

14 March 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

In January, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Blane's Primary School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and young people and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We gathered evidence to evaluate the quality of leadership and management, learning provision and children's successes and achievements.

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

- Children who are exceptionally polite and respectful and are keen to take more responsibility for their own learning.
- Teamwork of all staff and a willingness to undertake leadership roles to improve learning outcomes for children.
- The work undertaken to form positive partnerships with parents and community. This contributes to the nurturing, inclusive ethos which permeates across all aspects of school life helping children feel safe, respected and supported to learn.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from South Lanarkshire Council:

- The senior management team now need to provide stronger leadership and direction to the work of the school. In so doing, they should provide clearer guidance to staff on how they assess children's work and share standards of expectations of attainment.
- The school team should work together to ensure consistency in teaching and learning across the school. In doing this, we ask that they improve approaches to planning of learning and teaching and set tasks at the right level of difficulty to ensure that children's learning needs are met across the school.
- Develop staff confidence and their professional judgements in using data and information about individual's progress to help raise attainment for all children.

Quality indicators help schools, education authorities and inspectors to judge what is good and what needs to be improved in the work of the school. You can find these quality indicators in the publication *How good is our school*¹? Following the inspection of each school, the Scottish Government gathers evaluations of three important quality indicators to keep track of how well all Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for St Blane's Primary School

Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory

The letter and more detailed summarised inspection findings will be available on the Education Scotland website at

<https://education.gov.scot/reports/south-lanarkshire/8520429>

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. South Lanarkshire Council will inform Education Scotland's Area Lead Officer within one year of the inspection of the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Elizabeth Paterson
HM Inspector

¹ How good is our school? (4th Edition) 2015 [How good is our school? \(fourth edition\)](#)

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