

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| Agenda Item | 5a |
| Report No | BIER-06-26 |

The Highland Council

Committee: Black Isle and Easter Ross Area Committee

Date: 26 January 2026

Report Title: Invergordon Academy Associated School Group Overview

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive – People Cluster

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update of key information in relation to the schools within the Invergordon Academy Associated School Group (ASG) and provides useful updated links to further information in relation to these schools.
- 1.2 The primary schools in this area serve 360 pupils, ELC settings serve 50 children (50 in LA settings as at September census), with the secondary school serving 313 young people.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to:

 - i. Scrutinise and note the content of the report

3. Implications

- 3.1 Resource

No implications as a result of this report.

- 3.2 Legal

No implications as a result of this report.

- 3.3 Risk

The Service is committed to a sustained focus on progress and improvement to mitigate against the risk of under-performance which impacts on children and young people being able to achieve their full potential.

- 3.4 Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)

No implications as a result of this report.

- 3.5 Gaelic

Continued improvements in primary phase Gaelic Medium Education attainment will support progress in secondary.

4. Impacts

4.1 In Highland, all policies, strategies or service changes are subject to an integrated screening for impact for Equalities, Poverty and Human Rights, Children's Rights and Wellbeing, Climate Change, Islands and Mainland Rural Communities, and Data Protection. Where identified as required, a full impact assessment will be undertaken.

4.2 Considering impacts is a core part of the decision-making process and needs to inform the decision-making process. When taking any decision, Members must give due regard to the findings of any assessment.

4.3 This is an update report and therefore an impact assessment is not required.

5. School Website Links

5.1 Secondary - [Link to Invergordon Academy website](#)
Primary - [Link to School information on Highland Council website](#)

| School | Link to School Webpage |
|---------------------|---|
| Milton Primary | Milton Primary website |
| Newmore Primary | Newmore Primary website |
| Park Primary | Park Primary website |
| South Lodge Primary | South Lodge Primary website |

5.2 Standards and Quality Reports – latest reports:

| School | Leadership of change | Learning, teaching and assessment | Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion | Raising attainment and achievement |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Invergordon Academy | Good | Good | Satisfactory | Satisfactory |
| Milton Primary | Satisfactory | Good | Good | Satisfactory |
| Newmore Primary | Satisfactory | Satisfactory | Good | Satisfactory |
| Park Primary | Satisfactory | Satisfactory | Good | Satisfactory |
| South Lodge Primary | Good | Good | Good | Satisfactory |

| ELC | Leadership of change | Learning, teaching and assessment | Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion | Raising attainment and achievement |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Milton Primary ELC | Satisfactory | Good | Good | Satisfactory |
| Park Primary ELC | Satisfactory | Good | Good | Good |
| South Lodge Primary ELC | Satisfactory | Satisfactory | Good | Good |

6. Education Scotland Inspection Reports

6.1

| School | Date of Latest Published Report | Link to Education Scotland Pages |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Invergordon Academy | 4/23/2024 | Link |
| Milton Primary | *+ 5 Years | Link |
| Newmore Primary | *+ 5 Years | Link |
| Park Primary | *+ 5 Years | Link |
| South Lodge Primary | *+ 5 Years | Link |

*Education Scotland website shows review and inspection reports in last 5 years, older reports are no longer available to view on the site.

7. School Rolls

7.1 ASG School Rolls – Session 2025-26

| Primary School | P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 | P5 | P6 | P7 | Total |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Milton Primary | 7 | 3 | 13 | 15 | 7 | 4 | | 56 |
| Newmore Primary | 5 | 5 | 5 | 10 | 6 | 7 | | 47 |
| Park Primary School | 8 | 14 | 23 | 16 | 13 | 12 | | 107 |
| South Lodge Primary | 18 | 21 | 20 | 31 | 14 | 23 | | 150 |
| Total | 38 | 43 | 61 | 72 | 40 | 46 | | 360 |

| School Name | S1 | S2 | S3 | S4 | S5 | S6 | TOTAL S1-S6 |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------------|
| Invergordon Academy | 54 | 49 | 66 | 65 | 54 | 25 | 313 |

