



STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT 2025-26

AITHISG INBHEAN IS CÀILEACHD

NEWTON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL & 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 KIND, HAVE FUN, AIM HIGH

School Profile

Pròifil na Sgoile

The following information can be found on [Parentzone Scotland](https://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

92%

Average Class Size

24.3%

Meeting PE Target

Target Met

Pupil Numbers (inc nursery)

281 + 64 ELC

Teacher Numbers

11 classes + EP

Pupil Teacher Ratio

24.3%

N3

7.6%

N4

11.1%

P1

11.1%

P2

9.4%

P3

11.7%

P4

11.4%

P5

10%

P6

14%

P7

13.5%

SIMD Q1¹

15%

SIMD Q2

24%

SIMD Q3-4

8%

SIMD Q5-6

20%

SIMD Q7+

33%

Unknown

0%

ASN²

32%

No ASN

68%

FSM³

25%

No FSM

75%

EAL⁴

4%

No EAL

96%

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

Reading

Most

Writing

Majority

Listening and talking

Almost all

Numeracy

Most

We have had no exclusions this year.

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

² ASN – Additional Support Needs

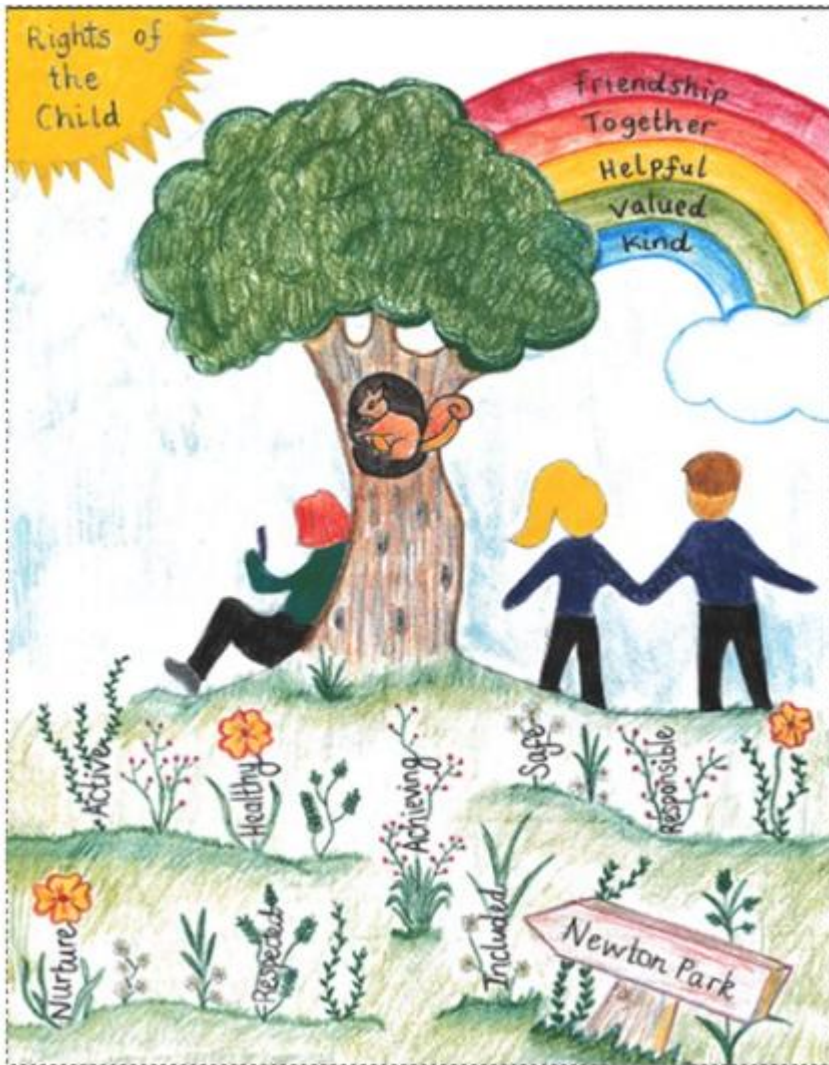
³ FSM – Free school meal entitlement

⁴ EAL – English as an additional language

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School vision, values and aims

Lèirsinn, luachan agus amasan na scoile



Our School Vision (illustration on left) is based on our school badge and all stakeholders were involved in its creation during Session 2024-25. It represents what is important to the pupils, families and staff of Newton Park Primary.

