

Agenda Item	4.
Report No	CC/13/17

Committee: Caithness Committee

Date: 29 August 2017

Report Title: **Wick Associated School Group Overview**

Report By: Director of Care and Learning

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update of key information in relation to the schools within the Wick Associated School Group (ASG), and provides useful updated links to further information in relation to these schools.
- 1.2 The primary schools in this area serve over 980 pupils, with the secondary school serving 692 young people.

ASG roll projections can be found at:

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/schoolrollforecasts>

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to: scrutinise and not the content of the report.

3. School Information

- 3.1 Secondary – [Link to Wick High webpage](#)

Primary

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/44/schools/search>

School	Link to School Webpage
Bower Primary School ©	Bower Primary webpage
Canisbay Primary School ©	Canisbay Primary webpage
Dunbeath Primary School ©	Dunbeath Primary webpage
Keiss Primary School	Keiss Primary webpage
Lybster Primary School ©	Lybster Primary webpage
Newton Park Primary School	Newton Park Primary webpage
Noss Primary School	Noss Primary webpage
Thrumster Primary School ©	Thrumster Primary webpage
Watten Primary School ©	Watten Primary webpage

© Denotes school part of a “cluster” management arrangement

3.2 School/Nursery Inspections

School	Date of Latest Published Report	Link to Education Scotland Pages
Wick High School	Follow Up Jan-12	Wick High Inspection
Bower Primary School	Aug-13	Bower Primary Inspection
Canisbay Primary School	Mar-07	Canisbay Primary Inspection
Dunbeath Primary School	Apr-10	Dunbeath Primary Inspection
Keiss Primary School	Follow Up Jan-14	Keiss Primary Inspection
Lybster Primary School	Jan-09	Lybster Primary Inspection
Newton Park Primary School		Newton Park Primary Inspection
Noss Primary School		Noss Primary Inspection
Thrumster Primary School	May-07	Thrumster Primary Inspection
Watten Primary School	Sep-09	Watten Primary Inspection

Early Year Centre	Inspection Month	Quality of Care & Support	Quality of Environment	Quality of Staffing	Quality of Management & Leadership
Bower Busy Bees Pre-school	May-17	good	adequate	good	adequate
Canisbay Primary Nursery	Dec-14	Very good	Very good	Very good	good
Dunbeath Pre-school	Jan-16	Very good	Very good	Very good	Very good
Noss Primary Nursery	Sep-16	good	good	good	Very good
Keiss Primary Nursery	Oct-16	good	good	good	good
Lybster Primary Nursery	Feb-17	good	good	good	adequate
Newton Park Primary Nursery	Dec-15	good	Very good	good	Very good
Thrumster Primary Nursery	Nov-14	good	good	good	good
Watten Pre-school Playgroup	Nov-16	Very good	Very good	Not assessed	Not assessed

Other School Information

SCHOOL	ECO School	Travel Plan	No of Placing Requests In	No of Placing Requests in Granted	No of Placing Requests Out Granted
Wick High School	silver	yes	2	2	2
Bower Primary School	green flag	yes	2	2	0
Canisbay Primary School	silver	yes	1	1	1
Dunbeath Primary School	bronze	no	3	3	0
Keiss Primary School	withdrawn	yes	0	0	1
Lybster Primary School	bronze	yes	0	0	3
Newton Park Primary School	registered	yes	9	9	1
Noss Primary School	registered	yes	6	6	8
Thrumster Primary School	bronze	no	5	5	0
Watten Primary School	bronze	yes	1	1	3

ECO School information is reported as at May 2017. Placing requests are those received to start in a school during academic year 2016-17.

Staffing

School	Teaching Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	Non-Teaching (FTE)
Wick High School	50.17	19.27
Bower Primary School	2.60	1.32
Canisbay Primary School	2.60	1.32
Dunbeath Primary School	2.80	1.06
Keiss Primary School	3.57	0.96
Lybster Primary School	5.30	1.59
Newton Park Primary School	17.30	7.21
Noss Primary School	16.00	10.24
Thrumster Primary School	2.40	1.53
Watten Primary School	3.80	1.90

