

10 July 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2018 a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Harmeny Education Trust Centre. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the head of education and staff.

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

- Friendly, sociable children and young people who are keen to talk about their achievements and contribute to the life and work of the school and local community.
- Positive relationships between children and staff and the nurturing culture of the school. This is a major factor in improving children's and young people's self-confidence and increasing their sense of wellbeing.
- High-quality outdoor learning experiences through which children and young people achieve very well. They learn important skills for life, develop independence and improve their ability to work in teams.
- Effective partnerships with the local community which help enable children and young people to develop successfully their enterprising and employability skills.
- The school's clear focus on inclusion and its successful track record in transitioning children and young people into local mainstream schools.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with senior managers and a representative from the Board of Trustees.

- Continue to develop approaches to monitoring the quality and consistency of learning and teaching, the curriculum and the tracking of children's and young people's progress.
- Ensure that teachers develop a shared understanding of standards and expectations within the broad general education. This should be supported through regular collegiate meetings and better links with other schools.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#). Quality indicators help schools, education 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 evaluations of quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Harmeny Education Trust Centre

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very 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 will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/edinburgh-city/5571448>.

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 Board of Trustees will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of the centre.

Dr Kate Hannah
HM Inspector