Our Values were then reviewed in Session 25-26 and they are -

Be kind,

Have fun,

Aim high.

Next year (Session 2026-27) we are going to review our Aims, as we feel they need to better reflect the aims of our school and they have not been reviewed since 2018.

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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: Raise attainment in Numeracy		
School Improvement Plan Priority 1		
Summary of progress	Next steps	Stakeholder Views
3.2 Raising Attainment and Achievement Good progress was made towards this target. Early identification of children working at slightly lower level and targeted interventions from the start of the year supported steady improvement in pupil attainment. Tracking discussions and new tracking spreadsheets are providing clear data for teaching staff to engage with and to provide clear identification for pupils who would benefit from interventions. PEF teachers worked across the school and provided support, resources, planning of interventions for individual pupils. They tracked interventions and progress and provided support in classes for HNP work. New resources were purchased for numeracy interventions and trays set up to allow easy access to resources, specifically designed for each HNP area.	Videos being made this session will be accessible for families next session – so impact will be measurable into Session 26-27. Ensure first videos are made and put on platform for families to access. Further videos to be added to this over next session – allow for building of numeracy skills at home in line with HNP targets. Engage with CIC to ensure numeracy progressions support our learners to progress at an appropriate pace. From Stakeholders: More homework, more opportunity for families to support work at home, particularly for P6-7 in preparation for WHS.	From Family Feedback Form – Provides excellent education and makes my children thrive to do well and gives them confidence. My children enjoy going to school every day. The teachers provide very good feedback of their progress in the classroom. ASN support has always been good in my experience, although stretched best effort is made to support my child. My daughter feels happy, safe and well supported in her learning.
Impact		
High expectations for all learners. Clear, well planned and assessed interventions created which provided an increase in children attaining numeracy outcomes. For the same cohort of pupils – In Primary 4 – 52% of children achieved ACEL First Level (2022) – that rose to 83% of pupils achieving ACEL Second Level in 2025 (Primary 7 data). In Primary 1 – 61% of children achieved ACEL Early Level (2022) – that rose to 70% of pupils achieving ACEL First Level in 2025 (Primary 4 data).		

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In Primary 1 this year (2025) – 94% of children have achieved ACEL Early Level.

We are in a very good place to continue to build on numeracy skills – although we have paused curriculum benchmark work due to the new Curriculum Improvement Cycle being introduced, we will continue to use HNP and targeted interventions to support children who are identified.

We are also in a good place to use the videos to support further learning at home, to allow families to engage with numeracy learning and also understand how different strategies are taught (eg Jump strategy).

School Priority 2: Achieving Rights Respecting Schools Gold Award		
School Improvement Plan Priority 2		
Summary of progress	Next steps	Stakeholder Views
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion Placing the human rights and needs of every child and young person at the centre of education We have made excellent progress towards this priority – achieving Rights Respecting School Gold Award in February 2026.	Further embed use of Rights-based prompt cards for conversations within the wider school community – including playground. Further embed rights and global goals in class teaching i.e. all projects/IDL, areas of maths: ensure planned at the start of the school year. Continue to develop Gold Aware across the school, planning more awareness days next year. From Stakeholders: Do more around the language and behaviour to support all children within the school. More work to support pupil-pupil relationships.	These views have been taken from our RRS Gold Award report (Feb-26): One adult notes a positive difference across the school now that “rights no longer feel tokenistic; they have become something fully embedded.” One parent commented about their child’s “increased levels of empathy with children in other part’s of the world.” Adults in school keep us same and it’s their job to see that we get all our rights. “Newton Park Primary is a highly inclusive community.” From Family Feedback Form – Staff are warm and welcoming. The school feels like a place where children would feel happy to spend time. The Participation Groups have been fantastic and I hope that these continue for the next academic year.

		Very well rounded experience including strong links with the community.
Impact		
Children, young people and the wider school community know about and understand the UNCRC and can describe how it impacts on their lives and on the lives of children everywhere. Our RRS group present at assemblies and in classes. They have also begun recording fortnightly videos to share on School Dojo which discuss our Goal of the Fortnight. This year we have developed our Pupil Participation groups. Every pupil in the school is now part of a group which they chose to be part of. Through pupil voice, pupils are able to bring forward suggestions for change which enhances an environment of fairness and equity.		

