

# Standards and Quality Report

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2022/23



## An Cala Intensive Support Centre

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL, WEST HIGHLAND COLLEGE UHI, CARMICHAEL WAY, FORT  
WILLIAM, PH33 6AN

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 to shape our improvement journey.

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

### **An Cala ... Our context**

An Cala provides part time support to young people who are at risk of missing out on their education due to the nature of their individual challenges. We are situated on the West Highland College Campus in Fort William and serve the High Schools of Lochaber. We have capacity to support between 5 and 10 young people normally between S1 and S4.

There are currently staffing pressures due to vacancies. We have not had a permanent manager. We now have an acting manager who took up post in August 2022.

We implement the principles of GIRFEC and Curriculum for excellence. We work alongside partner agencies in Education, Health, Skills Development Scotland, Police, Colleges as well as parent/carers, voluntary sector, and employers to ensure that individual needs are met.

An Cala takes a child centred approach we work on the principle of providing a safe and supportive environment in which young people can achieve their potential while planning for their future. We courage an ethos of mutual respect between all staff and young people.

All young people have an individual plan agreed with the school, young person and parents which may include supporting curricular subjects, vocational training, skills for life and work, outdoor learning, and post school transition.

### **An Cala... Our Vision, Values and Aims**

Working in partnership to enable young people to achieve their potential by engaging in learning while planning for their future in a safe and supportive environment

To....

Provide appropriate programmes based on individual needs

Provide high quality learning and teaching

Set realistic and achievable goals.

Provide ongoing evaluation and review

We set good examples by providing appropriate role models

We ensure staff development is ongoing and relevant to improving exploitation

Promote healthy lifestyles and wellbeing

Promoting personal achievement

Promote equality of opportunity

We form good links with partnership agencies and maintain good working relationships

Identify local resources e.g., colleges and employers

We ensure parents/carers are involved in all aspects of their child's development and learning

We involve the young people in the decision-making process

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

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

Feedback from An Cala student's questionnaire September 2022:

- All students said they felt safe and secure at An Cala
- 100% of students reported that at least one staff member knows them well
- All students said they enjoyed being at An Cala
- Almost all students said that staff are good at letting me know how my learning is progressing
- Almost all students say that An Cala helps them to keep themselves safe and healthy
- All students say that staff at An Cala help me when I am having difficulties
- All students say that staff at An Cala tell them when they are doing well
- Most students reported that they are treated fairly at An Cala
- Almost all say, if something is worrying me, An Cala is good at helping sort things out

*"An Cala has helped me through good and bad times. I have achieved a lot and I'm so proud of my progress"*

*S4 Student*

*"I feel included because we have lots of group work and spend time together in the morning"*

*S3 Student*

### 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.

Feedback from student forum:

- To start going out on trips again like other students did before Covid

*"Can we all go away on a trip and do outdoor stuff"*

*P7 Student*

### Our Improvement Journey Headlines

Session 2022/23

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 Leadership

**Year of Project:** 1

**Purpose:** **Develop good partnerships with schools**

**Progress and impact:**

#### Content:

- ✓ We constantly monitor the appropriateness of the curriculum for each young person and adjust where necessary, considering the views of the schools, parents and young people. We will improve our practice in this area through discussions at team meetings and in service days. We follow through ideas, suggestions and queries arising in discussion with the young people to encourage them to participate in their own learning; often these give rise to the exploration of a variety of different personal skills.
- ✓ Our programmes and courses are individually tailored to respond to the needs of the young people. Timetabling between An Cala and other agencies (including schools and colleges) supports progression within curriculum areas. Our award programmes are chosen by each pupil and consider their learning style, interests, strengths and skills. The awards encourage independent learning, improving own learning, working with others and problem solving. Young people plan do and review as part of these awards. This ensures relevance, personalisation, choice, challenge and enjoyment. There are links with numeracy, literacy, health/wellbeing and IT. These also promote wider achievement.
- ✓ Our team takes a joined-up approach to improvement in all that it does. All staff are committed to giving the best opportunities An Cala can offer to each young person attending. We are willing to implement change and are sensitive to the effects of different practice. Consistency of approach engenders the trust we need from young people so that they can give us honest and realistic impressions of their thoughts and feelings. While flexibility to meet the need of the group currently attending is paramount, maintaining the staff as a cohesive team remains a key factor. The improvement is shown by increased attendance, achievement and attainment.
- ✓ Evidence  
Contact maintained with families and staff from other agencies, feedback discussed, recorded and acted upon if necessary. Satisfaction expressed by families for what their children achieve and increased cooperation, where necessary, in maintaining consistency of support.

#### Next steps:

- **Promote relationships, develop partnerships with schools to ensure that each young person receives a holistic, individual curriculum.**
- **An Cala Acting Manager and teachers to liaise closely with schools' subject teachers to support subjects (wherever possible) that young people find too challenging in the school setting.**
- **Arrange educational visits where appropriate to ensure barriers to transitions are addressed.**

### Evaluation of Progress

We believe we have made the following progress this session:

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

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>	Good
<b>Theme 4</b> <b>Our health and wellbeing</b>	Very good
<b>Theme 5</b> <b>Our successes and achievements</b>	Good

Our overall evaluation of An Cala capacity for continuous improvement is:

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

### Planning Ahead

Full details of the An Cala's 2022/23 improvement priorities and actions are detailed on our improvement plan, which can be accessed by contacting the An Cala office.