Nursery	Teacher (FTE)	Total Staff (FTE)
Bower Busy Bees Pre-school	0.0	1.8
Canisbay Primary Nursery	0.1	1.38
Dunbeath Pre-school	0.0	1.29
Noss Primary Nursery	0.1	8.48
Keiss Primary Nursery	0.1	1.38
Lybster Primary Nursery	0.1	2.01
Newton Park Primary Nursery	0.1	9.75
Thrumster Primary Nursery	0.1	1.38
Watten Pre-school Playgroup	0.0	1.29

School staff information from Staff Census collected Sept 2016. Please note that only certain types of teaching posts are counted here: Normal complement, Long term sick absence replacement, secondment replacement, maternity leave replacement, other replacement, temporary contract, covering a vacancy. Teachers who teach at the school but are centrally employed are excluded. Pre-school staff information has been taken from the Pre-School Census returned to the Scottish Govt in September 2016.

Core staffing is calculated using the Highland Staffing Model, which takes account of national agreements for P1 to P3 class sizes. As a result, all primaries in this ASG are staffed according to the model. The Primary Staffing Arrangements are currently being revised and the new Highland Staffing Model will be shared in due course.

In addition to core staffing for each school, a model will be used to provide an appropriate level of ASN cover to each school within the ASG. This model was approved at Adult and Children's Services Committee, 26th September 2012 (Item 9a). Report [ACS-33-12](#).

There is some additional Pupil Support Assistant (PSA) and ASN teacher time in the local area. Whilst the ASN budget has not increased, this staffing increase is as a result of schools data on pupils with additional needs. The North Area has a slightly bigger slice of the budget 'pie'.

Whilst the allocation has been made as in the figures, there has been great difficulty recruiting ASN teachers in the North Area. In the Wick ASG we are currently without ASN teachers at Dunbeath, Thrumster and Watten – although some temporary short –term arrangements are being put in place. We need at least one additional support teacher in Newton Park and Noss PS. All the support teacher posts at Wick HS have been filled. We have asked for all the vacancies to be re-advertised. Since Easter every suggestion made by head teachers and current support teachers to attract applicants has also been employed. The Area ASN Manager, the Area Care and Learning Manager and the ASN Head of Service are looking at how to address this shortage.

This session we are funding additional staffing for the ASG as follows:

- 13 FTE ASN teachers
- 49.8 FTE PSA staff (1,370 hours PSA time) (an increase of 7 FTE)

The identified level of need at start of session was:

162	Pupils at level 2
92	Pupils at level 3
38	Pupils at level 4

Funding

School/ Nursery	Budget Aug 2015	Cost Per Pupil	Carry Fwd 2014-15
Wick H.S.	3,077,900	4,692	76,892
Pulteneytown Academy P.S.	621,749	2,751	(24,878)
Bower P.S.	138,175	3,370	(5,561)
Canisbay P.S.	194,546	4,524	(3,108)
Dunbeath P.S.	131,535	6,923	(6,341)
Hillhead P.S.	488,379	3,278	6,453
Keiss P.S.	195,963	3,769	(7,366)
Thrumster P.S.	142,292	3,846	23
South P.S.	315,601	3,670	(16,446)
Lybster P.S.	278,159	3,351	(9,492)
North Wick P.S.	471,749	2,948	(20,800)
Watten P.S.	188,151	3,189	(1,642)
Hillhead Pr Nursery	40,355	1,614	(865)
Thrumster Nursery	28,495	3,166	(163)
Keiss N.S.	31,426	2,095	(889)
Lybster N.U.	53,000	2,944	(1,123)
North Pr Nursery	56,685	1,383	(1,074)

Members are asked to note that devolved funding is generally sufficient for school needs. Figures in () are surpluses.

Buildings

School	Suitability	Condition	% Roll Capacity
Wick High School	Good	Good	
Bower Primary School	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	72%
Canisbay Primary School	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	84%
Dunbeath Primary School	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	42%
Keiss Primary School	Poor	Satisfactory	68%
Lybster Primary School	Satisfactory	Poor	74%
Newton Park Primary School	Good	Good	
Noss Primary School	Good	Good	
Thrumster Primary School	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	68%
Watten Primary School	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	69%

Building suitability, condition and capacity levels are as reported on the 2017 School Estate Core Facts return. Apart from Wick High and Newton Park which opened after the survey was taken in April 2017.

4. Pupil Information

4.1 Pupil Destinations 16+

Leaver destination information is taken from the School Leaver Destination data collected by Skills Development Scotland (SDS) on behalf of the Scottish Government. The most recent return is based on a follow up of young people who left school between 1 August 2015 and 31 July 2016.

