

8 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited Neilsland 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 nurturing and inclusive ethos which helps children to thrive within a supportive learning environment. This motivates children to be enthusiastic and successful learners who engage very well with their learning. Children are respectful, confident and, along with staff, are rightly proud of their school.
- Led very effectively by the headteacher, all staff engage in highly relevant professional learning. Teachers and support assistants apply professional learning successfully to provide children with high-quality learning experiences.
- The outstanding approaches to raising attainment for all. All staff skilfully gather a wide range of information about children's progress and attainment. They use this information very strategically to plan and deliver successful whole school and targeted supports for children. As a result of this, children's attainment is improving year on year in literacy and numeracy.
- The highly effective whole school approach to promoting equity and ensuring all children have opportunities to achieve success. Staff have a deep understanding of children's lives and the impact of wellbeing on their learning and development. Staff provide a wide range of highly relevant supports and opportunities to succeed which help children overcome barriers to participation and learning.

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

- Continue to implement the highly effective approach to using staff professional learning to further enhance learning and teaching.

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 Neilsland Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	excellent
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:

[Neilsland 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. South Lanarkshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Helen Mulholland
HM Inspector

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