



STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT 2025-26

AITHISG INBHEAN IS CÀILEACHD

APPLECROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

PRIMARY/ELC



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%

Kind, Respectful, Hard-Working

School Profile

Pròifil na Sgoile

The following information can be found on [Parentzone Scotland](#). 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
91.3%

Average Class Size
14

Meeting PE Target
Target Met

Pupil Numbers (inc nursery)
14 (+2 nursery)

Teacher Numbers
1

Pupil Teacher Ratio
1:14

Applecross Primary School is located in a rural, coastal setting serving the local community on the Applecross Peninsula.

There are 14 children attending the school and 2 children in nursery, ranging from N3 - P7. P1 - 7 are taught together in a single multi-stage class and there is a separate nursery for 3 and 4 year olds.

The headteacher has overall leadership responsibility for Applecross Primary School and Shieldaig Primary School. Staff and children from both schools work together regularly.

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

Overall children are making the following progress:

Reading

Good progress

Writing

Good progress

**Listening and
talking**

Good progress

Numeracy

Good progress

We have had no exclusions this year.

Kind, Respectful, Hard-Working

School vision, values and aims

Lèirsinn, luachan agus amasan na sgoile

Our collective nursery and school vision is:

‘To learn together to be caring, creative and co-operative.’

Values:

Kind, Respectful, Hard-Working

Aims:

Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, Included (SHANARRI)

(Our Vision and Values were chosen by the children during session 2023_24 after consultation with children, staff and parents).

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: Teacher Pedagogy	
School Improvement Plan Priority 1	
Summary of progress	Next steps
✓ Some progress was made in this area with the completion of several teaching sprints around Discussion, Feedback, and Plenary Review. ✓ Open maths learning in numeracy provided strong opportunities for using Discussion as a class pedagogy tool.	✓ Further implementation and training in pedagogy – using teaching sprints resources again. ✓ Develop features of sprints as expected features of classroom pedagogy.

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✓ A framework was setup for daily opportunities for discussion in lessons throughout the day, with various strategies used; eg, think-pair-share, blether stations, group discussion. ✓ Inconsistent staffing and changes means that some of this teacher pedagogy training will be moved to next session.	
Impact	
✓ Time is protected for collegiate and professional learning and effective evaluation of impact on learners and pedagogy. ✓ Attainment meetings track this progress of learner and allow for reflection on interventions as well as to check for challenge at the high-achieving end. - This is to help to meet the needs of almost all learners. As a result teachers hold valid evidence about children's progress over time. This is matched with benchmarks in CfE to track individual progress towards curriculum targets.	

School Priority 2: Curriculum Focus - Numeracy	
School Improvement Plan Priority 2	
Summary of progress	Next steps
✓ Numeracy Sprinkles training delivered throughout the year. ✓ Staff using open questioning in developing numeracy pedagogy ✓ ASG moderation of numeracy sprinkles supported staff to have a stronger understanding of achievement of a level and High Quality Assessments. Using open questioning in collaboration with other schools supported collegiate development across the ASG. ✓ Staff changes have meant pushing parental session into next session.	✓ Moderation of numeracy in ASG ✓ Moderation of HQAs within school (between classes) and Cluster ✓ Parental session around how numeracy is taught.
Impact	
✓ Teachers engaged with and using open maths questioning. This sets up well for upcoming changes in the Curriculum improvement cycle around the "Big Questions" in maths. ✓ Numeracy pedagogy worked well with pedagogy sprints and we reflected on within this framework. "Discussion" was a focus and this worked well with the numeracy sprinkles. ✓ ASG moderation provided a platform to continue with this.	

