



STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT 2025-26

AITHISG INBHEAN IS CÀILEACHD

Dunbeath 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%

Be the best you can be

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
92.5

Average Class Size
11.5:1

Meeting PE Target
Target Met

Pupil Numbers (inc nursery)
23 (+8 nursery)

Teacher Numbers
2

Pupil Teacher Ratio
11.5:1

2024/25 Proportions of pupils achieving Curriculum for Excellence Levels (P1, P4, P7 combined):

Reading

Most

Writing

Most

**Listening and
talking**

Most

Numeracy

Most

We have had no exclusions this year.

Dunbeath Primary School and ELC is located in a rural, and coastal setting serving the local community of Dunbeath and Berridale area on the east coast of Caithness

There are 24 children attending the school and 8 children in nursery. The school children, ranging from P1 - P7 are in P1 - 4 and P5 - 7 are taught in 2 multi-stage classes.

The Headteacher has overall leadership responsibility for Dunbeath Primary School & ELC and Lybster Primary School & ELC.

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.

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

Overall children are making the following progress:

Reading	Writing	Listening and talking	Numeracy
Satisfactory progress	Satisfactory progress	Satisfactory progress	Satisfactory progress

School vision, values and aims

Lèirsinn, luachan agus amasan na sgoile

Vision - at Dunbeath Primary School and Nursery, we provide a safe, welcoming space where children grow in confidence, kindness, and creativity. Through adventure, friendship, and engaging learning, we help every child thrive and be their best.

Values – Kindness, Confidence and Adventure.

Aim – Be the best you can be.

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: National Improvement for Writing Program (NIWP)		
School Improvement Plan Priority 1		
Summary of progress	Next steps	Stakeholder Views
• All staff attended NIWP training face-to face and online • Staff clearer on where children are and their next steps. • Teachers implementing the writing bundle. • Number of times learners are writing per week risen 3+. • Duration of writing activity (minutes). • Learner's writing portfolios show application of learning across the curriculum. • Run charts demonstrating individual learner gains (added value).	• Continue to embed writing approaches • Continue with moderation across cluster to ensure continuity • CPD on the new Curriculum ready for Aug 2027	

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- EYPs training on 'Words Up' – key messages particularly copy and add to extended vocabulary – staff more confident - Focus on mark making both indoors and outdoors – more visible – CI noted this	
Impact	
- More pupils achieve age related expectation in writing across the school. - Teachers continue to confidently teach writing embedding new approaches introduced - Moderation consolidates teachers personal judgement - Internal and external data. - Staff evaluations of impact of CPD – can see the progression	

School Priority 2: Closing the Attainment Gap		
School Improvement Plan Priority 2		
Summary of progress	Next steps	Stakeholder Views
- Most staff attended initial National Improvement for Writing Programme training (NIWP) and embedding into practice - Robust, regular pupil progress meetings were held with all staff, ensuring CT and HT confidence in assessing where all the children are and what their next steps for learning are. Focusing on progress and targeting individual pupils who need to accelerate their learning to achieve their full potential. - Moderation of reading, writing and numeracy outcomes carried out across cluster and within ASG, ensuring that we have consistency across the curriculum.	- Continue to embed approaches for literacy and numeracy across school - Continue with using the NIWP across the whole school and Cluster - Continue to develop staff confidence through planned moderation across the ASG.	

Impact		
• More pupils achieving age related expectation in literacy and numeracy across the school. • Increased teacher confidence in teaching literacy and numeracy ensures the children are having high quality learning and more structure. • Teachers are becoming more confident in assessment of literacy and numeracy. • Internal and external data is much clearer for teachers to know the children's next steps in their learning. • Staff evaluations of impact of CPD have shown they have more confidence in their teaching and learning.		

Progress and impact of Pupil Equity Fund

Adhartas agus buaidh Maoin Cothromas Sgoilearan

PEF is used to employ a PSA to support with developments in raising attainment in reading and ensuring children are ready to learn as part of our literacy and in particular writing priority to ensure appropriate progress is made.

Having extra staff ensures that all children are safe – due to RA in October 24, PSA and PEF PSA hours reconfigured to support all break & lunchtimes to aid with inclusion for all.

Wider achievements

Coileanaidhean nas fharsainghe

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Visitors –Feis, Kodaly, Violin lessons and STEM activities. Music festival

Caithness Klics

Visits to Dunbeath Heritage Centre and Dunbeath & District Centre – Christmas carols

Sports for rural schools, and Highland Games. Sports day events. HLH sports – Children becoming Sports Leaders. Cross country. Football matches

Enterprise projects – parents coming in and speaking about their businesses, children fundraising for various events

Goblin Car

Residential

Storyteller – pupil comment below

Virgin money – enterprise. Donations to community charities & school. Pounds for Primaries

Art for Latheron show

Scottish Air Ambulance

SSEN online science activities. Science Festivals

World Book Day

Pupil led assemblies throughout the year – ie ICT, Valentine's Day

Weekly certificate winners

Day trips

Performances- school play

Caithness music festival

Comments from learners, families, stakeholders and staff

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

Be the best you can be



Children – ‘Good because we have a lot of fun.’ ‘Teachers change the hard things to make it fun.’ ‘Boring hard maths is made fun and hard.’
 Better – ‘Children getting more certificates.’
 ‘Enjoyed doing the comic strip from Literacy shed, it was fun.’
 Visitors in – ‘makes learning more fun like the Storyteller.’
 ‘Assemblies are better.’ ‘The healthy one.’ ‘With the children doing the assemblies it gave them confident to speak.’
 ‘All the teachers make things fair with the work.’ ‘They do the work appropriately for your ability. If you’re really smart, they give you work that is harder for you to do.’
 ‘We have got some good equipment, goals, skipping ropes, pens, pencils.’
 ‘All the teachers are very welcoming.’
 ‘All the teachers keep people safe so no one gets hurt.’ ‘Trying to always keep us safe.’
 ‘Some people used to owe Lorraine lots of money whereas people are paying their actual lunch now which helps Lorraine.’
 ‘All the school performances are good fun.’ ‘All the parents, relatives and carers came to watch. Everyone is involved.’
 ‘If someone is struggling the teacher helps them but it doesn’t matter if they don’t get it right.’ ‘We are supported by everyone.’ ‘Makes you braver, less shy.’
 ‘Teachers teach us to be kind to each other – anti-bully.’
 ‘Teachers teach you a variety of things, writing, dividing, time & multiplication.’
 ‘The little ones copy the older ones so we need to set a better example, like pick the litter up, then the little ones will too.’
 Staff – capacity for continuous improvement with continuity of staff.
 Feel we are becoming clearer of expectations.
 Support each other.
 Sharing of good practice.

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	Satisfactory
QI 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
QI 3.1 Wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Good	Satisfactory

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QI 3.2		
Raising attainment and achievement/Securing children's progress	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Other QIs reviewed		

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

Priority 1 – Curriculum Rationale

Priority 2 – Learning & teaching

Wick ASG Priority – Curriculum Improvement Cycle.

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 [Dunbeath Primary | Welcome to our school website...](#) or by contacting the school office.