

11 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In October 2024, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Kinlochbervie High School. 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.

- The headteacher led the revised vision and values for the school. These reflect the commitment of the school to improving outcomes for all young people. The revised values are relevant and meaningful for young people and have improved the culture and ethos within the school.
- There are good relationships between young people and staff. Young people learn in well-resourced, caring environments.
- Senior leaders have developed a wide range of helpful partnerships. These enable young people to access a wide range of activities and experiences beyond the school setting which helps young people develop relevant and appropriate skills.

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

- Senior leaders need to improve the strategic leadership of the school. This includes in learning, teaching and assessment, wellbeing and inclusion and in raising attainment for all young people.
- Senior leaders and teachers need to identify and implement the features of high-quality learning and teaching. They need to understand fully the role of assessment, and monitoring young people's progress. They also need to increase expectations of what all young people can achieve.
- All staff need to understand fully the statutory duties relating inclusion, wellbeing and equality. This will help them to understand better their roles and responsibilities in meeting the needs of all young people. This includes improving their awareness of inclusive practices to ensure that all young people feel valued and included.
- Across the school, young people need to have higher aspirations and attain and achieve more in line with their peers in similar schools across Scotland.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#). 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 Kinlochbervie High School.

Quality indicators	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>weak</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>weak</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>unsatisfactory</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>unsatisfactory</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our school? (4<sup>th</sup> edition), Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a>	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:  
[Kinlochbervie High School | Inspection Report | Education Scotland](#)

## What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we think that the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. We will liaise with The Highland Council regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within one year of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with The Highland Council the details of this inspection and how the local authority will support school improvement. When we return to inspect the school we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

Frances E Graham  
HM Inspector