

23 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2020, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Prestwick Academy. 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 demonstrate high expectations of young people's attainment and achievements. Teachers are making effective use of assessment information to ensure young people make appropriate progress in their learning.
- An increasing percentage of young people in S4 are attaining National 5 qualifications. Young people are able to access more courses which support their differing needs and interests. This is enabling them to follow a wider range of learning pathways.
- Effective partnership working is supporting improvements in young people's motivation, achievement and readiness for work. Almost all young people go on to a positive destination on leaving school.

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

- Continue to develop consistent, high-quality learning and teaching across the school.
- Continue with the work to improve further the percentage of young people in S5 and S6 attaining the highest possible grades in their 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 Education Scotland's evaluations for Prestwick Academy

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:

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/inspection-reports/reports-page/?id=4114>

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

Kirsty Macnab
HM Inspector