

1 November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2022, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St. Michael's 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 positive, nurturing ethos that is a strong feature throughout the whole school community. Across the school children are respectful, kind, happy and engaged in their learning. They feel very well supported and included in school life.
- Senior leaders and staff know their local context and school community very well. They provide very effective support for all children and families which helps children improve their learning.
- Strong partnership working with a variety of agencies to ensure children have opportunities to engage in a wide range of contexts for learning.

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

- Continue to develop how staff plan, track and assess children's progress more clearly.
- Continue to develop the approaches to learning and teaching to ensure all children are challenged in their learning activities.

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 St Michael's Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
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:
<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page//?id=4683>.

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

Louise Phillips
HM Inspector