

8 October 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2019, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Sgoil an Rubha and Sgoil Àraich. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the acting headteacher and staff.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the work of Sgoil an Rubha and Sgoil Àraich.

- Children are happy, confident and very keen to learn. They are very proud of their school and sgoil àraich, and their successes in events that celebrate their island, language and culture. These include recognition for singing and recitation at the local Mòd, and performances they have staged to commemorate the Iolair.
- All staff have worked well as a team to create a school and sgoil àraich that has a warm, welcoming and caring ethos as a basis for overall positive teaching. Staff and children are committed to the school and sgoil àraich's vision and values. The partnership on promoting Gaelic Medium Education (GME) is increasing the number of children enrolling in P1.
- The school, sgoil àraich, parents and the community benefit from mutually positive partnerships for the good of the children. The recent work on financial education has enabled children to apply their learning in real-life contexts.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the acting headteacher and a representative from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.

- Continue to develop the strategic leadership of change so that improvements are more timely and in line with national expectations. All staff, as leaders of change, should have clear roles connected to planning for continuous improvement.
- As a high priority, continue to increase the pace of developing the curriculum so that children's progress is clearly defined across all areas of learning. In taking this forward, planning should take account of raising attainment, improving approaches for early learning and play, and having an agreed approach to immersion.
- Develop a more strategic approach to assessment and moderation. Staff should ensure that at key points there is robust and reliable evidence on which to report children's progress.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4<sup>th</sup> edition\)](#) 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 Sgoil an Rubha and Sgoil Àraich

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>good</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>	

Quality indicators for the sgoil àraich	Evaluation
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Securing children's progress</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale</a>	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

[https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/eilean-siar-\(western-isles\)/6232434](https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/eilean-siar-(western-isles)/6232434)

### What happens next?

We are confident that Sgoil an Rubha and Sgoil Àraich have the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Comhairle nan Eilean Siar will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Joan C. Esson  
HM Inspector