

Agenda Item	6
Report No	CIA/025/13

**Glen Urquhart High Associated School Group Overview****Report by Director of Education, Culture and Sport Service****Summary**

This report provides an update of key information in relation to the schools within the Glen Urquhart High Associated School Group (ASG).

**1.0 ASG PROFILE**

The primary schools in this area serve over 400 pupils, with the secondary school serving just under 200 young people.

School Name	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Balnain Primary School	32	39	38	33	32
Cannich Bridge Primary School	33	33	37	38	46
Glenurquhart Primary School	137	128	133	128	136
Glen Urquhart High School	221	238	219	216	198

ASG roll projections can be found at:

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/yourcouncil/highlandfactsandfigures/schoolrollforecasts.htm>

There are no recent Education Scotland inspection reports for this ASG.

**1.1 Attainment and achievement****1.1.1 Attainment – Glen Urquhart High School**

Attainment is very strong at Glen Urquhart High School. From S4-S6 almost all pupils achieve better than or much better than their peers in other schools.

S4 results show that pupils perform better than and in some aspects significantly better than comparator schools, i.e. those with similar characteristics across Scotland. In S5, pupils attaining one Higher perform better than comparator schools and the figures for those achieving three Highers remain in line with other comparator schools.

The school has identified as a priority area for improvement the need to increase the amount of pupils getting five Highers in S5. However, by the end of S6 pupils perform better than or significantly better than their comparator schools in all aspects of attainment. The school's overall attainment is always in the top 30% but more often in the top 10% and 20% of all schools across Scotland.

The school is currently working on a number of further improvements. These include:

All departments are developing the new National Courses for the Senior Phase. This includes writing new material, class lessons and assessments.

The S1 to S3 Broad General Education (BGE) is now completed and is currently being reviewed in all subjects. The S4 to S6 Senior Phase is currently being developed. Senior classes now include S4 as well as S5 and S6 pupils. Increasing the size of senior classes in a small school offers the opportunity to widen the choice of subjects to senior pupils. An additional benefit to such a development is the ability to extend the learning of pupils in S4.

Changes have been made to the curriculum structure which allow the freeing up of the curriculum. This enables the school to develop and improve pupils' experiences. These new experiences not only occur within the classroom environment but include opportunities for learning outwith the classroom through school trips and courses being partially taught by local partners. A Working Group is currently looking at ways to develop cross-curricular learning.

New Senior Leadership and Pupil Support Teams are developing strategies to improve the personal support provided to young people. This includes increased numbers of staff/pupil interviews to personalise guidance in relation to care, achievement, attainment and transition. A Working Group is looking at how, as a school, tracking and monitoring pupil progress helps to improve targeted support for pupils.

Pupil leadership roles will be reviewed and developed throughout the school. Responsibilities will include supporting behaviour on buses, younger pupils, classroom learning and further developing pupils' contributions to school development and planning. Development of senior leadership roles will include a process of applications and interviews.

Working Groups have been set up to look at ways of improving the literacy and numeracy skills of all pupils. A learning and teaching group has been established. Developments will include classroom visits to support teachers' continuous process of review and improvement.

Primary pupils' first experiences of secondary school are being enhanced by adding further secondary school taster days including a P7 basketball day and a Maths Jamboree competition.

### **1.1.2 Wider Achievement and Notable Successes**

#### **Secondary – Glen Urquhart High School**

- **Senior Citizens Party** - On Wednesday 12th December, pupils from Glen Urquhart High School Music and Home Economics departments took part in the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party after weeks of preparation and hard work. The Music Department Orchestra (Loch Ness Strings) had spent weeks practising hymns and familiar Christmas songs. From GUHS music students there were performances that included highlights from the Scottish Music Group, GUHS Singing Group and the Piping Group. All of the groups and soloists provided a variety of songs and performances that went down a storm with the audience. Altogether there were about 40 music pupils from S1 - S6 that took part. The Home Economics department prepared an afternoon tea which included delicious sandwiches and speciality cakes for all the Senior Citizens. This incorporated an assessment which is part of the Intermediate 2 course in which pupils have to provide food and hospitality for an audience outside of school.

