24 November 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In September 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited Dalry 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 highly effective strategic leadership of the headteacher, ably supported by the acting depute headteacher, which is improving children's attainment and achievement. Senior leaders support teachers very well to gather and analyse attainment data. This robust use of data is helping teachers to plan learning and interventions which are leading to positive outcomes for children.
- Staff develop creative and engaging ways to deliver learning experiences which take account of children's learning styles and interests. This enables children to have a balance of teacher led, open ended and creative experiences. These are supporting children's engagement, motivation for learning and skills development.
- Senior leaders and staff have a strong focus on getting it right for all children. They identify needs and plan targeted support in detail. This is having a positive impact on the learning and wellbeing outcomes for children who require additional support with learning and experience barriers to learning.
- Senior leaders' relentless focus on raising attainment in literacy and numeracy is impacting very positively on children's progress and attainment.

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

- Senior leaders and staff should continue to improve approaches to providing high-quality learning consistently across the curriculum. This should include a focus on increased challenge and the use of questions to extend children's thinking. This has the potential to help all children achieve the best possible outcomes.
- As planned, staff should continue to embed new approaches to teaching writing and numeracy across the school. This should help them to further support children's progress and raise attainment.

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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 Dalry Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	**good**
Raising attainment and achievement	**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: Inspection reports | 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. North Ayrshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Nicola Drew
HM Inspector

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

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