

4 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In December 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Netherlea School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers, children and young people and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

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

- The headteacher and staff develop very positive relationships with children and young people. They model appropriate and sensitive interactions across the school community. The headteacher and staff have a meaningful understanding of how to support children and young people's wellbeing. They take positive steps to ensure children and young people have their needs met when in school.
- The headteacher and staff are effective in supporting children and young people return to learning once their placement begins at Netherlea School. This is helping children and young people access educational programmes and make progress with their learning.
- Children and young people develop important skills for learning, life and work that help them successfully move onto positive destinations when they leave school.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from the proprietor, Applied Care and Development (ACAD).

- The headteacher and staff should continue to improve approaches to teaching and learning. This should include making it clear how they know that children and young people are making the best possible progress at school.
- The headteacher and staff should continue to increase the number of qualifications young people can access. They should work with children and young people to ensure that their skills and achievements are recognised fully.
- The headteacher and proprietor should work with partners to increase children and young people's attendance at school. In doing so, they need to lengthen the school week so that children and young people have the same educational opportunities as children and young people in other schools.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using 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 Netherlea School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory

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: [Netherlea School | 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. The proprietor will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

David M^cKellar
HM Inspector