

Agenda item	8.
Report no	CC/06/18

Committee: Caithness Committee

Date: 16 May 2018

Report Title: **Thurso 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 Thurso 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 900 pupils, with the secondary school serving 751 young people.

ASG roll projections can be found at:

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

Recommendations

- 2.**
- 2.1 Members are asked to: scrutinise and note the content of the report.

School Information

Secondary – [Link to Thurso High webpage](#)

Primary

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

School	Link to School Webpage
Castletown Primary School	Castletown Primary webpage
Crossroads Primary School	Crossroads Primary webpage
Halkirk Primary School	Halkirk Primary webpage
Miller Academy Primary School	Miller Academy Primary webpage
Mount Pleasant Primary School	Mount Pleasant Primary webpage
Pennyland Primary School	Pennyland Primary webpage
Reay Primary School	Reay Primary webpage

© Denotes school part of a “cluster” management arrangement

School	Date of Latest Published Report	Link to Education Scotland Pages
Thurso High School	Mar-12	Thurso High Inspection
Castletown Primary School ©	Jan-10	Castletown Primary Inspection
Crossroads Primary School ©	Apr-10	Crossroads Primary Inspection
Halkirk Primary School	Aug-14 (Follow Up)	Halkirk Primary Inspection
Miller Academy Primary School	Nov-16	Miller Academy Primary Inspection
Mount Pleasant Primary School	Aug-17	Mount Pleasant Primary Inspection
Pennyland Primary School	Nov 2011 (Follow Up)	Pennyland Primary Inspection
Reay Primary School	May-10	Reay Primary Inspection

School/Nursery Inspections

Link to Care Inspectorate website: [Find a care service](#)

Early Year Centre	Inspection Month	Quality of Care & Support	Quality of Environment	Quality of Staffing	Quality of Management & Leadership
Reay Under 5's Playgroup	June-17	very good	very good	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
Castletown Primary Nursery	Nov-15	very good	very good	very good	very good
Croileagan Inbhir Theorsa	Jan-16	good	good	good	adequate
Halkirk Playgroup	June 2017	very good	very good	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
Miller Academy Nursery	May-17	very good	Not Assessed	Not Assessed	good
Mount Pleasant Nursery	Sep-16	very good	not assessed	good	not assessed
Pennyland Nursery	Nov-17	adequate	good	good	adequate
Playden Nursery	Jan-17	very good	not assessed	not assessed	very good
Scallywags Nursery	Feb-17	very good	not assessed	not assessed	very good

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
Thurso High School	Bronze	Yes	2	2	0
Castletown Primary School	Bronze	Yes	1	1	1
Crossroads Primary School	Bronze	Yes			0
Halkirk Primary School	Silver	Yes	1	1	1
Miller Academy Primary School	Bronze	Yes	7	7	0
Mount Pleasant Primary School	Silver	Yes	2	2	0
Pennyland Primary School	Silver	No	9	9	8
Reay Primary School	Withdrawn	Yes	1	1	2

ECO School information is reported as at May 2017. Placing requests are those received to start in a school during academic year 2017-2018

Staffing

School	Teaching Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	Non-Teaching (FTE)
Thurso High School	50.7	16.75
Castletown Primary School	6.7	2.11
Crossroads Primary School	2.5	1.23
Halkirk Primary School	7.3	3.54
Miller Academy Primary School	13.93	5.44
Mount Pleasant Primary School	11.9	5.52
Pennyland Primary School	10.4	4.31
Reay Primary School	2.6	0.99
Nursery	Teacher (FTE)	Total Staff (FTE)
Reay Under 5's Playgroup	0.00	1.34
Castletown Primary Nursery	0.10	2.76
Croileagan Inbhir Theorsa	0.05	1.38
Halkirk Playgroup	0.00	2.23
Miller Academy Nursery	0.10	8.14
Mount Pleasant Nursery	0.05	3.13
Pennyland Nursery	0.10	5.38
Playden Nursery	0.00	1.31
Scallywags Nursery	0.00	1.40

School staff information from Staff Census collected Sept 2017. 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](#).