7.2 School Roll and Capacity Forecasts

The school roll and capacity forecast for the ASG can be found here:
https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/818/school_roll_forecasts

8. Attendance / Absence / Exclusions – Session 2024/25

8.1

| Primary Schools | % Actual Attendance | % Authorised Absences | % Unauthorised Absences | (2024/25) No of Exclusions | (2024/25) Exclusion Rates per 1000 pupils |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| National Primary (2024-25) | 93.10% | 4.30% | 2.60% | 2004 | 5.3 |
| Highland Primary (2024-25) | 92.70% | 5.10% | C | 61 | C |
| Milton Primary | 93.57% | 4.51% | 1.91% | - | - |
| Newmore Primary | 94.11% | 4.93% | 0.96% | - | - |
| Park Primary | 91.03% | 6.45% | 2.52% | - | - |
| South Lodge Primary | 91.01% | 6.55% | 2.44% | - | - |

| Secondary School | % Actual Attendance | % Authorised Absences | % Unauthorised Absences | (2024/25) No of Exclusions | (2024/25) Exclusion Rates per 1000 pupils |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| National Secondary (2024-25) | 88.40% | 6.60% | 5.00% | 8472 | 26.9 |
| Highland Secondary (2024-25) | 86.80% | 7.50% | 5.70% | 454 | 32.7 |
| Invergordon Academy | 83.33% | 9.47% | 7.11% | 26 | 75.6 |

9. Attainment Profile

9.1 Primary Attainment – Pupils Achieving Expected National Curriculum for Excellence Levels – P1, 4, 7 Combined, Literacy and Numeracy

| Primary Attainment – Pupils Achieving Expected National Curriculum for Excellence Levels - P1,4,7 Combined, Literacy and Numeracy | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2024/25 | Roll P1/4/7 | Reading | Writing | Listening & Talking | Numeracy |
| National | | 81% | 77% | 88% | 80% |
| Highland | | 77% | 72% | 87% | 75% |
| Milton Primary | 17 | C | C | C | C |
| Newmore Primary | 18 | C | C | C | C |
| Park Primary | 46 | 60-70% | 60-70% | 70-80% | 50-60% |
| South Lodge Primary | 57 | 60-70% | 50-60% | 80-90% | 50-60% |

| Primary Attainment – Pupils Achieving Expected National Curriculum for Excellence Levels - P1,4,7 Combined, Literacy and Numeracy | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2023-24 | Roll P1/4/7 | Reading | Writing | Listening & Talking | Numeracy |
| National | | 81% | 76% | 87% | 80% |
| Highland | | 76% | 71% | 87% | 74% |
| Milton Primary | 25 | 60-70% | 40-50% | 70-80% | 40-50% |
| Newmore Primary | 12 | C | C | C | C |
| Park Primary | 51 | 60-70% | 50-60% | 80-90% | 50-60% |
| South Lodge Primary | 62 | 60-70% | 60-70% | 80-90% | 50-60% |

**Primary Attainment – Pupils Achieving Expected National Curriculum for Excellence
Levels - P1,4,7 Combined, Literacy and Numeracy**

| 2022-23 | Roll P1/4/7 | Reading | Writing | Listening & Talking | Numeracy |
|---------------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------------------|----------|
| National | | 80% | 75% | 87% | 80% |
| Highland | | 74% | 68% | 74% | 72% |
| Milton Primary | 35 | 50-60% | 40-50% | 60-70% | 40-50% |
| Newmore Primary | 8 | C | C | C | C |
| Park Primary | 73 | 80-90% | 70-80% | 80-90% | 70-80% |
| South Lodge Primary | 71 | 50-60% | 50-60% | 80-90% | 50-60% |

