



STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT 2025-26

AITHISG INBHEAN IS CÀILEACHD

Bun Sgoil & Sgoil Àraich Àth-Tharracail

Acharacle Primary & Nursery



In this report the following words are used to describe the numbers and proportions used:

All	Almost all	Most	Majority	Less than half	Few
100%	Over 91%	75% - 90%	50% - 74%	15% - 49%	Up to 15%

Ar Luachan / Our Values

Coibhneas - Kindness

Tha sinn coibhneil agus a' coimhead às dèidh a chèile. *Artagil 15, 29*

We are kind and look after each other. Article 15, 29

Spèis - Respect

Tha sinn a' toirt urram dhuinn fhìn, do chàch, don sgoil againn agus don àrainneachd againny. *Artagil 2, 12, 29*

We respect ourselves, others, our school and our environment. Article 2, 12, 29

Moit - Pride

Tha sinn moiteil às ar sgoil, ar cultar, ar cànan agus ar coimhearsnachd. *Artagil 8, 30*

We are proud of our school, our culture, our language and our community. Article 8, 30

Dèan do dhìcheall - Do our best

Bidh sinn ag obair gu cruaidh agus a' dèanamh ar dìcheall. *Artagil 6, 29*

We work hard, do our best and never give up. Article 6, 29

Còmhla - Belonging

Bidh sinn ag obair agus ag ionnsachadh còmhla agus a' dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil a h-uile duine a' faireachdainn an sàs.

Artagil 2, 15, 23

We work and learn together and make sure that everyone feels included. Article 2, 15, 23

School Profile

Pròifil na Sgoile

The following information can be found on [Parentzone Scotland](https://www.parentzone.scot.nhs.uk/). It is important to remember that statistical data alone is not a measure of how well we are doing. All schools are unique. To understand how well we are doing it is important for us to look at a range of different data sources.

Attendance
94.8%

Average Class Size
17.7

Meeting PE Target
Target Met

Pupil Numbers (inc nursery)
53(+12 nursery)

Teacher Numbers
5 (some part time)

Pupil Teacher Ratio
18:1

N3
6.2%

N4
12.3%

P1
7.7%

P2
9.2%

P3
7.7%

P4
10.8%

P5
7.7%

P6
23.1%

P7
13.8%

SIMD Q1¹
0%

SIMD Q2
0%

SIMD Q2
0%

SIMD Q3
0%

SIMD Q5
0%

Unknown
3.8%

ASN²
18.9%

No ASN
81.1%

FSM³
5.6%

No FSM
94.4%

EAL⁴
0%

No EAL
0%

2025/26 Proportions of pupils achieving Curriculum for Excellence Levels (P1, P4, P7 combined):

Reading

Writing

**Listening and
talking**

Numeracy

All

All

All

Almost all

¹ SIMD – The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is a relative measure of deprivation.

² ASN – Additional Support Needs

³ FSM – Free school meal entitlement

⁴ EAL – English as an additional language

Gaelic Medium 2025/26 Proportions of pupils achieving Curriculum for Excellence Levels (C1, P4, P7 combined):

Gaelic reading	Gaelic writing	Gaelic listening and talking
Almost all	Almost all	All

We have had no exclusions this year.

Bun-sgoil Àth-Tharracail - Acharacle Primary School is a small rural school offering Gaelic and English Medium Education. The headteacher is currently acting Head Teacher with a teaching responsibility.

There are 53 children attending the school and 12 children in the nursery, ranging from N3 - P7. The English Medium pupils are taught in a P2-7 class and the Gaelic Medium pupils are in a 1-4 and 5-7. This session there was a Gaelic Medium (GM) Nursery operating.

As the school roll comprises a small number of children, attainment and progress will be expressed in ‘overall’ statements, rather than specific year groups or Curriculum for Excellence levels. This is to ensure the identity of individuals is not disclosed.

Overall, attainment across the school in literacy and English and numeracy and mathematics is very good. Children achieve appropriate CfE levels in literacy and numeracy and, across the school, a few children are exceeding nationally expected levels. All children who face barriers to learning are making very good progress towards meeting their individual targets.