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

- 10.1 FTE ASN teachers
- 34.3 FTE PSA staff (944 hours assuming FTE = 27.5 hrs)

The identified level of need at start of session was:

121	Pupils at level 2
47	Pupils at level 3
31	Pupils at level 4

Funding

School/ Nursery	Budget March 2017	Cost Per Pupil	Carry Fwd 1516
Thurso H.S.	3,447,301	4,437	97,772
Castletown P.S.	407,631	3,514	84
Crossroads P.S.	141,112	5644	598
Miller Academy Thurso	458,231	3,266	13,416
Reay P.S.	148,938	3,464	1762
Mount Pleasant Thurso	569,128	2,964	19,001
Pennyland P.S.	664,021	3,147	10,049
Halkirk P.S.	458,231	3,394	9,597
Pennyland Pr Nursery	147,573	2,501	2544
Mount Pleasant Nursery School	82,080	1865	365
Miller Acad Nursery	178,425	2,379	1127
Castletown Pr Nursery	45,150	2,376	556

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

Buildings

School	Suitability	Condition	% Roll Capacity
Thurso High School	Poor	Poor	68%
Castletown Primary School	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	63%
Crossroads Primary School	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	42%
Halkirk Primary School	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	71%
Miller Academy Primary School	Poor	Poor	61%
Mount Pleasant Primary School	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	57%
Pennyland Primary School	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	78%
Reay Primary School	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	61%

Building suitability, condition and capacity levels are as reported on the 2017 School Estate Core Facts return.

Pupil Information

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 2016 and 31 July 2017.

	% Positive Destinations			2016/2017
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	
Thurso High School	91.3%	93.8%	91.7%	92.9%
Highland	92.7%	93.7%	94.9%	95.5%
Scotland	92.3%	92.9%	93.3%	93.7%

Number of pupils leaving in school year:

Total No. Leavers	Thurso High School	HIGHLAND	SCOTLAND
2013/14	149	2601	51876
2014/15	130	2700	53836
2015/16	168	2516	52249
2016/17	140	2411	51258

Destinations of Pupils (%)

DESTINATION	Thurso High School			HIGHLAND			SCOTLAND		
	14/15	15/16	16/17	14/15	15/16	16/17	14/15	15/16	16/17
Higher Education	34.6%	28.0%	38.6%	34.1%	37.2%	35.5	38.3%	40.34	40.71
Further Education	33.1%	30.4%	29.3%	26.3%	21.3%	23.68	27.8%	26.59	26.83
Training	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	1.0%	1.74	3.8%	2.58	2.43
Employment	21.5%	33.3%	22.9%	29.1%	32.7%	31.31	21.7%	22.3	21.97
Voluntary	0.8%	0.0%	1.4%	0.7%	0.9%	0.83	0.4%	0.51	0.55
Activity Agreements	2.3%	0.0%	.7%	1.9%	1.8%	2.45	0.9%	1.02	1.22
Unemployed Seeking	3.8%	4.8%	2.1%	4.2%	3.3%	1.41	5.4%	5.1	4.47
Unemployed Not Seeking	0%	2.4%	2.1%	1.3%	1.4%	1.45	1.1%	1.33	1.45
Unknown	2.3%	1.2%	2.9%	0.8%	0.4%	1.62	0.5%	0.24	0.37

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.

Pupil Attendance/Absence/Exclusions AAE Return 2016/17

**From current SEEMIS extract for 2017-2018 school year*

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
Castletown Primary School	96.14%	2.95%	.92%	0/1000	0/1000
Crossroads Primary School	97.28%	2.59%	.13%	0/1000	0/1000
Halkirk Primary School	94.89%	4.18%	.89%	22.22/1000	14.8/1000
Miller Academy Primary School	93.13%	5.10%	1.76%	18.7/1000	18.7/1000
Mount Pleasant Primary School	93.91%	4.46%	1.63%	0/1000	0/1000
Pennyland Primary School	95.57%	2.63%	1.80%	0/1000	0/1000
Reay Primary School	94.93%	4.62%	.45%	0/1000	0/1000

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
Thurso High School	92.52%	4.50%	2.94%	77.13/1000	40.6/1000

Pupils

Roll, Looked After and EAL pupil numbers have been taken current SEEMIS records as of 03/05/18. Free School Meals taken from Healthy Living Survey February 2017.