School Priority 3: Health and Wellbeing / ICT Developments		
School Improvement Plan Priority 2		
Summary of progress and impact	Next steps	Stakeholder Views
2.2 Curriculum Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing. (NIF) We have made very good progress towards this priority. We have embedded Jigsaw across the school and have moderated this to ensure that key lessons are taught at each stage. Staff have also linked Jigsaw to RSHP programme and ensured a comprehensive HWB programme of work across the school. Jigsaw Charters have been written in every class and link in with our RRS charters. ICT – 360 evaluation has been updated and next steps identified.	Pupil Participation groups to be focused on areas that have been identified as requiring further leadership – eg – ICT Ambassadors. Moderation of Jigsaw / Project Evolve needs to be carried out next session to identify areas for further development and to provide staff a space to review where they are in these developments. We must ensure consistency across the school in both ICT and HWB. Next steps from Stakeholders: Get a bit more times where we can talk to Mrs Sinclair \ Ms Price. More support to be provided for children who have different ASN needs / need more support around anxiety.	I know most of the staff and the staff are always there when I need to talk. The best things about being a pupil in this school is getting to do fun activities, if you are upset you can talk to an adult about it and you can tell an adult if you achieve something outside of school. To have a pupil participation groups and to play with friends. That there are many chances for pupil voices to be heard.

SHANARRI referral system has been set up to allow teachers to refer individual pupils to Family Link Worker (FLW) if concerns around any of the indicators.		
Impact Children are engaged in learning across HWB strands – using Jigsaw resource linked in with RSHP programme. Planning sheets are now available for all staff, providing consistency across the school. RSHP has been linked to Jigsaw and plans ensure coverage of themes in line with Ed Scot / Highland Council. This has been shared with our families.		

Progress and impact of Pupil Equity Fund

Adhartas agus buaidh Maoin Cothromas Sgoilearan

Pupil Equity Funding continues to provide invaluable support for our learners identified on our PEF trackers.

Our Family Link Worker, Mrs Sinclair has gone from strength to strength, supporting a huge number of children across the school for a wide range of needs. This includes work around bereavement, Care Experienced pupils, running Seasons for Growth Programme, being part of SHANARRI support system for referrals submitted by teaching staff, the cost of the school day...to name but a few interventions. She is integral to the running of our school and supports the ethos that we work hard to establish and maintain.

We also have a number of PSA staff who are funded through PEF. They support our children identified having needs through our PEF trackers, including supporting improving learning in literacy and numeracy. They have supported raising attainment and positive results in intervention programmes including Code Cracker, 60 Second Reads, Highland Numeracy Project and Phonological Awareness.

This year's funding also provided 40 days of teaching time – where 4 of our teaching staff worked additional days across the year to support learners, set up interventions and carried out assessments.

Wider achievements

Coileanaidhean nas fharsainghe

The introduction of Pupil Participation Groups ensured that every child within Newton Park Primary had a voice, leading to further achievements across the school.

Community Group along with ELC children carried out regular visits to the local Care Home and established links within the community.

A group of P7 children competed in STEM Lego League Challenge and made it to the British finals in Harrogate. An amazing experience for a group of our children.

A group of 13 P7 children took part in Scottish Maths Challenge – all children gained either a Bronze (3), Silver (6) or Gold (4) Award in this competition, completing all 3 rounds and all 9 questions. An amazing achievement as the questions were very challenging!!

A huge number of children, from across the school, took part in Newton Park's Got Talent – with finalists presenting in front of an invited panel of judges.

All children from P1- P7 took part in the Music Festival this year, providing an experience for all our learners to take part in this community event. Lots of children across the school took part in individual events from playing the piano, chanter and voila to verse speaking.

Primary 7 children took part in the residential trip to Nethybridge, Abernethy, where they had the opportunity to take part in team building and confidence building activities.

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Mr Aitken from WHS came to speak to a number of classes about radio links to the ISS.

Senior pupils attended a concert by Nick Morgan at Noss Primary School to celebrate Scotland in the World Cup.

P6 and P7 children undertook Bikeability training.

Some P6 & P7 children completed the Young Leader Award through Playground Leaders or a weekly lunchtime club in collaboration with the Active Schools Co-ordinator, Mr Clarke & Mrs Foubister.

Countryside rangers visited P5/6 to teach them about the Blue Butterflies in Caithness.