- **Eden Court Trip** - The music department, in conjunction with P.E. and the Creative and Aesthetics faculty, ran a trip for pupils to Eden Court Theatre on Monday 13th March to see the spectacular musical Les Miserables at the cinema. There were around 35 pupils involved from S1 - S6. Music and P.E. are also planning a trip to see The Lion King in Edinburgh in October for 26 pupils which will enhance their knowledge of musicals, drama and dance.
- **Store Van Music** - Armed with 30 iPads, a laptop and a keyboard Store Van Music delivered a range of workshops. These workshops allowed students to explore every area of musical composition in a new and fun way.
- **Electrolabs** visited Glen Urquhart High School for three days working with S3 and S2 music pupils. These experienced producers and traditional musicians set up professional mini studios and provided top quality tutoring and equipment for 12 pupils. These students had opportunities to use industry standard software and hardware. The pupils' music and tracks can be heard at <http://soundcloud.com/electrolabs/sets>.
- **Anniversary CD** - The music department compact disc, named "Decade", was released to great success. It celebrated the school's tenth anniversary in the current building. The tracks feature music from all senior music students, extra-curricular groups and instructor groups. There are also tracks by the school orchestra, Loch Ness Strings, GUHS Piping group, Singing group, senior band "Trout," original compositions and cover songs plus many more. It was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to experience recording and producing in a real live setting, including a trip to a real studio to record some songs and pieces.
- **Geography Trips** have included an S3-S5 visit to Glasgow to see urban and industrial changes that have taken place and a visit to the Cairngorms which allowed standard grade pupils to see and understand a glacial landscape. An S1 visit to the Royal Highland Show enabled the students to compare three different regions from an agricultural point of view.
- **School Christmas show 'Narnia - The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'** - 35 pupils were involved and over 80% were from S1 & S2. This had a huge positive impact on the confidence of these pupils and assisted in the transition from P7 to S1. More than any other aspect of school life this year this production created the environment to develop 'confident individuals' amongst those who took part. Pupils took responsibility for all areas of the production on stage and off including prop creation and costume making. The Parent Council provided and served refreshments. These productions are always prized by the wider community who now see them as a regular milestone of the local Christmas celebrations.
- **Shinty** - This year the girls' Shinty team won the annual Donella Crawford Cup, held in Ardnamurchan. The girls play 6-a-side with 2 rolling subs. Currently there are 9 girls who play shinty for the school. As well as playing in their own tournaments, the girls also take part in the boys' U16 and U14 tournaments. This year the boys have, so far, participated in the U16 Great Glen Sixes - a shinty tournament hosted by Glenurquhart High School. Two teams from GUHS were entered - 13 boys and 3 girls took part. After the Easter holidays, the school will be hosting the U14 Robertson Cup.
- **Biodiversity days** - S1/3 students take part in two biodiversity days each year. The aim is to study local biodiversity and make links to careers in biology. The field studies take place at 'The Cover' by the shore of the Loch and in Glen Affric. Each day is spent with forest rangers and/or biologists from Ness and Beauty Fisheries Trust who share their skills sampling the living environment. The experience contributes to learning about the environmental impact of man and lets young people see scientists in their work place.
- **Parent Council** – This is going from strength to strength supporting a number of initiatives at GUHS. These have included fundraising by bag packing at a local supermarket to pay for the senior pupils' leaving dinner and dance. The Parent

Council has also provided and served free refreshments for all school dances and they recently organised a fantastic careers event for pupils from S3 to S6.

## Primary

### Balnain Primary School

- The school's Health Week provided pupils with a range of activities including the Annual Bike Ride which involved all pupils and was well supported by parents.
- Fifteen shoeboxes were prepared by the children as part of Blythswood Shoebox Appeal.
- All children from P1 to P7 had a part in the Christmas Production which was very well received by families and the local community.
- Children in P4-P7 received 12 weeks of tuition in traditional music through Feis Rois. P1-P3 children enjoyed Kodaly music training.
- At the Inverness Music Festival the P4-P7 pupils attained Distinction in the Group Verse Speaking Category and were awarded the Caroline Tait Shield for the third time.
- For World Book Day the children dressed as their favourite book character.
- The P6 and P7 children enjoyed Curling Sessions held at Inverness Ice Rink.
- This year the McRobert Cup Primary Cross Country event was attended by 16 children from P3-P7. Training for this was organised through Active Schools. With support from Active Schools, two parents have run an after school multi sports club. Most of the children attend this. A number of pupils also attended a Capoeira club.
- The children have supported a number of charities over the session. This included a dress-down day for Children in Need (£32) and Red Nose Day (£100).