9.2 Secondary Attainment

| School leavers achieving literacy | | | |
|--|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Establishment | Year | % Level 4 Literacy | % Level 5 Literacy |
| Invergordon Academy | 2023/24 | 92% | 73% |
| Virtual Comparator | 2023/24 | 88% | 68% |
| Invergordon Academy | 2022/23 | C | 76% |
| Virtual Comparator | 2022/23 | C | 72% |
| Invergordon Academy | 2021/22 | C | 59% |
| Virtual Comparator | 2021/22 | C | 63% |

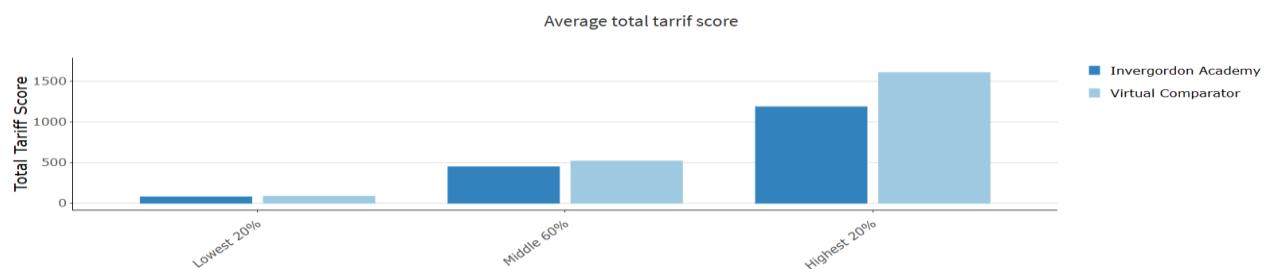
9.2.1

| School leavers achieving numeracy | | | |
|--|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Establishment | Year | % Level 4 Numeracy | % Level 5 Numeracy |
| Invergordon Academy | 2023/24 | 90% | 57% |
| Virtual Comparator | 2023/24 | 86% | 56% |
| Invergordon Academy | 2022/23 | C | 54% |
| Virtual Comparator | 2022/23 | C | 55% |
| Invergordon Academy | 2021/22 | 89% | 44% |
| Virtual Comparator | 2021/22 | 84% | 52% |

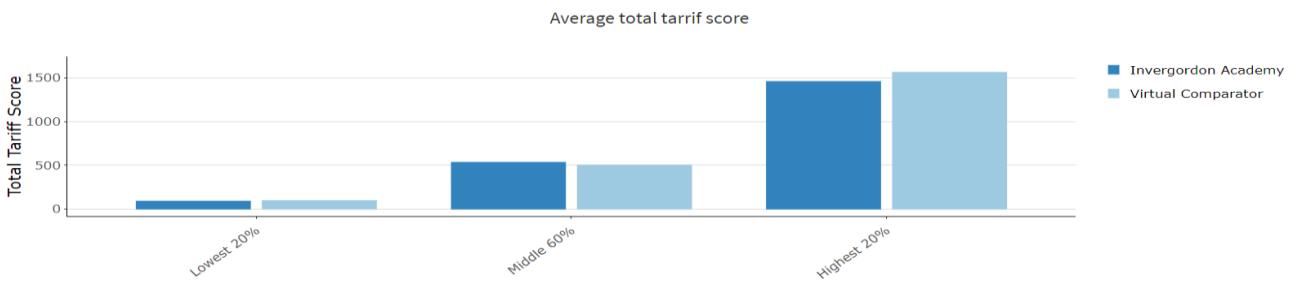
9.2.2 Senior Phase

| Average total tariff score for leavers | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Establishment | Year | Lowest 20% | Middle 60% | Highest 20% |
| Invergordon Academy | 2023/24 | 72 | 443 | 1182 |
| Virtual Comparator | 2023/24 | 80 | 514 | 1604 |
| Invergordon Academy | 2022/23 | 85 | 530 | 1456 |
| Virtual Comparator | 2022/23 | 92 | 499 | 1561 |
| Invergordon Academy | 2021/22 | 105 | 478 | 1604 |
| Virtual Comparator | 2021/22 | 66 | 449 | 1612 |

