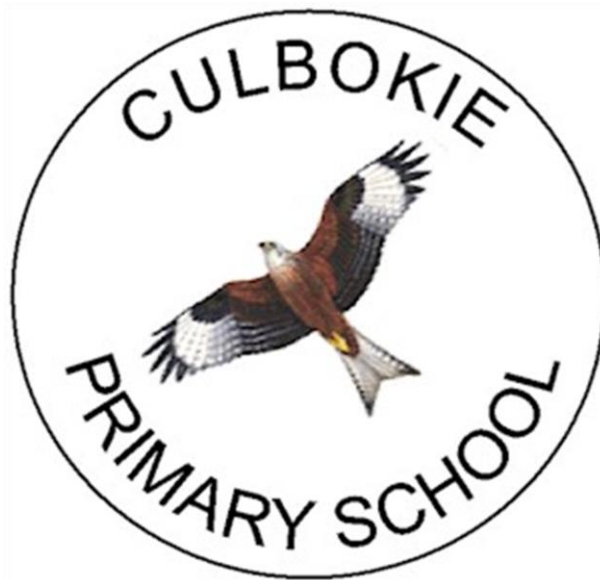


# Standards and Quality Report

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2021/22

CULBOKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL



**CULBOKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND ELC**  
HIGHLAND COUNCIL | CULBOKIE, DINGWALL, IV7 8JH

This report is provided to families and partners to identify our achievements this session. The next steps in our improvement journey are also outlined.

Throughout the year we continuously evaluate what we do and how it makes a difference to our learners. We want to know what is working well for our school community and what needs further improvement.

Our children and young people are actively consulted and involved in this process. We also give staff, parents/carers, and other partners the opportunity to participate in discussions and activities in order to shape our improvement journey.

When we develop our improvement projects we use key questions at planned review times throughout the session in order to know how well we are progressing towards achieving these positive outcomes and changes.

## Our School

The Culbokie Primary School community experienced significant change during the course of Session 2021/22. Following the departure of the previous headteacher in June 2021, an acting headteacher filled the vacant post until mid-February when the newly appointed headteacher started. The school was hit by successive class closures due to outbreaks of Covid-19, which also impacted on the continuity of improvement. Attendance levels for this year were considerably lower than previous years but show a marked increase during the summer term when restrictions were lifted. There were no exclusions, which demonstrates a strong focus on restorative practice and positive relationships.

In March, an unannounced inspection of our nursery by the Care Inspectorate showed that rapid and substantial improvement was required urgently. Comprehensive support was provided to the manager by the authority. This joint approach and a strong team effort contributed to a marked improvement in gradings after the subsequent re-inspection in June. For comparison, the scores were as follows:

March: 1-1-1-2 (mainly 'unsatisfactory')

June: 3-4-5-5 (mainly 'very good')

This journey of improvement in the nursery has given rise to a sharper focus on integrating it with the school through better transitions and collaborative working.

The 'After School Club' at Culbokie Primary, run by CALA, was also inspected by The Care Inspectorate in the summer term and secured 'very good' overall. Our breakfast club is still thriving and providing support for working families despite a partial staffing change.

Towards the end of session, the school staff had begun to work on developing digital technology for engagement. This will be rolled out fully in Term 1 of 2022/23 when digital profiles and class blogs will be integrated with the school website through the Google Workspace platform. This will open up opportunities to give our children a voice and empower them to take a lead on their learning.

## Our School Vision, Values and Aims

We are in the process of developing our Vision, Values and Aims this year, having embarked on a consultation programme in the summer term.

Our Vision, inspired by the red kite symbol, is: **Fly high, aspiring, enquiring, inspiring.**

Through consultation with staff, pupils and a parent survey, our school community has identified the following key values: **kindness, achievement, creativity, family, respect and fun**

Our aims are in the process of being reviewed. Currently, we aim that every child will be treated fairly and enabled to achieve their full potential in a nurturing and stimulating environment with high quality teaching and learning.

## Pupil Voice: what is working well in our school?

Our children and young people identified the following strengths for our school this session:

"We always try our best."

"Children are having fun and teachers are doing well."

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"The Headteacher's Award – everybody's trying super hard to get it!"  
"You feel safe, and you can talk to an adult."  
"Everyone knows where to go."  
"Things are better now that we have the groups."  
"Everybody is kind and there is hardly any fighting. If they do, they always say 'sorry'."