	% Positive Destinations		
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Wick High School	88.1%	87.5%	95.6%
Highland	92.7%	93.7%	94.9%
Scotland	92.3%	92.9%	93.3%

Number of pupils leaving in school year:

Total No. Leavers	Wick High School	HIGHLAND	SCOTLAND
2013/14	143	2601	51876
2014/15	136	2700	53836
2015/16	113	2516	52249

% of Leavers	Wick High School			HIGHLAND			SCOTLAND		
	13/14	14/15	15/16	13/14	14/15	15/16	13/14	14/15	15/16
DESTINATION									
Higher Education	34.3	30.1	30.1	32.3	34.1	37.2	38.6	38.3	40.3
Further Education	18.2	24.3	21.2	23.8	26.3	21.3	26.3	27.8	26.6
Training	1.4	1.5	2.7	2.3	1.5	1.0	4.1	3.8	2.6
Employment	31.5	27.9	36.3	31.9	29.1	32.7	21.7	21.7	22.3
Voluntary	0.0	0	0.0	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.5
Activity Agreements	2.8	3.7	5.3	1.5	1.9	1.8	1.1	0.9	1.0
Unemployed Seeking	7.7	5.9	3.5	4.8	4.2	3.3	6.3	5.4	5.1
Unemployed Not Seeking	2.8	3.7	0.9	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.3
Unknown	1.4	2.9	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.2

Note: National averages have been calculated from the figures for all available local authority and grant-aided schools, whereas the local authority averages are based on local authority schools only.

There are currently 9 Activity Agreements involving former pupils of Wick High.

4.2 Pupil Attendance/Absence/Exclusions 2015/16

Scottish Government collect Attendance, Absence and Exclusions on a bi-annual basis, next reporting year is 2016-17.

SCHOOL	% Actual Attendances	% Authorised Absences	% Unauthorised Absences	No of Exclusions and Rates per 1000 Pupils	No Pupils Excluded and Rate per 1000 Pupils
Highland Primary (2015-16)	94.9%	4.0%	1.1%	8/1000	5/1000
Scotland Primary (2014-15)	94.9%	3.8%	1.3%	9/1000	5/1000
Bower Primary	96.3%	3.4%	0.4%	0/1000	0/1000
Canisbay Primary	95.6%	3.9%	0.5%	0/1000	0/1000
Dunbeath Primary	97.0%	2.2%	0.8%	0/1000	0/1000
Keiss Primary	97.4%	2.4%	0.2%	0/1000	0/1000
Lybster Primary	95.6%	3.7%	0.7%	0/1000	0/1000
Newton Park Primary	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Noss Primary	95.2%	4.2%	0.6%	0/1000	0/1000
Thrumster Primary	94.3%	4.6%	1.1%	0/1000	0/1000
Watten Primary	97.2%	1.7%	1.2%	0/1000	0/1000
Hillhead Primary	95.1%	4.2%	0.7%	0/1000	0/1000
Pulteneytown Ac	94.8%	4.6%	0.6%	4/1000	4/1000
North Primary	93.9%	5.1%	0.9%	81/1000	31/1000
South Primary	93.9%	4.1%	1.8%	68/1000	57/1000

SCHOOL	% Actual Attendances	% Authorised Absences	% Unauthorised Absences	No of Exclusions and Rates per 1000 Pupils	No Pupils Excluded and Rate per 1000 Pupils
Highland Secondary (2015-16)	91.46%	5.9%	2.6%	39/1000	26/1000
Scotland Secondary (2014-15)	91.9%	5.4%	2.5%	50/1000	29/1000
Wick High School (2015-16)	90.1%	7.0%	2.6%	68/1000	36/1000

Roll, Looked After and EAL pupil numbers have been taken from the Pupil Census carried out in September 2016.