Children supported a wide range of charity projects this year:

- Red Nose Day
- Local Food Bank
- Caithness FM – Cash for Kids (Christmas gifts)
- Children in Need
- Hello Yellow – Mental Health Awareness Day

Christmas saw a range of wider activities being supported both within and out with the school –

- P5-7 carried out an Enterprise Project – from making crafts, to singing Christmas Songs for their families. They raised an amazing £1500, which they used to fund activities throughout the year.
- P2-4 produced a Christmas Show and raised an amazing £1386.
- P1 and P2 held coffee mornings for their families, where the P1s sang Christmas songs and the P2s presented a Festive Show - and had an opportunity to spend time with their families.

With the support of the Parent Council, children across the school took part in World Book Day.

A P7 child represented the school through qualifying for the Scottish Schools Swimming finals for Breaststroke in Aberdeen – we were all very proud.

Children took part in a large number of house events throughout the year. All children belong to one of our Houses – Eagle, Hawk, Falcon and Kestrel.

Football and netball teams played in matches in mixed teams with another local primary school. They also played as their school team against the same school.

P6 pupils worked with local primary schools to enhance transition to Wick High School. Pupils took part in a football tournament at our local football ground, Harmsworth, where they played in teams consisting of both pupils from all schools.

P7 pupils worked throughout Term 3 and 4 to enhance transition to Wick High School – from sports events to class activities. They also had additional sports days run by WHS staff.

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Our wonderful Parent Council continued to support lots of projects across the school including funding line painting in our main playground – see photos.

We also ran our annual Book Fair through Scholastic. Not only does this promote the importance of reading, but through Scholastic Rewards, allowed us to raise £512.86 which we can spend on books to top up our libraries across the school.

Water Aid – P7 pupils wanted to raise money for this cause – they ran a Glitter Art and Tattoo stall at the Parent Council events – raised an amazing £112.35 for such a good cause.

Primary 4-7 pupils had the opportunity to work with Susan Dingle and Jennifer Ferguson as part of the Caithness Orchestra to be a part of the Christmas Choir. The children were amazing and sang their hearts out.

Our High Life Highland Sports Coordinator supported a number of events for our pupils, including helping our Playground Leaders, coordinating Rugby sessions and offering after school football for all ages.

Comments from learners, families, stakeholders and staff

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

You said:

100% of our families who completed the Family Survey strongly agree / agree that their child likes being at Newton Park and that staff treat them fairly and with respect.

The strength of the school is creating an environment where children have a sense of belonging.

The school provides a welcoming and supporting environment where children are encouraged to do their best.

The staff are caring, approachable and dedicated and communication with parents is excellent.

Communication, activities and optional breakfast club are all strengths.

Links to community embedded in learning – MSP visit when learning about elections, visits to Residential homes, air ambulance charity etc.

Good leadership, nurturing kind teachers and all staff who all look out for each and every one of the kids putting their needs and wellbeing foremost. Always a lovely buzz when school events on and so welcoming. My boys love Moira (FLW) in the school and in the playground.

I think the school works well and has the children's best interest at heart.

I feel Newton Park has really come together along with the parent council to grow stronger every year. Everyone works as a team and ensure it is fully inclusive for all children.

Further strengths identified were the positive ethos of the school and the tracking grids that ensure we know where each learner is.

Staff felt we were always striving for better.

Areas for improvement –

Support for children who are in classes with children who may experience periods of feeling dysregulated – ensuring we support all of our learners.

Homework – to have the opportunity to support children more at home. Prepare children for demands of High School.

Child to child relationships.

More outdoor seating and outdoor play resources.

More after school clubs / activities.

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

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QI 1.3 Leadership of change	Very good	Very good
QI 2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	Good	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.

Key priorities for improvement planning

Prìomhachasan airson planadh airson leasachadh

We have identified 3 key areas for our School Improvement Plan for Session along with a priority which is an ASG collaborative project.

These are:

Priority 1 – Health and Wellbeing / Inclusive Practice

Priority 2 – Raising standards through effective moderation and Numeracy support interventions

Priority 3 – Developing skills across the curriculum – using Meta-skills

Wick ASG Priority – Develop our understanding of Curriculum Improvement Cycle (CIC)

Planning ahead

A' planadh air adhart

Full 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 or by contacting the school office.

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[Newton Park Primary School | Welcome to our website](#) (our S&Q will be published on our website, however, we are currently creating a new website so will share this once it is ready.)

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