

21 January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Michael's Primary School. 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.

- Polite and friendly children who show respect toward each other in their everyday actions. Children are keen to discuss their learning and achievements and demonstrate the school's Roman Catholic values in their interactions with each other and their teachers.
- The commitment of senior leaders, in ensuring that professional learning opportunities for staff have a positive impact on learning and teaching approaches.
- Partners and parents work well with the school to support and enrich children's learning experiences and outcomes. Children achieve success through the wide range of opportunities offered.

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

- Ensure that learning and teaching takes account of the needs of all children and provides appropriate support and challenge. As planned, staff should continue to develop high-quality learning experiences which offer children relevant opportunities to learn and apply skills for learning, life and work.
- Improve approaches to assessment across the school. In doing so, develop a shared understanding of children's progress across all areas of the curriculum.
- Continue to raise attainment for all children. This includes children who may need extra support in school.

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 St Michael's Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
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/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=4682>

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

John Reilly
 HM Inspector