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 (2016)				17.9%	87.3%	81.7%
Castletown Primary School	122	<5	0	small school/ number	small school/ number	82.0%
Crossroads Primary School	22	<5	0	small school/ number	small school/ number	66.7%
Halkirk Primary School	135	<5	0	10.1%	55.6%	52.0%
Miller Academy Primary School	214	0	6	15.8%	60.0%	79.0%
Mount Pleasant Primary School	189	<5	9	22.9%	56.0%	69.7%
Pennyland Primary School	206	<5	<5	12.8%	76.9%	61.2%
Reay Primary School	37	0	<5	small school/ number	small school/ number	80.0%

School	Pupil Roll	Looked After	EAL Pupils	Free Meals Registration	Free Meals Uptake
Highland Secondary (2017)				11.3%	77.4%
Scotland Secondary (2016)				14.2%	73.9%
Thurso High School	739	6	11	11.0%	63.3%

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.

High Life Highland

HLH Facilities and Services within the Thurso Associated School Group Area	User Information	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Thurso Leisure Centre Pool	Customer Visits	72,756	42,690*	116,292
Swanson Gallery	Customer Visits	2,385	5,255	4,329
Thurso Library	Customer Visits	24,899	45,989**	48,985
Thurso High School Library	Customer Visits	43,969	56,099	50,796
Mobile Library	Customer Visits	7,687	8,962	7,278
Sports Pitches Ormlie Orlig Street Sir George's Millbank Viewfirth Dunnet Park	Available for let by sports clubs	-	-	-
Active Schools Coordinator (academic year)	Participant Sessions	32,527	38,058	Info available from Aug 18
Youth Development Officer	Attendances	1,283	1,229	2,228
Adult Learning	Attendances	***	276	143

* Thurso Swimming Pool was closed for refurbishment during 2016/17. Customer numbers have significantly increased since re-opening compared with pre-closure levels.

** Thurso Gallery/Library closed for refurbishment from Jan 2013 to Nov 2015. Thurso Library was in temporary smaller accommodation from Jan 2013 to Nov 2015.

*** Different info collected prior to 2016/17

Programme Information:-

Thurso Swimming Pool: <https://www.highlifehighland.com/thurso-swimming-pool/>

Swanson Gallery: <https://www.highlifehighland.com/swanson-gallery/>

Thurso Library: <https://www.highlifehighland.com/thurso-library/>

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

Designation: Education Quality Improvement Manager Date: 04/05/18

Author: Alison Donald
Background Papers:

SCHOOL ROLLS 2017-18

SCHOOL ROLLS

Session 2017-18

Primary School	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total
Castletown Primary	14	19	20	19	16	16	18	122
Crossroads Primary	2	2	2	3	5	3	5	22
Halkirk Primary	8	18	17	19	26	19	27	135
Miller Academy Primary	44	27	27	28	23	42	23	214
Mount Pleasant Primary -English	22	25	30	27	35	21	29	189
Pennyland Primary	29	32	28	34	33	26	24	206
Reay Primary	4	8	5	7	6	2	6	37
Grand Total	123	131	129	137	144	129	132	925

School Name	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S1-S6
Thurso High School	130	138	130	130	105	106	739

Nursery	N
Reay Under 5's Playgroup	11
Halkirk Playgroup	20
Playden Nursery	14
Scallywags Nursery	2

Nursery	N
Castletown Primary Nursery	20
Miller Academy Nursery	50
Mount Pleasant Nursery	49
Pennyland Nursery	53