

27 June 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Pitlochry High 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 calm, positive and inclusive environment for learning. This is supported by senior leaders and all staff who provide a warm and caring ethos, shown clearly in the interactions between all members of the school community.
- Children and young people are polite and respectful. They enjoy being at the school and are attaining and achieving well.
- All staff's ongoing commitment to monitoring and evaluating the work of the school. This is improving learners' experiences across the school.
- The work of the whole school community to ensure children and young people are knowledgeable about their rights, and the rights of others.

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

- Continue with plans to involve the whole school community in refreshing the vision, values and aims at Pitlochry High School.
- Senior leaders should continue to develop approaches to improvement planning. They should continue to work with all staff to develop a shared understanding of how they show the impact of their work in improving experiences for children and young people.
- Staff should continue to improve the consistency of high-quality learning and teaching across the school. They should ensure appropriate tasks and activities are set at the right level of difficulty.
- Staff should increase the pace of improvements in curriculum development. As part of this work, staff should ensure all children and young people can make continued progress in all areas of the curriculum.

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 Pitlochry High School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	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: [Details | Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and Review | 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. Perth and Kinross Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Stuart Cathro
HM Inspector