

Standards and Quality Report

2023-24



Spean Bridge Primary School and ELCC

HIGHLAND COUNCIL | SPEAN BRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL, SPEAN BRIDGE, PH33 7JN

This report is provided to families and partners to identify our achievements this session. The next steps in our improvement journey are also outlined.

Throughout the year we continuously evaluate what we do and how it makes a difference to our learners. We want to know what is working well for our school community and what needs further improvement.

Our children and young people are actively consulted and involved in this process. We also give staff, parents/carers, and other partners the opportunity to participate in discussions and activities in order to shape our improvement journey.

When we develop our improvement projects, we use key questions at planned review times throughout the session in order to know how well we progressing towards achieving these positive outcomes and changes.

Our School

Spean Bridge PS enjoys a small village context, just outside of Fort William. We are clustered with Invergarry PS, and part of the Lochaber Associated Schools Group. The catchment area is diverse with 20% of the pupils in SIMD 1&2.

There have been significant staffing changes over the past two years with a new Head Teacher appointed in 2020, and 2023 maternity and absence cover.

We have an ELCC and 4 composite primary classes.

Our learners enjoy coming to school and are motivated and enthusiastic about learning.

We are committed to continuing improvement in our school, our cluster school, and our nursery all work closely as a team to ensure the sharing of information and good practise at all stages.

Staff know the children very well and employ a variety of teaching styles and differentiated approaches to accommodate the needs and learning styles of pupils.

We are committed to self-evaluation and self-improvement. We use a variety of evidence effectively to improve and evaluate our work – visits to classes and nursery, sampling of pupils' work and analysis and tracking of pupil attainment.

Our School Vision, Values and Aims

Our school ethos is underpinned by our core values, which were developed by the entire school community 2023

- Respect
- Kind
- Safe
- Fun
- resilient
- These values are linked to our curriculum rationale and teaching and learning policy

Our vision is to enable every child to achieve their full potential, in an inclusive, caring environment; to be lifelong learners and develop skills for learning, life and work; to become responsible citizens equipped for the challenges of the 21st century.

- Our School Aims were developed by the whole school community in Session 23/24 For our pupils to have an understanding of the world around us and the importance of the natural world and our importance in it.
- We want our pupils to leave school with the skills they need to continue to learn and contribute to society.
- We want our pupils to leave school with attributes which reflect our school values.
- We want our students to leave school with excellent numeracy and literacy skills, knowledge and understanding which open the doors they need them to, and which reflects their very best.
- We want our students to love learning for the sake of learning, viewing it as interesting, exciting and empowering
- We want our pupils to be able to understand themselves and what makes them unique individuals
- For our pupils be able to communicate and work co-operatively with others

Pupil Voice: what is working well in our school?

Our children and young people identified the following strengths for our school this session:
Comments from Primary 7 pupil focus group:

- Behaviour is much better
- Our new school values are working well
- We enjoy our new playground equipment

Pupil Voice: what changes would you like to see made?

Our children and young people identified the following changes they would like to see and the difference these changes could make.

Comments from Primary 7 pupil focus group:

- More science learning
- More challenge in their learning
- More pupil leadership opportunities

Our Improvement Journey Headlines Session 2023/24

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

Improvement Project 1: Understanding and Improving Assessment and Moderation Strategies in Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Primary focus: Teacher and practitioner professionalism

Year of Project: 1

Purpose: This project has been developed in response to HMie report to support understanding of children's progress to raise attainment and close the attainment gap

Progress and impact:

Termly Attainment meetings across classes and ELC. Focus on language of learning, benchmarking when looking at progression of and through a level achieved.

Most staff have a higher level of understanding and use of benchmarks linked to CPD, Collegiate time and updated planning.

Attainment data shows improvement in attainment and understanding of the achievement of a level.

ASG moderation meetings

Next steps:

- Continue to work with ASG for moderation and standardisation-
- Refresh Moderation with new and changed staff
- Expand moderation discussions to other areas of the curriculum
- Moderation training

Improvement Project 2:

Primary focus: School and ELC improvement

Year of Project: 1

Purpose: Improve teaching and learning through the development of classroom pedagogy

Progress and impact:

A teaching and learning framework was devised this session linked to the school values, this has improved consistency in teaching and learning.

A series of teaching sprints linked to Bruce Robertson's power up your Pedagogy were put in place these were linked to CPD, staff training and peer and HT observations.

Termly attainment reviews were put in place and strategies discussed to improve classroom pedagogy.

Assemblies and in class discussion regarding teaching and learning and school values have ensured that learning behaviours in school, listening, engagement have significantly improved. This can be seen through termly child surveys and Leuven scale data.

Observations and HMie inspection highlighted improvements in learning and teaching throughout the school this can also see in improved attainment in all areas of the curriculum.

Next steps:

- Continue to embed high expectations and school values
- Teachers to take ownership of pedagogical practice areas.

Improvement Project 3:)

Primary focus: Performance Information

Year of Project: 1

Purpose: Improve and develop tracking and monitoring to raise attainment

Progress and impact:

Termly tracking and monitoring of children with teachers in place, assessment and moderation calendar in place.

SOFA assessments in place to track areas of curriculum that require focus and to improve attainment.

PEF money used to increase PSA hours for focussed support linked to tracking meetings, teachers and ASNT developed focussed timetables for PSAs linked to tracking and monitoring.

Termly use of health and wellbeing wheels to track children's emotional wellbeing.

Use of Leuven scales to track pupil engagement.

Tracker in place that tracks children achievement over a number of years.

Attainment has improved significantly across many areas of the curriculum, staff have a much fuller idea of where children are and next steps. HMIE commented on very good use of data from tracking and monitoring in supporting school improvement and attainment.

Next steps:

- Continue tracking meetings termly
- Children to take more of a lead in their own learning journey.
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Evaluation of Progress

We believe we have made the following progress this session:

Quality Indicator	School self-evaluation
1.3 Leadership of Change	Good
.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	Good
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Good
3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	Good

Our children and young people believe we have made the following progress this session:

Theme 1 Our relationships	Good
Theme 2 Our learning and teaching	Good
Theme 3 Our school and community	Good
Theme 4 Our health and wellbeing	Good
Theme 5 Our successes and achievements	Satisfactory

Our overall evaluation of our school's capacity for continuous improvement is:

We are confident in our capacity for continuous improvement.

Staffing has continued to be an issue although through careful management and communication we have still managed to make considerable improvements.

Planning Ahead

Full details of the school's 2023/24 improvement priorities and actions are detailed on the school improvement plan, which can be accessed on our website (<https://sites.google.com/highlandschools.net/speanbridge/home>) or by contacting the school office.