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Dear Parent/Carer

**Inveravon Primary School  
The Moray Council**

Recently, as you may know, I visited and inspected your child's school. Throughout the visit, I talked to many parents and children and I worked closely with the headteacher and staff. I wanted to find out how well children were learning and achieving and how well the school supported children to do their best. The headteacher shared with me the school's view of its successes and priorities for improvement. I looked at some particular aspects of the school's recent work including the way all staff lead aspects of the school's work. I also explored the role and importance of outdoor learning in the curriculum, and how well the school was developing moderation and tracking systems. As a result, I was able to find out how good the school was at improving children's education. This letter sets out what I found.

**How well do children learn and achieve?**

Children engage in their learning particularly well as a result of effective teaching, support and motivating experiences. Children support and encourage each other to do well. They talk with enthusiasm about their learning and interact very well with each other and with adults. They set their own learning targets and review how well they are developing their learning skills, readily showing independence in their learning. Commendably, children write the majority of their own annual reports, reflecting with teachers on their learning and next steps. This innovative practice is excellent. Older children enjoy helping younger children. All children are involved in the joint pupil council and eco committee. They show responsibility in these roles and increase their self-confidence through them. Children are very aware of the importance of keeping safe and healthy. They enjoy taking part in the many opportunities for physical activity and outdoor learning. This includes leading the major re-development of the school garden. As a result of all of their eco work, they have recently achieved their second Eco-schools Scotland Green Flag.

Almost all children are developing their literacy and numeracy skills very well, making very good progress in English and mathematics. Children are good at expressing their ideas confidently and explaining things to others. Almost all children have very good listening and talking skills, and use questioning well. For example, children can analyse information in their reading activities and question each other, along with responding to challenging activities from their teacher. Staff should build further on this good practice. By P7, children can read and write well for a range of purposes. Across the school, children enjoy solving mathematical problems and explaining how they arrive at the answers. Children now need to

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<sup>1</sup> This is a service for deaf users. Please do not use this number for voice calls as this will not connect.

be challenged more to sharpen their mental agility skills. Children are developing a good understanding of science, nature, religions and cultures. All children enjoy school and feel they are achieving success. Their achievements are praised and celebrated throughout the school.

### **How well does the school support children to develop and learn?**

The school provides very good support for your children to develop and learn. Staff know your children very well and track their individual progress thoroughly. Staff are caring, flexible and responsive to children's varied needs. Staff work creatively and use interesting activities and tasks. All staff work well with other professional partners and support for learning staff, to ensure that children who require additional support with their learning make good progress. The curriculum is broad and takes very good account of Curriculum for Excellence. Staff plan meaningful and relevant contexts for learning which regularly encourage children to follow their interests, including in the outdoors. A range of experiences contribute positively to children's social and emotional wellbeing, including trips and visits out of school. Visitors to the school, including members of the community, contribute well to the curriculum and life of the school. Parents and community members also run after-school clubs. The school is making effective use of information and communications technology to link children's learning experiences with children in a neighbouring school. The school now needs to explore how this practice can be extended. The school playground, including the newly developed sensory garden, is an attractive, stimulating environment for outdoor play and learning. Appropriate steps are taken to ensure that transitions are smooth for pre-school children to primary school, and for P7 children to secondary school.

### **How well does the school improve the quality of its work?**

Overall, I am confident your children's school will continue to improve the quality of its work. All members of staff form a highly committed team of professionals, working hard to do their best for your children. The headteacher is very highly regarded and provides particularly effective leadership which has helped to create a very positive ethos in the school. Staff have a very clear focus on thinking about and understanding learning. As a result, children also think about and reflect on their learning to review their next steps. Children and parents find staff approachable, caring and supportive. All staff take on roles of leading and developing aspects of the school. The headteacher and staff visit each other's lessons and give helpful feedback on their work. Staff make very effective use of links with another school, which is managed by the same headteacher, to share good practice and support each other. To continue improving, staff need to focus on developing further the many good aspects of the school's work and involve parents and the wider community more in reviewing aspects of school life and planning for improvements.

This inspection of your school found the following key strengths.

- Confident, responsible and well-behaved children who are very proud of their school, and readily take ownership of their own learning.
- The highly-effective leadership of the headteacher, whose encouragement of thinking and understanding about learning has had a very positive impact on children and staff.
- Very effective teaching and support, which provides children with interesting and motivating learning experiences.
- The nurturing and supportive ethos, based on shared values and mutual respect of all.

I discussed with staff and the education authority how they might continue to improve the school. This is what I agreed with them.

- Continue to take forward improvements to the curriculum, building on the current high-quality experiences for children.

On behalf of Education Scotland, I am satisfied with the overall quality of provision. I am confident that the school's self-evaluation processes are leading to improvements. As a result, Education Scotland will make no further visits in connection with this inspection. The local authority will inform parents about the school's progress as part of the authority's arrangements for reporting to parents on the quality of its schools.

Sally Fulton  
HM Inspector

Additional inspection evidence, such as details of the quality indicator evaluations, for your school can be found on the Education Scotland website at <http://www.hmie.gov.uk/ViewEstablishment.aspx?id=9027&type=2> .

Please contact us if you want to know how to get the report in a different format, for example, in a translation. You can contact us at [enquiries@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk) or write to us at BMCT, Education Scotland, Denholm House, Almondvale Business Park, Almondvale Way, Livingston EH54 6GA.

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