School Priority 3: Pupil Voice / Social and Emotional Wellbeing

School Improvement Plan Priority 3

Summary of progress and impact

- ✓ Pupil Council meetings taking place every month – began to work through How Good Is Our School – Learner participation resource.
- ✓ Health and Wellbeing week held with Parent volunteers teaching yoga, Local doctor teaching first aid, tree planting in the community woodlands, session on gut health. A great success and children demonstrated understanding that Health and Wellbeing included Mental Health as well as physical health.
- ✓ Wellbeing surveys showed positive improvement throughout the year.
- ✓ Annual Arts week held with Shialdaig Primary School. Children visited Art Gallery in Gairloch and worked with artist Tom Bryce who had an exhibition there. Unexpected outcome that Tom shared with the children about his dyslexia and growing up with this, how this led him to become an artist.
- ✓ Forest School took place at Torgarve Community Woodlands
- ✓ Engagement with Highlife Ranger
- ✓ Swimming returned in Term 4 for the first time in 4 years. Children attended extra curricular activities on swimming trips
- ✓ Staff attended Trauma training, Neurodiversity training, and an introduction to the Circle Inclusive Classroom Framework.

Next steps

- ✓ Pupil Council to continue and develop, engaging with parents more.
- ✓ Health and Wellbeing week a great focus to have each year.
- ✓ Arts week another great IDL opportunity.
- ✓ SIP plans for next year include a focus on the Circle Inclusive classroom.
- ✓ Focus on gender stereotypes in health and wellbeing – important in a school of 14 with 11 boys.
- ✓ Develop better understanding of school values again – kind, respectful, hard-working.

Impact

Children's voice heard and respected in the school. This is reflected in many of the changes that have taken place where they can see their voice and the impact that they have had. Children and staff have further understood how mental health is important to wellbeing and personal growth.

Progress and impact of Pupil Equity Fund

Adhartas agus buaidh Maoin Cothromas Sgoilearan

Supported 1 hour extra per week PSA – interventions around literacy and numeracy carried out daily. Measurable progress being made for children with Additional Support Needs

Wider achievements

Coileanaidhean nas fharsainghe

Applecross Shinty team gained sponsorship from within the community for new strips, helmets and sticks. Two years of training was rewarded with qualifying for the Nationals in Fort William. Children have competed in many tournaments as a team, in their first opportunities to be part of a team(Led by School staff)

Cross Country Club (School staff)

Cubs and Scouts club (Community led)

Football club – Applecross sent a team to the Rossshire small schools tournament for the first time

Children attended Rossshire Badminton Quaich.

Attended ASG Cross Country

Children attending Lochcarron Shinty Club

Camping trip at school pitch attended by all children

Arts week held with Shildaig Primary School

Successful Christmas Panto Performed

School community open day

Successful nursery transition

Tree planting at our local community owned woods Torgarve (with trees the school grew 5 years ago!)

Feis a' Bhealaich – Shildaig joined with Applecross for this.

School was invited to perform a song in Gaelic for Her Royal Highness Princess Anne as part of her visit to Applecross. Children met HRH and had respectful conversations and held themselves brilliantly in front of the community.

Raised funds through a community carwash.

Comments from learners, families, stakeholders and staff

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

"I loved camping at the shieling"

"We had a good time at the Shinty Nationals in Fort William, I loved staying in the hostel and making Pizza"

"I entered the Guardian nature writing competition and got Highly Commended"

"On behalf of the parent council I wanted to let you know that the school children raised £341 at the car wash and bake sale.

The children all worked tirelessly and cheerfully whilst washing 19 cars!

Well done everyone!"

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	Satisfactory	Good
QI 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	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	Good	Good
Other QIs reviewed		

Our overall evaluation of our capacity for continuous improvement is:

We are confident in our capacity for continuous improvement.

Kind, Respectful, Hard-Working

Key priorities for improvement planning

Prìomhachasan airson planadh airson leasachadh

Teacher Pedagogy – Raising Attainment
Inclusive Classroom
Makaton

Planning ahead

A' planadh air adhart

Full details of the school's 2025/26 improvement priorities and actions are detailed on the school improvement plan, which can be accessed on our website or by contacting the school office.