

11 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2020, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Graeme High School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and young people and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

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

- The effective leadership of change across the school is creating a culture of continuous improvement. This is enabled by the strong leadership of the headteacher, supported by the depute headteachers and high quality contributions from the wider community of staff and young people.
- The outstanding commitment of all staff to engage in professional learning to improve outcomes for young people.
- Young people who are motivated to achieve highly and are proud of their school. They are articulate, well behaved, courteous and play an active part in the life of the school and the local community.
- The strong support for young people, including promoting positive mental health, which is resulting in improved engagement in their learning. Recent creative changes to school support systems are helping to drive forward areas which have been identified as requiring improvement as a matter of priority.

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

- Continue to develop the curriculum to ensure all young people receive their full entitlement to a broad general education and experience continuing progressive learning through the senior phase.
- Continue to raise attainment by improving the quality and consistency of effective learning, teaching across the school.

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 Graeme High School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very 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=2799>

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

Teri McIntosh
HM Inspector