

19 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2023, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis agus Sgoil-àraich. 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.

- The staff team and parents' success in establishing a Gaelic school that is developing children's fluency in Gaelic and interest in the language's culture, music and contemporary features.
- Articulate, enthusiastic and confident children who demonstrate daily their values Coibhneas (Kindness), Dòchas (Hope), Spòrs (Fun), Deònach (Willing). They are motivated by meaningful leadership opportunities through Gaelic and are very proud of their bun-sgoil and their ability to speak two languages.
- The very strong sense of staff teamwork across the bun-sgoil and sgoil-àraich. All adults work together well to create a nurturing ethos and promote positive relationships to underpin total immersion.
- Teachers' high-quality planning for a wide range of learning across the curriculum and in the local and Gaelic community. Children are building deep knowledge and skills over time through opportunities for achievement, rich real-life based experiences and links to the world of work.
- In sgoil-àraich, the wide range of engaging learning experiences outdoors. This is supporting children's Gaelic fluency, imaginative, problem-solving and social skills.

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

- Across sgoil-àraich and into the early stages of bun-sgoil, staff should work closely together to develop further learning approaches. These should be based on the principles of total immersion, including play-based learning. This will support children to have a secure foundation in Gaelic language and build their level of fluency over time.
- In bun-sgoil, senior leaders and teachers should continue to develop and embed a shared understanding of standards and expectations of children's progress and attainment.
- In sgoil-àraich, staff should continue to develop their approaches to planning, checking children's progress and tracking development of Gaelic through total immersion play.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#) and [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#) 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 Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis agus Sgoil-àraich

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	very good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our school? (4th edition) , Appendix 3: The six-point scale	

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Securing children's progress	good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Details | Find an inspection report | Find an inspection report | Inspection and Review | 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. The Highland Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Lisa Marie McDonnell
HM Inspector