### Cannich Bridge Primary School

- Both classes entered the 2013 Inverness Music Festival for the first time. The senior class entered two categories singing "*Loch Lomond*" in the Action Song category and achieving second place. They sang "*Leezie Lindsay*" and "*Easy and Free*" in the Performed Song category and received third place. The P1-4 class entered the Performance category singing "*Morning Town Ride*" and achieved second place. The children performed these songs again at the soup and pudding Parent Council fundraiser where they raised £341.
- Twelve children in P5-7 have weekly input from the strings tutor. Eleven violinists performed at the music festival this year and received very good feedback. Mrs Porter, tutor, also had a fantastic experience at the start of the year when she was asked to play as part of an orchestra touring China.
- All of the children entered the Inverness Hotel Association 'Design a Menu' competition. One child in Primary 6 won the dessert category and a child in primary 1 won an award for creativity. Both children attended the celebration dinner in March to receive their own awards and awards for the school.
- Children from P3-6 represented the school in the BBC programme Autumn Watch Unsprung which was being filmed locally in Aigas. Two children are also taking part in a crofting documentary for Timeline films. Filming is taking place throughout the year and the school is featured within the documentary.
- The school has been working closely with the police who make termly visits to all classes. Activities have included an introduction to our local police woman, a look at police equipment, a 'stranger danger' session, a visit from the police dogs, a re-cap of internet safety and a visit to Burnett Road head office is planned for May 2013.
- A successful 'Rain or Shine' athletics group was set up by our Active Schools Co-ordinator and supported by various parents on a rota basis. The Active School Co-ordinator also trained the P6 children to be sports leaders and this has helped the children to responsibly play a variety of games in the playground.

- A visit from the Scottish Parliament outreach programme took place in November. The P5-7 class benefitted from an insight into how parliament is set up and works. A representative group from P5-7 went with Mrs Glennie (and our flag) to the Kirking of the Council on 9<sup>th</sup> September.
- Twenty one children successfully represented the school in the McRobert Cup Cross Country event at Bught Park.
- The annual village Flower & Craft Show took place in September in the school. This was organised by the Parent Council and was well supported by the community. This event raised c. £664.89 for school funds.
- Other fund raising activities include £104 from Christmas Trees supplied by the local RSPB Reserve at Corrimony. The Pupil Council raised £65 for Children in Need by wearing their pyjamas to school. As part of the Harvest Thanksgiving the children collected 18kg of food for the homeless. The school also was able to feed 9 children in Kenya by locating a Blythswood Recycling Bank in the playground. In addition the school filled 20 shoeboxes for Blythswood.
- The school and community raised £136 by taking part in the Rag Bag collection scheme. The Christmas Carol collection raised £151 for Cancer Research. A £50 donation was also made to the Marydale Roman Catholic Church in Cannich. Finally a further £112 was raised for school funds from the sale of tea towels featuring the children's own portraits.
- Parents are regular participants in the school's learning and teaching, the Parent Council is very proactive in supporting a wide range of projects and reviewing aspects of the life of the school.

### **Glenurquhart Primary School**

- The pupils greatly benefit from the services of the Great Glen Rangers, community RSPB Rangers, RNLI, Fire Brigade, Police, First Responders and a host of community coaches and leaders who provide out of school clubs and activities such as athletics, hockey, football, shinty, badminton and karate.
- The Gaelic classes attended six sessions at Abriachan Forest School where they learned about the outdoors through the medium of Gaelic. The sessions were led by Forest School Leaders and volunteers and the class teacher.
- Gaelic pupils enjoyed three blocks of drama lessons with Roddy Nicholson from Eden Court Outreach Team.
- Pupils have the opportunity to have strings, piping and brass instruction at school and several pupils had success at the recent Inverness Music Festival.
- Over the year, the RSPB ranger led seasonal woodland walks for P1, P2 and P3/4. The Great Glen Ranger began building a willow structure with the children in the playground this winter. The school's Eco Representatives undertook a bird watch in January. The pupils from P3/4 and 5 enjoyed drama lessons on the Rainforest from Eden Court Outreach Service.
- Cross country: The boys won the 'Blueprint Team Trophy' with the senior boys winning the McRobert Cup this year.
- Several pupils won medals at the triathlon and these were shared at school assembly.
- Pupils in P2-4 and P6 have the opportunity to take part in Kodaly and Feis Rois music activities for 12 weeks of the school session. The school ran a very successful talent show in the spring.
- PC Gary Ross did 'meet and greet' on Tue 25th Sep 2012 to help build relationships with the children and local community.
- The children were involved in a wide range of opportunities to support a range of charities. Forty boxes were filled for the Blythswood shoebox appeal. Primary 2 pupils organise and run the annual collection for Blythswood Food Bank. The St

Andrew's sponsored walk raised £1374.60. Mairi Curie Mini Pots of Care raised £233.87.

