

19 November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Dervaig 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.

- Children are well-mannered, respectful, welcoming and proud of their school. They demonstrate the values of the school in their interactions with others.
- Senior leaders and staff work effectively to foster positive, respectful relationships with children and wider school community. This effectively supports an inclusive and nurturing ethos in the school.
- Senior leaders and staff work effectively with colleagues across the cluster schools and wider island to share practice and to moderate attainment of learning. This impacts positively on outcomes for children.
- Children make good progress in literacy and numeracy.

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

- Senior leaders and staff should continue to develop approaches to evaluate the quality of the school's work. As they do so, they should involve children, parents and other partners in decisions regarding school improvement.
- Senior leaders and staff should improve approaches to planning for children who require additional support for their learning. They should ensure they set clear, measurable targets. This should help all children to make the best possible progress in their learning.
- Senior leaders and staff should work with the whole school community to review the curriculum on offer. In doing so, they should ensure that it aligns with Curriculum for Excellence and reflects the unique features of the school and its setting.

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 Dervaig Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory
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: [Dervaig Primary School | Inspection Report | Education Scotland](#)

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.

Denise Penman
HM Inspector