

20 January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2025, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited St Helen's 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.

- Led very ably by the headteacher, staff have developed a highly positive and nurturing climate for learning across the school. As a result, children are happy, included and supportive of each other. They are strong ambassadors for their school.
- The staff team are reflective practitioners and work very effectively together to identify and take forward improvements to their practice. This is helping to improve the quality of learning and teaching across the school.
- Children across the school have well-developed communication skills. They apply these skills across the curriculum and when taking on leadership roles at assembly, in committees and in the parish. As a result, children's progress and attainment in listening and talking is very good.
- Children achieve well through a wide range of well-planned activities and experiences. This is helping them to develop important skills for learning, life and work.

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

- Teachers should continue to develop teaching approaches that support children to apply their learning in new and unfamiliar contexts.
- Staff should continue to raise attainment in literacy and numeracy, particularly for children at first level.

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 St Helen's Primary School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
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: [St Helen's Primary School | Inspection Report | 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. North Lanarkshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Gillian Frew
HM Inspector