- Parents play an important role in the life of the school. For example, individual parents helped pupils create a beanstalk for their fairy tale theme and supported upper stages art lessons on their Japan theme. The re-established Parent Council provides valuable support to the school and its activities. In addition, a group of parent volunteers help out on a weekly or fortnightly basis with photocopying, laminating, backing art work and other administration tasks.

### 1.1.3 Destinations 16+

Leaver destination information is taken from the School Leaver Destination Return (SLDR) which is a statistical return undertaken by Skills Development Scotland (SDS) on behalf of the Scottish Government. The return is based on a follow up of young people who left school between 1 August 2011 and 31 July 2012. This exercise was carried out during the month of September 2012.

No. of Leavers	% Positive Destinations
Glen Urquhart High	97.5%
Highland 2011/12 SLDR	90.7%
Scotland 2011/12SLDR	89.9%

No young people currently have Activity Agreements. Two pupils previously had Activity Agreements upon leaving.

## 1.2 Pupils

School/ Nursery	Pupil Roll	Looked After	EAL Pupils	Free Meals Eligibility	Free Meals Uptake
Highland Primary				16.8%	92.4%
Scotland Primary				22.1%	89.0%
Balnain Primary	32	0	1	Cannot be disclosed	Cannot be disclosed
Cannich Bridge Primary	46	0	0	Cannot be disclosed	Cannot be disclosed
Glenurquhart Primary	136	0	2	7.3%	100%
Highland Secondary				11.0%	77.3%
Scotland Secondary				15.4%	71.7%
Glen Urquhart High School	198	4	0	10.9%	85.7%
Cannich Bridge Pr Nursery	Aug 12: 10				
Glenurquhart Childcare Centre	Aug 12: 34 Apr 13: 2				
Day Care and Out of School Care provided by GCC above	Approx 70 children registered daily average of 10 for breakfast club, 10 for wraparound and 10/20 for after school care				

Childminders	6				
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Free School Meal information extracted from Healthy Living Survey collected February 2012 Free Meals Eligibility is the percentage of the present school roll registered for free meals. Free Meals Uptake is the percentage of those present on census day who were registered and took free meals. Due to the small number of pupils in Balnain and Cannich Bridge data for school meals cannot be provided.

Pre-school stats for future years	01/03/2011 Birthdates	01/03/2010 Birthdates
Balnain Catchment	5	4
Cannich Bridge Catchment	4	2
Glenurquhart Catchment	12	19

The reported figures for EAL are those recorded by the schools who require additional support. The number of those pupils for whom English is an additional language is:

Pupils With Either Home/First/Second Language not English	
Balnain Primary School	1
Cannich Bridge Primary School	0
Glenurquhart Primary School	2

The EAL team visits the ASG schools with EAL pupils on a regular basis to ensure all teachers and pupils are receiving support, with some pupils having a short period of direct teaching input. Where possible, the EAL team also attempts to meet parents/carers at enrolment to ensure appropriate work for their children, as well as to pass on information about English classes and community schools.

### 1.2.1 Attendance/Absence/Exclusion Profile 2011/12

Scottish Government collects Attendance, Absence and Exclusions on a bi-annual basis. Comparative national information will next be available for academic year 2012-2013.

School	Total Number of Possible Attendances (Pupil Half Days) and % Actual Attendances	% Authorised Absences	% Unauthorised Absences	No of Exclusions and Rate per 1000 pupils	No. Pupils Excluded and Rate per 1000 pupils
Highland Primary	95.3% (2011-12)	3.9% (2011-12)	0.8% (2011-12)	8/1000 (11-12)	6/1000 (11-12)
Scotland Primary	94.8% (2010-11)	4.0% (2010-11)	1.2% (2010-11)	11/1000 (10-11)	6/1000 (10-11)
Balnain Primary	95.8%	2.9%	1.3%	0	0
Cannich Bridge Primary	96.0%	4.0%	0.0%	0	0
Glenurquhart Primary	96.1%	2.7%	1.3%	0	0
Highland Secondary	91.0% (2011-12)	6.3% (2011-12)	2.6% (2011-12)	39/1000 (11-12)	27/1000 (11-12)
Scotland Secondary	91.1% (2010-11)	6.0% (2010-11)	2.7% (2010-11)	72/1000 (10-11)	40/1000 (10-11)
Glen Urquhart High School	94.9%	4.6%	0.5%	9/1000	9/1000

