

The Highland Council

Caithness and Sutherland Area Committee - 16 September 2015

Agenda Item	14.
Report No	CS/32/15

Education Scotland Reports – period March 2015 to June 2015

Report by Director of Care and Learning

Summary

This report provides details on Education Scotland's inspections of schools in the Area during the period March 2015 to June 2015, for Members' scrutiny and monitoring.

1. Introduction to Inspections

- 1.1 Education Scotland aims to provide assurance on the quality of Scottish education and promote improvement and innovation to enhance learners' experiences and lead to better outcomes. Their inspections also contribute to National Performance Framework reporting.
- 1.2 Each year, they inspect and report on the quality of education in a sample of pre-school centres, primary schools, secondary schools, special schools, community learning and development services, colleges and residential educational provision. They also inspect the education functions of local authorities.
- 1.3 To support improvement, inspectors focus on the quality of children and young people's learning and achievement. They have a particular interest in the development of children and young people's skills and understanding in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing which enables access to the highest possible learning within a broad general education and beyond.
- 1.4 Details of all aspects of the work of Education Scotland along with all the reference documentation can be found on the Education Scotland website.
Link: [Education Scotland](#)

2. Inspections Conducted

School	Inspection Date	Nature of Inspection	Publication Date	Action
Scourie Primary	June 15 th /16 th 2015	Re-visit	25 August 2015	Education Scotland will ask for a progress report from the Authority within one year of this inspection

- 2.2 **HMIe Report on – *What Happens Next, please see the extract from the report:***
'The school, with the support of the Highland Council, has made significant progress in addressing most of the main points for action outlined in the inspection letter of November 2013. Whilst there is still work to be done, the progress made is to be commended. The headteacher, with the full support of all staff, has a clear plan in place to address all outstanding issues and to continue to build on the very good

progress already made'. Our Lead Officer will work with the Highland Council to build capacity for improvement and will maintain contact to monitor progress. We shall ask the Highland Council to provide us with a progress report within one year and decide at that point whether a further visit is required.

- 2.3 The relevant Education Scotland report published during the period covered by this report is available through this link:

http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/ScouriePSCE250815_tcm4-867610.pdf

- 2.4 As this was a re-visit there is no reporting against the Quality indicators.

3. Actions as a Result of Inspection

- 3.1 The Authority and Head Teacher are provided with both the report and a 'record of visit (ROV). These documents evidence both good practice and areas for improvement and, using this, the school will adapt its school 'Improvement Plan' and report annually the impact on learners through the Standards and Quality Report.

4. Comparison

- 4.1 Members are advised that it is not possible to use Education Scotland reports to compare across schools, as the curriculum is now tailored by schools to their individual circumstances, within the overall quality indicators. Furthermore, it is not possible to compare previous reports for a school with more recent reports. This is due to changes in the inspection focus from year to year.
- 4.2 Consequently, reports have to be viewed as a single snap-shot of a school's performance against a suite of national quality indicators as laid down in How Good Is Our School 3.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 The Area Committee is asked to scrutinise and note the Education Scotland report.

Designation: Director of Care and Learning

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Date: 3rd September 2015