Overall children are making the following progress:

Reading	Writing	Listening and talking	Numeracy
Very good progress	Good progress	Very good progress	Very good progress

Gaelic Medium (delete if not relevant):

Gaelic reading	Gaelic writing	Gaelic listening and talking
Very good progress	Good progress	Very good progress

School vision, values and aims

Lèirsinn, luachan agus amasan na sgoile

Bun Sgoil Àth-Tharracail / Acharacle Primary School

Lèirsinn na Sgoile / School Vision

Ag ionnsachadh, a' fàs agus a' soirbheachadh còmhla

Ann am Bun-sgoil Àth Tharracail, bidh sinn a' cuideachadh a h-uile duine a bhith sàbhailte, a bhith ag ionnsachadh, a bhith toilichte, misneachail agus an dèidh a dhèanamh.

Tha sinn moiteil às ar sgoil, ar coimhearsnachd, ar cultar agus ar cànan.

Còraichean UNCRC- Artaigilean 3, 8, 19, 28, 29, 30, 31

Learning, growing and succeeding together

In Acharacle Primary School we help everyone to be safe, learn, be happy, be confident and do their best.

We are proud of our School, our community, our culture and our language.

UNCRC Rights - Articles 3, 8, 19, 28, 29, 30, 31

Ar Luachan / Our Values

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Ar n-Amasan / Our Aims

Anns an sgoil againn, tha sinn ag amas air : / At our school we aim to:

- **A bhith nar sgoil shàbhailte agus fhàilteachail. Artaigil 3, 19, 39**
Be a safe and welcoming school. Article 3, 19, 39
- **Rudan ùra ionnsachadh gach latha agus ar dìcheall a dhèanamh. Artaigil 28, 29**
Learn new things every day and try our best. Article 28, 29
- **A bhith nar luchd-ionnsachaidh misneachail, fiosrachail agus cruthachail. Artaigil 29**
Be confident, curious and creative learners. Article 29
- **A bhith a' cuideachadh a chèile agus a bhith nar deagh charaidean. Artaigil 15, 29**
Help each other and be good friends. Article 15, 29
- **A bhith moiteil às ar sgoil, ar coimhearsnachd, ar cultar agus ar cànan. Artaigil 8, 30**
Be proud of our school our community our culture and our language. Article 8, 30

Review of progress for session

Ath-sgrùdadh air adhartas airson an t-seisein

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

School Priority 1: Raising Attainment in Literacy		
School Improvement Plan Priority 1		
Summary of progress	Next steps	Stakeholder Views
From NSA / MCNG data and teacher observations, almost all children have made progress in reading in Gaelic and English. There are also improvements in writing in most although not as marked an improvement as in reading.	Participate in National Improving Writing Programme next session across all stages.	
Impact - We have made good progress in raising attainment in literacy across the school. - Almost all children have shown increased ability and awareness of all the comprehension strategies in both Gaelic and English. - Creative timetabling of reading to maximise reading opportunities in Gaelic and English has led to improved outcomes for all children. - Wraparound spelling strategies for teaching English spelling have had a positive impact on almost all children, helping to build confidence as well as improve spelling accuracy. - Most children can apply tools for writing strategies across a range of curricular areas and a range of contexts to give improved accuracy and increased confidence in written work. - Almost all children in the school are using more Gaelic language following a range of strategies that we have employed this session. - The CAPA model of teaching language targets alongside content across curricular areas has reduced common errors within oral Gaelic. An oral language focus and word / phrase of the week have also expanded the vocabulary of almost all pupils and this	Ongoing targeted interventions will continue for pupils who have a literacy difficulty. Interventions include Toe by Toe, Nelson spelling, Fuaimean feumail, precision teaching strategies linked to phonics and common words, fluency reading cards, decodable books and short burst daily writing focus. We hope to further focus on writing next session following National Improving Writing Programme. Continue building on oral language development across the whole school using strategies introduced this session. Further embed the CAPA model into teaching to ensure language targets are taught throughout all curricular areas.	

combined with reward strategies have encouraged the children to use their language and thus improve their fluency. • Use of scaffolding techniques such as word walls, modelling writing, talk4writing strategies and semantics have helped increase confidence in writing across the whole school. Focused teaching on sentences, vocabulary, structure and punctuation have improved written work in almost all pupils.	Link with community project on Gaelic so that children can use their language skills out with school.	

