot's School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and young people and worked closely with the principal and staff.

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

- The highly-effective leadership of the principal. He has a very clear vision for the direction of the school and is supported ably by senior leaders and staff.
- The leadership of wellbeing, inclusion and equality is outstanding. Children and young people are thriving and extremely proud to be part of their highly-inclusive school community.
- Children and young people show high levels of responsibility in their learning and are highly motivated to learn and achieve. They have a strong voice in improving the school and lead positive change with enthusiasm.
- Children and young people's attainment and achievements are outstanding across the junior and senior schools.
- The school's founding principles are centred around philanthropy and charity. The principal, along with the governors and senior leaders, look continuously for new and creative ways to open out the school's offer to children and young people who could benefit from an education at George Heriot's School.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the principal and the Board of Governors.

- Senior leaders should continue to work with staff to ensure they can identify more fully the impact of improvement priorities on the experiences of children and young people.
- Staff should continue to build on the highly effective practice in learning, teaching and assessment.

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 George Heriots School

Quality indicators for the school	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	excellent
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	excellent
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: [Inspection and review | 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 Board of Governors 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