

The Highland Council

Isle of Skye and Raasay Committee

3 September, 2018

Education Scotland Report – Portree High School)

Report by Area Care & Learning Mnaager

Summary

This report provides details on Education Scotland's report of Portree High School of 12 June 2018.

1:0 INTRODUCTION TO INSPECTIONS

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.

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.

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, health and wellbeing which enables access to the highest possible learning within a broad general education and beyond.

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: <https://education.gov.scot/>

2:0 INSPECTION CONDUCTED

2:1

| SCHOOL | AREA | INSPECTION DATE | NATURE OF INSPECTION | PUBLICATION DATE | ACTION |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|---|
| Portree High School | Skye, Wester Ross and Assynt | April 2018 | Full | 12 June 2018 | Education Scotland will make no further visits in connection with the report of 2018. |

2:2 Members are advised that as reports are published following inspection, they will be referred directly to Members and may be discussed at Ward Business Meetings. In this way relevant Members will see each published report as they arrive in the relevant area, with the required degree of immediacy.

2:3 Quality indicators help schools, education authorities and inspectors to judge what is good and what needs to be improved in the work of the school. You can find these quality indicators in the publication "*How good is our school?*" Following the inspection of each school, the Scottish Government gathers evaluations of three important quality indicators to keep track of how well all Scottish schools are doing.

Education Scotland evaluations are made on a 6-point scale as follows:

* Excellent/Very Good/Good/Satisfactory/Weak/Unsatisfactory

Education Scotland will make no further visits to the school in connection with the inspection letter of June 2018.

| Quality Indicator | Portree High School |
|--|---------------------|
| Leadership of Change | Satisfactory |
| Learning, teaching and assessment | Satisfactory |
| Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion | Satisfactory |
| Raising attainment and achievement | Good |

The visit identified the following areas for improvement:

- School leaders should continue to improve approaches to gathering information about the school's work to support self-evaluation and planning for improvement.
- Continue to improve learning and teaching to ensure all young people experience consistently high-quality experiences that meet their needs.
- Further develop approaches to tracking and monitoring young people's progress across subjects from S1 to S3 to ensure that they achieve and attain as highly as they can.
- Continue to build on strengths in Gaelic Medium Education (GME) and increase the range of subjects being taught through the medium of Gaelic in the senior phase leading to awards and qualifications.

The visit identified the following strengths:

- The positive ethos across the school, which is supporting young people to achieve well.
- The creative approaches that have been employed to support young people requiring additional help with their learning. The quality of support provided by pupil support assistants which is helping young people to make good progress in their learning to meet young people's needs.
- Staff and partner agencies' strong commitment to Gaelic. This is leading to positive experiences and strong achievement for young people.
- The opportunities for out-of-classroom experiences provided by staff and partners which are resulting in strong personal achievement for young people.
- The improvement in the percentages of young people achieving a range of Higher awards at S6 in the latest five years.

The full Education Scotland Report can be found on the link below

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/highland/5128234>

3:0 ACTIONS AS A RESULT OF INSPECTION

3:1 The Authority, Head Teacher and the public are provided with the report, "summary of inspection findings" (SIF) and an evidence report.

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.

4:0 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.
- 4.2** 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.
- 4.3** Consequently, reports should 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*.

The link below provides the Approaches to Inspection from August 2016:

Link:

<https://education.gov.scot/what-we-do/inspection-and-review/about-inspections-and-reviews/new-approaches-to-inspection/Approaches%20to%20inspection%20from%20August%202016>

5. Implications

- 5.1** There are no resources, legal, equalities, climate change/carbon clever, risk, Gaelic or rural implications arising from this report.

6:0 RECOMMENDATION:

The Area Committee is asked to scrutinise and note the Education Scotland report on **Portree High School** of 12 June 2018.

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Date: 31st July 2018.