

21 August 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2018, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Hillside School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and young people and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate aspects of the quality of leadership and young people's achievements.

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

- The positive relationships between young people and staff which support young people to re-engage successfully with their learning.
- Motivated and engaged young people who are keen to achieve.
- The effective leadership of the head of education and senior teacher in providing a clear direction for school improvement.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and Director of the school.

- Further develop the school's approaches to assessment and teachers understanding of standards to more effectively track young people's progress in their learning.
- Review the school week to ensure young people receive their full entitlements to education.
- Continue to raise young people's attainment and achievement.

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 Hillside School

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Self-evaluation for self-improvement	good
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 .	

This letter and a more detailed document called the Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/fife/5480744>.

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 Director will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of their arrangements for reporting on the quality of the school.

Steven McPherson
HM Inspector