

3 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In November 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Kippen 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.

- The leadership of the headteacher, who is approachable and knowledgeable about children's needs and aspirations. She is highly respected within the local community. With the support of the principal teacher, she involves all staff in leading school improvement.
- Children who are articulate, kind, well-behaved and motivated to learn. They are responsible citizens, who welcome every opportunity to contribute effectively, both to the school and to the wider local community.
- The inclusive environment and ethos of mutual care and respect. Staff consistently apply positive approaches to supporting children and meeting their needs well. As a result, children feel involved and respected.
- The range, quality and accessibility of opportunities for children to achieve and develop. This is supporting children to develop their life experiences, skills and knowledge in and beyond school.

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

- The headteacher should work with staff in the use of data to analyse and evidence the impact of school improvement activities in further improving outcomes for children.
- Consistent use of well-planned assessment will ensure that all children make appropriate progress in their learning. This will provide robust and reliable evidence on which to report children's progress.
- To raise attainment further, senior leaders and staff should work collaboratively to develop systems to monitor children's progress across all areas of the curriculum.
- Staff should ensure that all children are familiar with their learning targets, the skills which they are developing and what they need to do to further improve.

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 Kippen Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very 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=3243>

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

Jacqueline Gallagher
HM Inspector