

12 December 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

We are trying out some new approaches to inspection. You can find out about our engagement with stakeholders and the approaches we are trying out as a result at [Future approaches to inspection and review](#) on our website. The inspection of your school was carried out using one of our new approaches.

In June 2017, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited your school for a total of two days. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate aspects of the quality of leadership and children achievements.

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

- The headteacher, has a clear vision for the school. Supported by the acting depute headteacher, she is developing systems to gather and analyse information on the work of the school. She knows children and their families well.
- In partnership with other cluster schools she has produced a plan for next session to direct Pupil Equity Funding to reduce barriers to learning and raise attainment
- The support given by learning assistants to help raise the attainment of the most vulnerable children.
- The school's partnership working with its campus partner to plan a joint improvement programme directly linked to the context of both schools.

The following areas for improvement were identified by inspectors:

- Staff should increase the opportunities for children to be actively involved in planning and assessing their own learning to increase their understanding of the purpose of learning.
 - Staff should work collaboratively to realise the whole school vision of raising attainment in a learning environment where staff and pupils have high expectations of themselves and each other.
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Quality indicators (QIs) help schools, education authorities and inspectors to identify what is working well 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 quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for St Luke's Primary School:

QI 1.1 Self-evaluation for self-improvement	satisfactory
QI 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	weak

This letter and a more detailed document called the Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/midlothian/5544327>

What happens next?

We are not at present confident from our short visit that the school has effective arrangements for ensuring continuing improvement in the quality of education for all learners. We will return within one year of the published report to explore this further. After the return inspection we will report our findings to you.

Mary Laura McLean
HM Inspector

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

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**The Complaints Manager
Education Scotland**

Denholm House
Almondvale Business Park
Almondvale Way
Livingston EH54 6GA

T +44 (0)131 244 4330
E enquiries@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk

www.education.gov.scot

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