School Priority 2: Raising Attainment in Gaelic for Learners		
School Improvement Plan Priority 2		
Summary of progress	Next steps	Stakeholder Views
Gaelic Learners have made very good progress in their learning of Gaelic and participate fully in class and whole school Gaelic events.	Continue to build on this and further develop links between classes and community.	
Impact • Following the advice note on Gaelic Education, we have built on opportunities for using Gaelic throughout the school to create a Gaelic ethos where our language and culture are celebrated. • Children in the English medium class have made excellent progress in their oral Gaelic language skills and this is encouraged throughout the school. • The English medium class has accessed online Gaelic lessons as well as receiving input from their class teacher and Gaelic teachers. • We have introduced weekly awards for all classes for using Gaelic and each class has a class mascot which they can take home and then share news from their weekend in Gaelic. This encourages both oral and written Gaelic skills across the school and this is recorded on online Learning journals. • All classes attend weekly Gaelic assembly where all learn Gaelic song / phrases together to further build on our positive inclusive ethos.	Continue to build on opportunities for learners to use their language skills throughout the school and in the community. Build on links with Gaelic speakers in community with conversation circle / lunch club. Gaelic Learners to participate in FilmG competition. Work with Fèisean nan Gàidheal to plan a Gaelic project linked to our area i.e. place names, stories and songs from the area.	

• The children participated in Gaelic events for Seachdain na Gàidhlig / Gaelic week such as the Gaelic bingo and coffee morning where they used their Gaelic skills with visitors from the community and others in school. • All children participate in Spòrs Gàidhlig event and with football through medium of Gàidhlig with FC Alba. As well as this all children have accessed Gaelic drama input and traditional music and song as part of our local Mod preparation.		
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School Priority 3: Curriculum Rationale		
School Improvement Plan Priority 2		
Summary of progress and impact Due to staffing changes, we have not completed this project and hope to carry it forward into the next school improvement plan as we engage in Curriculum Improvement Cycle. Impact • School Vision, values and aims have been refreshed with a stronger focus on the language and culture of our school and community. Parents, pupils, members of our community and staff contributed to this which has raised awareness of our culture as well as showing our commitment in making Gaelic accessible to all learners.	Next steps Ongoing Embed School Vision, values and aims throughout all we do in school. Engage with Northern Alliance Curriculum Rationale toolkit. Engage Wellbeing Ambassadors to work throughout our school. Engage in Curriculum Improvement Cycle.	Stakeholder Views

Progress and impact of Pupil Equity Fund
Adhartas agus buaidh Maoin Cothromas Sgoilearan

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- All pupils have achieved Early Level in all aspects of Literacy and Numeracy. MCNG assessments show that all pupils have achieved average or above average bandings.

Wider achievements

Coileanaidhean nas fharsainghe

- Children participate very well in rich opportunities for achievements. These are celebrated using a range of approaches within the school, and with external recognition.
 - There are strong links with the local community who come in and share their life experiences, songs and stories with the children i.e. A visit from Donnie MacGillivray, Shiel buses to talks about his childhood in the community and the changes that have occurred. We were also fortunate to have a visit from Alan Nairn, Trail West to talk about his schooling in Acharacle and how the language and culture of the area has influenced his life.
 - Children engage very well with learning through sports and in the outdoors, while supporting their wellbeing. This develops their attachment to their local environment.
 - Children have been involved in many charity fundraising events over the school year, including: Blythswood charity, Children in Need, Marie Curie, MacMillan Cancer and Comic relief.
 - Most of our pupils learn at least one musical instrument at school and enjoy performing individually and as part of groups.
 - Children have been involved in litter pick in the community
 - Children have worked with parents and staff to organise events as part of Gaelic week and also school events such as the Christmas fair, Burns supper, Summer Fair, school open sessions and coffee morning and afternoons.
 - Pupils have shared our refreshed vision, values and aims with parents and the community an open school event.
 - Children participate fully in drama opportunities and have performed in our local community in our school nativity and pantomime and also in a local community lead show.
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- Pupils have linked with local businesses to work with them in filming pieces for our school production.
- P7 pupils have worked with local restaurant to make mince pies for the School Christmas Fair.
- Pupils have created 3D keyrings and Christmas decorations using our 3D printer as part of an enterprise project.

