

16 June 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited Pebbles Academy, Muirkirk. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and young people and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

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

- Senior leaders and staff have successfully built a respectful and nurturing environment where young people form positive relationships with staff. They ensure that they treat young people with dignity. This helps young people engage in their learning and behave respectfully.
- Staff provide motivating activities matched well to young people's needs and interests. They use digital technologies effectively to introduce and prepare young people for learning.
- Young people who regularly attend school achieve Qualifications Scotland National Qualification awards across a range of subjects. These young people are developing valuable skills for life beyond school including decision-making, teamwork, and vocational skills.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a head of education.

- Staff should further strengthen approaches to help young people become more independent when learning.
- Senior leaders and staff should work with partners to improve young people's attendance and reduce late coming at school. They should work with local authority partners to ensure all young people receive their entitlement to a full-time education.
- Senior leaders and staff should continue to develop approaches to raising attainment. They should work to ensure that all young people leave school with appropriate qualifications.

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 HMIE's evaluations for Pebbles Academy, Muirkirk

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
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 HMIE website at:

[Pebbles Academy Muirkirk | 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. 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 McKellar
 HM Inspector

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