

25 August 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited Blair Atholl Primary School and nursery class. 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.

- Staff in the nursery and school have created an inclusive and welcoming environment. They know children well and build strong relationships with children, each other and the local community. Children are confident, curious and motivated to learn new skills.
- In the nursery staff provide opportunities for children to explore and learn about the natural world. They plan rich opportunities for children to experience adventure and joy through outdoor learning. Children are developing confidence and knowledge about the world in which they live.
- The headteacher has placed a sharp focus on improving outcomes for children. Staff have planned and implemented a range of interventions which are now helping children to make better progress in their learning
- The headteacher and staff have worked well together to develop and sustain positive partnerships with parents and community organisations to offer children a wide range of opportunities to learn and achieve.

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

- The headteacher and staff should develop further approaches to high-quality learning and teaching. In doing so, they should ensure the pace of learning is appropriate and activities planned at the right level of difficulty for all children.
- In the nursery and school, the headteacher should continue to develop processes for assessing and monitoring children's progress. This should include improving approaches to assessment and use of data to help maximise children's progress overtime.
- In the nursery, the headteacher and staff should strengthen their curriculum rationale and design. They should provide opportunities that offer increased depth, challenge and progression across all areas of the curriculum.
- The headteacher should continue to support teachers to raise attainment in literacy and numeracy. They should prioritise literacy with a particular focus on developing children's skills in listening and talking and writing.

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 Blair Atholl Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	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	

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the ELC's work using three quality indicators from the [Quality improvement framework for the early learning and childcare sectors](#).

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Curriculum	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Wellbeing, inclusion and equality	good

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the HMIE website at: [Blair Atholl Primary 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. Perth and Kinross Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

James Hammond
HM Inspector

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