## Pupil Voice: what changes would you like to see made?

Our children and young people identified the following changes they would like to see and the difference these changes could make:

"Bigger playground equipment like the trim trail."  
"If classes go out to play it can be noisy for us working."  
"Instruments – we would like more choice of instruments to play and lessons – music calms you down when you are stressed."  
"We would like more small breaks because your best effort goes into what you do first thing."  
"We would like different kinds of learning."  
"Maths is good – it's best on a Thursday!"  
"Maths games one day a week would be good."  
"We would like time for year groups to get together."

## Our Improvement Journey Headlines Session 2021/22

These projects are linked to the vision and priorities for Scottish Education based on delivering excellence and equity. Parent/Carer information is available [here](#).

### Improvement Project 1:

**Primary focus:** School and ELC improvement

**Year of Project:** 1

**Purpose:** Recovery from Covid-19 impact

#### Progress and impact:

- 1) Recovery of learning, teaching and assessment
- 2) Attainment in session 21/22 (focusing on identifying new or widened gaps caused by the Covid-19 situation)

#### Content:

Teacher professionalism and school leadership were integral to ensuring gaps in learning were targeted. In the summer term, the school purchased a comprehensive online assessment tool (SOFA) to give an accurate picture of attainment across the stages. This has helped to improve excellence and equity by showing the positive impact of intervention groups and highlighting gaps to address for the next session. Accurate data is essential to achieve positive outcomes for all children and young people, so we prioritised this as a benchmarking tool.

Strategies which have been successful in engaging children and young people, staff, parents and the wider community are the reintroduction of achievement and celebration of success through a whole-school weekly values-based award and weekly assemblies. Staff started to explore the use of Google Sites and undertook training with a view to rolling out class and pupil sites in Session 2022/23.

Good progress has been made in literacy and maths.

The Health and wellbeing aspect of the Recovery Curriculum had been omitted from the 2021/22 School Improvement Plan. The long term effects and deeper impact of lockdown and school closures are not easily measured so this is something which will need to be addressed in future improvement plans.

**Next steps:** Maintain high standards and expectations in teaching and learning with a specific focus on writing. Support this with a rigorous programme of tracking and monitoring and ASG-wide moderation, which ensures quality. Strengthen progression of learning outcomes from nursery upwards. Develop a bespoke curriculum rationale that fits the needs of Culbokie learners and prepares them for learning, life and work. Include Health and Wellbeing as a priority focus in the development of a refreshed curriculum. Ensure that all pupils have a voice, are enabled to take a lead in their learning and play an active role in school life.

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## Improvement Project 2:

**Primary focus:** Teacher and practitioner professionalism

**Year of Project:** 1

**Purpose:** Development of the Nurture Base

### Progress and impact:

A nurture base had been developed in the previous session. However, plans to develop this further through staff training were abandoned by the acting headteacher in the first half of the year. Nevertheless, the space has been used appropriately for purposes such as restorative group sessions, use of Pets-as-Therapy and 1:1 support activities which require a calm space.

Minimal progress was made in this area of improvement due to unforeseen circumstances and other priorities taking precedence.

**Next steps:** The Health and Wellbeing aspect of Covid recovery is linked with nurture and the principles of this will be included in this aspect of curricular development. Spaces will be used to better effect in accordance with the philosophy behind 'Realising the Ambition' for Early Years.

## Evaluation of Progress

We believe we have made the following progress this session:

Quality Indicator	School self-evaluation
<b>Leadership of Change</b>	<b>1.3</b> Satisfactory
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>2.3</b> Satisfactory
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>3.1</b> Satisfactory
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>3.2</b> Satisfactory

Our children and young people believe we have made the following progress this session:

<b>Theme 1</b> <b>Our relationships</b>	Very good
<b>Theme 2</b> <b>Our learning and teaching</b>	Good
<b>Theme 3</b> <b>Our school and community</b>	Very good
<b>Theme 4</b> <b>Our health and wellbeing</b>	Good
<b>Theme 5</b>	Good

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### **Our successes and achievements**

Our overall evaluation of Culbokie Primary School's capacity for continuous improvement is:

**We are confident in our capacity for continuous improvement.**

### **Planning Ahead**

Full details of the school's 2022/23 improvement priorities and actions are detailed on the school improvement plan, which can be accessed on our website [ADD LINK](#) or by contacting the school office.

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