

1 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited Dumfries & Galloway Secondary Inclusion Support. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and young people and worked closely with the Supporting Learners Manager (SLM) and staff.

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

- Staff build positive relationships with young people and families. This helps young people reengage with learning activities. Staff are beginning to have a positive impact on helping young people cope when interacting with others.
- Senior leaders are beginning to understand better the strengths and areas for improvement of the Secondary Inclusion Support. This is leading to improvements in the development of programmes that help young people to improve their skills for learning, life and work.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the SLM and a representative from Dumfries and Galloway Council.

- Senior leaders, supported by the local authority, should agree the overall purpose and strategic direction of the service and ensure that it meets better the needs of all young people.
- The overall quality of learning, teaching and assessment needs to improve. Senior leaders and staff should develop ways to identify young people's additional support needs and use this information to plan appropriate individualised education programmes.
- Senior leaders and staff should improve how they recognise, celebrate and accredit where appropriate the skills that young people are developing.
- Senior leaders, supported by mainstream schools and the local authority, need to ensure that young people have every opportunity to improve their attainment and succeed fully at school.
- Young people need to have access to full-time learning programmes across their school week. Senior leaders and mainstream schools, supported where appropriate by the local authority, need to ensure that all young people have a fully inclusive educational experience.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four 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 D&G Secondary Inclusion Support

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	weak
Learning, teaching and assessment	weak
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	weak
Raising attainment and achievement	weak
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:

[Dumfries and Galloway Secondary Inclusion Support | Inspection Report | His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education in Scotland](#)

What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we think that the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. We will liaise with Dumfries and Galloway Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within six months of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with Dumfries and Galloway Council the details of this inspection. When we return to inspect the school we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

David McKellar
 HM Inspector

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