School	Pupil Roll	Looked After	EAL Pupils	Free Meals Registered P4-7	Free Meals Uptake P4-7	Free Meals Uptake P1-3
Highland Primary (2017)				13.5%	76.5%	72.5%
Scotland Primary (2017)				17.5%	86.2%	81.2%
Bower Primary	36	0	0	small school/number		36.4%
Canisbay Primary	42	0	0	small school/number		80.0%
Dunbeath Primary	21	0	0	small school/number		66.7%
Keiss Primary	51	0	0	small school/number		19.0%
Lybster Primary	93	<5	<5	19.6%	90.0%	82.1%
Newton Park Primary	338	<5	6	24.6%	80.0%	65.4%
Noss Primary	321	<5	8	21.4%	47.4%	48.0%
Thrumster Primary	34	0	0	small school/number		69.2%
Watten Primary	52	0	0	small school/number		86.7%

School	Pupil Roll	Looked After	EAL Pupils	Free Meals Registration	Free Meals Uptake
Highland Secondary (2017)				11.3%	77.4%
Scotland Secondary (2017)				14.7%	73.4%
Wick High School	679	10	8	16.6%	78.4%

Free School Meal information extracted from Healthy Living Survey collected February 2017 Free Meals Eligibility is the percentage of the present school roll registered for free meals. Free Meals Uptake is the percentage of those present on census day who were registered and took free meals. The comment "small school/number" indicates that because of the small numbers of pupils in the school or the small numbers registered for free school meals this information cannot be disclosed.

5. High Life Highland

HLH Facilities and Services within the Wick Associated School Group Area	User Information	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Wick Swimming Pool	Customer Visits	57,091	62,750	64,890
St Fergus Gallery	Customer Visits	4,561	3,261	4,325
Wick Library	Customer Visits	34,174	31,108	30,410
Wick High School Library	Customer Visits	29,113	42,446	36,532
Far North Mobile Library	Customer Visits	11,869	7,687	8,962
North Highland Archive Centre	Customer Visits	931	978	1,059
Caithness Broch Centre	Customer Visits	538	522	637
Wick Assembly Rooms	Customer Visits	2,570*	12,776	18,037
Sports Pitches Harmsworth Playing Field Wick Riverside Park Rosebank Playing Field KGV Playing Field Lower Bignold Playing Field Upper Bignold Playing Field & Changing Watten Playing Field & Changing Dunbeath Playing Field Thrumster Playing Field	Available for let by sports clubs	-	-	-
Active Schools Coordinator (figures for academic years)	Participant Sessions	3,209**	6,947	7,136
Youth Development Officer	Attendances	7,690	7,031	5,874
Adult Learning	Unique Participants	312	322	328

* Wick Assembly Rooms: Number of lets rather than customer numbers counted prior to 2015/16.

** Staff vacancy during 2014/15.

Programme Information:-

Wick Swimming Pool - <https://www.highlifehighland.com/wick-swimming-pool/>

St Fergus Gallery - <https://www.highlifehighland.com/st-fergus-gallery/>

Wick Library - <https://www.highlifehighland.com/wick-library/>

Wick Archive Centre - <https://www.highlifehighland.com/caithness-archive-centre/>

Mobile Library - <https://www.highlifehighland.com/far-north-mobile-library/>

Caithness Broch Centre - <http://www.caithnessbrochcentre.co.uk/>

Designation: Education Quality Improvement Manager

Date: 20 August 2017

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SCHOOL ROLLS 2017-18 (August – first week back)

PRIMARY SCHOOL	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total
Bower Primary	3	2	3	6	5	10	3	32
Canisbay Primary	13	5	6	5	8	7	9	53
Dunbeath Primary	1	8	4	6	2		1	22
Keiss Primary	6	9	5	6	8	12	5	51
Lybster Primary	9	12	13	16	12	18	12	92
Newton Park Primary	48	47	55	55	42	46	39	332
Noss Primary	42	55	39	36	57	49	43	321
Thrumster Primary	4	3	4	7	4	5	5	32
Watten Primary	8	5	3	6	10	9	10	51
Grand Total	134	146	132	143	148	156	127	986

SECONDARY SCHOOL	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S1-S6
Wick High School	120	116	140	118	113	85	692

EARL YEARS – NURSERY	3 yrs	4 or 5 yrs
Bower Busy Bees Pre-school		4
Canisbay Primary Nursery	2	1
Dunbeath Pre-school		4
Noss Primary Nursery	47	35
Keiss Primary Nursery	2	10
Lybster Primary Nursery		7
Newton Park Primary Nursery	33	47
Thrumster Primary Nursery	2	4
Watten Pre-school Playgroup		8

*In partner centres the figures are the enrolments for the year (some may start after August).
In school nurseries the figures are those currently in nursery (August – first week back).*