

23rd June 2021

Dear Colleague

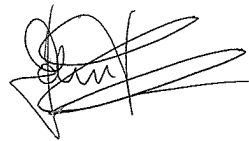
As summer arrives it brings light, optimism and a much-needed opportunity for spending time with family and friends. Whilst we look ahead to the break, it is with great pride that we reflect on the advances you have made this session, and the professionalism displayed in the face of the uncertainty and adversity wrought by the pandemic. Above all, your dedication to supporting our children, young people and their families has been unwavering. Teams have pulled together across Highland communities to ensure that our learners receive the best support, encouragement and learning through the toughest year in modern times. Your innovation, leadership and compassion have helped us to negotiate the unknown, and in the midst of pressure, excellent practice has continued to thrive.

As we look ahead to the summer, there is a chance to pause and reflect on the many successes which we perhaps don't always recognise at the time. It's also a chance to share thanks with colleagues, as well as congratulate our learners on their many achievements this year. We will have learned many lessons along the way and there will be much to capitalise upon in the new session. But for now, it is with an immense sense of gratitude that we thank you all for your valued contributions to your educational settings this year. We wish you all a happy and healthy summer, and we look forward to welcoming you back in the new session, where we can continue our journey to deliver the best education and outcomes for all across our Highland communities.

Best wishes



Nicky Grant
Executive Chief Officer, Education



John Finlayson
Strategic Chair, Education