Comments from learners, families, stakeholders and staff

Beachdan bho luchd-ionnsachaidh, teaghlaichean, luchd-ùidhe is luchd-obrach

Children's views:

- I like that the schools get involved with things in our local community
- I read a lot more than I used to and find it relaxing.
- I used to hate reading but now I really enjoy it and read whenever I can.
- I like helping younger pupils with their reading and this has made me more confident.
- I enjoy reading books in a series with an overarching plot.
- I enjoy all sorts of books including history books and novels.
- Reading is good for my brain and helps me learn new things.
- I can read in two languages.
- Reading is important to find out information, follow instructions and to read signs and labels – it could save your life!
- School is a safe and happy place and I like learning here.
- School has helped me to think things through before I do things.
- School is a very sociable place.
- I like that I can be who I am.
- It is important that we are tolerant to each other.
- If we work hard in school, we have a better chance of a good career.
- I like making new friends in school.
- Teamwork is great to help us all.
- I can speak two languages which is special.
- We have learnt all about our rights
- School is about learning new things, making friends and being safe.
- The staff in school are good and listen to us.
- We are given responsibilities which help us prepare for life
- I really like that we get to go on different school trips to learn about different things.
- We take part on lots of different events like sports, music and writing.
- We are rewarded with cards at assembly for being responsible, kind, working well and trying hard.
- I love getting the mascot home to do things with.
- I enjoy skills club and getting to choose different activities.
- I love making crafts.
- We do lots of different sports like shinty, tennis, badminton, football, rugby, basketball, boccia and curling.

- We learn so many different things and get so many opportunities.
- We went up Glenfinnan monument and learnt all about the Jacobites.
- Visitors come into school to teach us different things.
- Tuck shop is great so we can buy snacks and learn about money.
- All our teachers are kind and help us do our best.
- I like organising events in school like the Gaelic bingo.
- It's good we have no bullies on our school.
- Our astro pitch is the best,
- I have made so many friends in school and I am happy here.
- We can speak Gaelic in class and not everyone has that chance.
- We are always kind and helpful and let everyone play and join in.
- We love to learn outside and have a garden outside the classroom.
- We do maths in the garden like measure and play with potions.

Parent views:

- The school is a happy, safe environment.
- It allows my children to develop life skills from a different perspective than home.
- My P3 child has started to read stories at home to his little sister.
- Reading helps my child to relax at home.
- Celebration of language and culture are apparent throughout the school,
- Everyone tries hard and is respectful.
- My child has become more confident and has learnt how to share their views.
- School has given my child confidence to navigate the world.
- School has helped my children's social skills to develop, to be more independent and to be confident.
- Children have the opportunity to integrate with the older generation in our community who can pass on traditions, values and stories.
- The school is welcoming and I always feel able to come in and ask questions.
- Both of my children are very happy at school and nursery. They are learning and developing their Gaelic.
- The nursery staff are very welcoming and my little girl loves going there.
- My little boy has a keen interest in Gaelic and regularly asks "What is that in Gaelic?". Sgoil-àraich has helped develop his interest in the language greatly.
- My child loves school and enjoys the opportunities for wider achievement and performance.
- The school has an amazing outdoor space and the children are fortunate to get so many opportunities to learn and use the environment.
- The school provides amazing opportunities to take part in extra curricular activities and sporting tournaments

Capacity for continuous improvement

Comas airson leasachadh leantainneach

Using indicators from 'How Good is our School 4' together with learner, parent, carer, partner and community feedback we believe we have made the following progress this session:

	ELC	PRIMARY
QI 1.3 Leadership of change	Good	Good
QI 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	Very good	Very good
QI 3.1 Wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Very good	Very good
QI 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement/Securing children's progress	Very good	Very good

Our overall evaluation of our capacity for continuous improvement is:

We are confident in our capacity for continuous improvement.

Key priorities for improvement planning

Prìomhachasan airson planadh airson leasachadh

- Embedding Circle Framework across ASG
- Curriculum Rationale and engagement with Curriculum Improvement Cycle
- Raising Attainment in Writing

Planning ahead

A' planadh air adhart

Details of the school's 2026/27 improvement priorities and actions are detailed on the school improvement plan, which can be accessed on our website <https://ardnamurchan.wixsite.com/acharacle-primary> or by contacting the school office.