

23 May 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

We are trying out some new approaches to inspection. You can find out about our engagement with stakeholders and the approaches we are trying out as a result at [Future approaches to inspection and review](#) on our website. The inspection of your school was carried out using one of our new approaches.

In March, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited your school for a total of two days. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate aspects of the quality of leadership and children's achievements.

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

- Polite courteous children who are caring and supportive of each other.
- Children who are increasingly taking responsibility for aspects of school life.
- The impact of the headteacher in building a school community.

The following areas for improvement were agreed with the headteacher and a representative from East Ayrshire Council:

- Continue to develop self-evaluation so that children can achieve as well as they can.
  - Improve staff skills in analysing and interpreting a range of data to support children's progress more effectively.
  - Develop a clear plan to take forward improvements in literacy.
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**Quality indicators help schools, education authorities and inspectors to identify what is working well and what needs to be improved in the work of the school.** You can find these quality indicators in the publication *How good is our school*<sup>1</sup>? 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 Darvel Primary School

<b>QI 1.1 Self-evaluation for self-improvement</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>QI 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>

This letter and a more detailed document called the Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://www.education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/east-ayrshire/8220522>.

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

Peter Gollogly  
HM Inspector

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<sup>1</sup> How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) 2015 [How good is our school? \(fourth edition\)](#)

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