### 1.3 School

School/ Nursery	ECO School	Travel Plan	Improving through Self- Evaluation and Improving Services	No. of Placing Requests In	No. of Placing Requests In Granted	No. of Placing Requests Out Granted
Balnain Primary	Green Flag	Yes	Weak (Mar 2006)	2	2	1
Cannich Bridge Primary	Green Flag	No	Adequate (Jun 2006)	0	0	1
Glenurquhart Primary	Silver	In process	Weak (Oct 2008)	5	5	2
Glen Urquhart High School	Silver	Yes	Adequate (Apr 2008)	5	5	4

### 1.4 ECS Staffing

School/ Nursery	Teaching Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	Non-Teaching FTE
Balnain Primary	2.30	0.48
Cannich Bridge Primary	1.70	0.66
Cannich Bridge Nursery		0.88
Glenurquhart Primary	7.70	3.21
Glen Urquhart High School	22.0	7.5

Highland Council Nurseries and Partner centres are supported by Principal Teachers (Early Years) currently based in Central Primary School.

Core staffing is calculated using the Highland Staffing Model, which takes account of national agreements for P1 to P3 class sizes.

It is important to note that, in addition to core staffing for each school a formula is used to provide an appropriate level of ASN cover to each school/ASG. At the present time the Service is moving to adopt the model, over a three year period, as approved at Adult and Children's Services Committee on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012. (Report ACS-33-12.)

This session we are funding additional staffing for the ASG as follows:

- 1.6 FTE ASN teachers
- 10.8 FTE PSA staff

### 1.5 Funding

School/ Nursery	Devolved Budget 2012/13	Cost Per Pupil	Carry Forward from 2011/12
Balnain Primary	£129853.00	£4058.00	£1254.32
Cannich Bridge Primary	£130418.00	£2835.00	£2219.20
Glenurquhart Primary	£423269.00	£3112.00	£17801.69

Glen Urquhart High School	£1209199.80	£6107.00	£33319.29
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Members are asked to note that devolved funding is generally sufficient for school needs.

## 1.6 Buildings

School/ Nursery	Pupil Roll (5 years)	Pupil Roll (10 years)	Current Occupancy	Condition	Suitability	Current and future investment (last 5 years) includes:
Balnain Primary	28	27	64%	C	C	£60000 for improvement to main building
Cannich Bridge Primary	32	26	96%	B	B	
Glenurquhart Primary	111	101	72%	B	B	£133147.83 Replacement windows and doors, new classroom unit
Glen Urquhart High School	189	169	60.2%	A	A	PPP2

Condition A: Good - Performing well and operating efficiently; Condition B: Satisfactory - Performing adequately but showing minor deterioration; Condition C: Poor - Showing major defects and/or not operating adequately; Condition D: Bad - Economic life expired and/or risk of failure.

In addition to the planned works detailed in this report, we are aware of the continuing need to address smaller non-capital needs.

## 1.7 High Life Highland

HLH Facilities and Services within the Glen Urquhart High/Kilchuimen Academy Associated School Group Area	Use Information	2010/11	2011/12
Glenurquhart Library	Issues	22,565	22,621
Craigmonie Centre	Users	21,000	22,135
Mobile Library	Issues	36,007	35,033
Sports Pitches	Available for let by sports clubs		
Active Schools Coordinator	Unique Participants	Different info collected prior to 2011/12	34 Activities Total Participants: 8336 Distinct Participants: Male= 218; Female=194 26 Volunteer coaches.
Youth Development Officer	Contacts with Young People Young Scot Card percentage uptake (National average – 72%)  Highland Youth Voice	3278  Glenurquhart 55% Kilchuimen 100%	2844  89% 57%

	Members	2	2
	Youth Forum meetings	2	2
Adult Learning	Unique Participants	76	119

Programme information:

Glenurquhart

Library: <http://www.highland.gov.uk/leisureandtourism/libraries/yourlocallibrary/glenurquhartlib.htm>

Craigmonie

Centre: <http://www.highland.gov.uk/leisureandtourism/sportsfacilities/leisurecentres/craigmonieleisure.htm>

Mobile Library:

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/leisureandtourism/libraries/mobilelibraryservice>

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is invited to scrutinise the content of the report.

Designation: Director of Education, Culture and Sport

Author: Clifford Cooke

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