

## Appendix 1

### FAMILY, EDUCATION AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE – 25 MARCH 2025

#### EDUCATION SCOTLAND INSPECTION OF MONTROSE ACADEMY

In November 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Montrose Academy to undertake a short inspection model. During the visit, the inspection team spoke to parents/carers and young people; and worked closely with the Head Teacher and staff.

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

- Young people are welcoming and keen to discuss their learning.
- Young people are benefitting from participating in an increasing range of wider achievement activities provided by both staff and local partners. This helps promote a strong community identity with Montrose.
- Young people with complex and severe needs are benefitting from high quality personalised support.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the Head Teacher and a representative from Angus Council:

- Staff across the school need to develop a shared understanding of high-quality learning, teaching and assessment. Young people should experience more engaging, motivating and active learning with a greater understanding of their next steps in learning.
- Staff need to have a clearer understanding of national assessment standards in order to plan and deliver tasks and activities set at the right level of difficulty.
- Senior leaders should work with staff to raise attainment for all young people in all subject areas. All staff need to ensure more effective approaches to identifying young people at risk of under-achievement. There needs to be a particular focus on improving numeracy across the school.

Education Scotland's evaluations for Montrose Academy are as follows:

2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	weak
3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	weak

In the final letter published on 25 February 2025 Education Scotland stated that they will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within one year of the publication of the letter.

The letter and more detailed summarised inspection findings are available via the links on the Education Scotland website:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-and-review/find-an-inspection-report/find-an-inspection-report/details?id=3717>