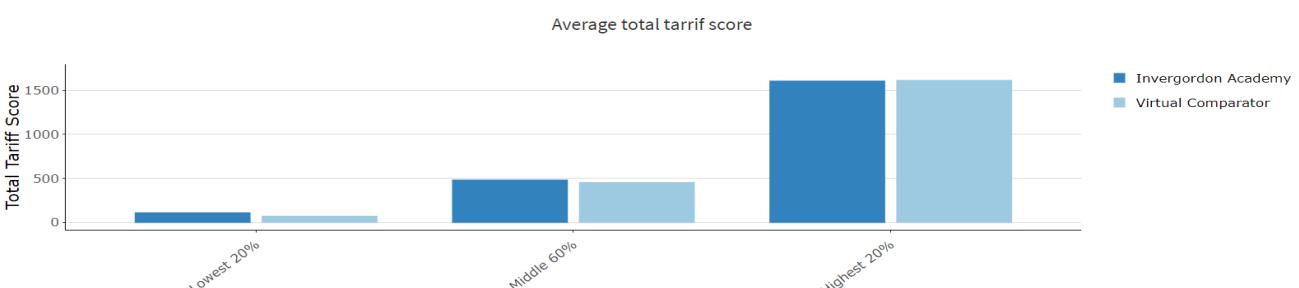
9.3 2023/24



9.4 2022/23



9.5 2021/22



9.6

Pupil Destinations 16+

Leaver destination information is taken from the School Leaver Destination data collected by Skills Development Scotland (SDS) on behalf of the Scottish Government.

| | % Positive Destinations | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
| Invergordon Academy | 93.94 | 95.24 | 88.33 |
| Highland | 94.45 | 95.27 | 96.5 |
| Scotland | 95.74 | 95.87 | 95.71 |

9.6.1 Number of pupils leaving in school year:

| | Invergordon Academy | HIGHLAND | SCOTLAND |
|---------|---------------------|----------|----------|
| 2021/22 | 66 | 2559 | 55211 |
| 2022/23 | 63 | 2474 | 54719 |
| 2023/24 | 60 | 2629 | 55961 |

9.6.2 Destinations of Pupils (%):

| DESTINATION | Invergordon Academy | | | HIGHLAND | | | SCOTLAND | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|
| | 21/22 | 22/23 | 23/24 | 21/22 | 22/23 | 23/24 | 21/22 | 22/23 | 23/24 |
| Higher Education | 18.18 | 31.75 | 16.67 | 34.11 | 33.1 | 32.07 | 41.27 | 40.3 | 40.8 |
| Further Education | 28.78 | 25.4 | 35 | 19.54 | 20.53 | 20.39 | 25.45 | 26.62 | 26.43 |
| Training | 3.03 | 4.76 | 1.67 | 1.52 | 1.9 | 3.04 | 2.91 | 3.35 | 3.89 |
| Employment | 43.93 | 31.75 | 33.33 | 38.73 | 39.05 | 40.4 | 25.12 | 24.34 | 23.08 |
| Voluntary | 0 | 1.59 | 1.67 | 0.31 | 0.53 | 0.42 | 0.47 | 0.52 | 0.58 |
| Activity Agreements | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Unemployed Seeking | 3.03 | 3.17 | 3.33 | 2.89 | 2.95 | 2.05 | 2.32 | 2.24 | 2.16 |
| Unemployed Not Seeking | 0 | 1.59 | 8.33 | 1.76 | 1.62 | 1.45 | 1.55 | 1.57 | 1.86 |
| Unknown | 3.03 | 0 | 0 | 0.9 | 0.16 | 0 | 0.4 | 0.32 | 0.27 |

Note: National averages have been calculated from the figures for all available local authority and grant-aided schools, whereas the local authority averages are based on local authority schools only.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - People

Date: 8 January 2026

Author: Annika Jansson – Area Quality Improvement Manager, N2 (AQIM)

Background Notes:

- (For all figures marked with "C")
- c = value suppressed to protect against the risk of disclosure of personal information
- All data used within this report comes from the most recently published source.

Appendices: n/a