

6 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2022, inspectors from Education Scotland visited Furnace Primary School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the acting headteacher and staff.

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

- Children who are polite, welcoming and keen to contribute. They engage well in the calm and inclusive ethos within school and are proud of sharing their learning, along with their local knowledge and interests.
- Strong leadership provided by the acting headteacher and staff team. The staff team understand the uniqueness of Furnace Primary and are addressing individual needs well. They know the strengths and areas for development well across the school, with clear plans in place for continued improvements.
- The use of digital technologies by children and staff to enrich learning experiences, including through remote learning activities.

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

- Improve children's attainment across the curriculum, particularly in writing.
- Continue to work together closely with parents/carers to support children to achieve maximum success.
- Continue to enhance opportunities for social interaction with larger groups of children, through working in partnership with the linked school and others.

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 Furnace Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	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	

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=2662>

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

Sally Stewart
Managing Inspector