10 November 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited Hutchesons' Grammar School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and young people and worked closely with the Rector and staff.

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

- Children and young people demonstrate consistently high levels of engagement. They are resilient and enthusiastic learners who take responsibility for their own learning and progress.

- Staff support very effectively a positive and aspirational climate for children and young people, reflecting the school vision of 'belong, flourish and achieve'. Across the school, children and young people thrive in a culture of inclusion, participation and success.

- Staff have developed robust and rigorous approaches to monitor and track the progress and attainment of children and young people. Teachers know learners as individuals very well.

- Equality, diversity and inclusion are embedded strongly across the school. Children and young people develop a strong understanding of different cultures, faiths, identities and backgrounds. They are encouraged to respect others and play an active role in promoting inclusion and challenging discrimination.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the Rector and a representative from the Board of Governors.

- Senior leaders and staff should continue to encourage children and young people to develop critical thinking skills and reflect consistently on their learning and progress.

- Senior leaders and staff in the secondary should continue their positive work on developing classroom routines and the use of different teaching approaches. This should include focusing on providing all young people with challenging, well-paced learning.

- Staff across the school should continue to support children and young people to reflect on their wellbeing and identify personal wellbeing goals. In the secondary, staff should continue to review and refine their personal and social education curriculum.

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We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using two 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 HMIE's evaluations for Hutchesons' Grammar School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	**very 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 HMIE website at: Hutchesons' Grammar School | Inspection Report | His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education in 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. Board of Governors will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Jacqueline Gallagher
HM Inspector

On behalf of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland

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