

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Agenda Item</b> | <b>4.</b>       |
| <b>Report No</b>   | <b>CC/16/18</b> |

**Committee:** Caithness Committee

**Date:** 20 November 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>

## 2. Recommendations

- 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     | <a href="#">Castletown Primary webpage</a>     |
| Crossroads Primary School     | <a href="#">Crossroads Primary webpage</a>     |
| Halkirk Primary School        | <a href="#">Halkirk Primary webpage</a>        |
| Miller Academy Primary School | <a href="#">Miller Academy Primary webpage</a> |
| Mount Pleasant Primary School | <a href="#">Mount Pleasant Primary webpage</a> |
| Pennyland Primary School      | <a href="#">Pennyland Primary webpage</a>      |
| Reay Primary School           | <a href="#">Reay Primary webpage</a>           |

© Denotes school part of a “cluster” management arrangement

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

### 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 | Oct-18           | good                      | good                   | Not Assessed        | Not Assessed                       |
| 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         | 2                         | 2                                 | 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, 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Item 9a). Report [ACS-33-12](#).

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

- 9.8 FTE ASN teachers
- 36 FTE PSA staff (990 hours assuming FTE = 27.5 hrs)

The identified level of need at start of session was:

|     |                   |
|-----|-------------------|
| 285 | Pupils at level 2 |
| 83  | Pupils at level 3 |
| 38  | Pupils at level 4 |

Funding

| School/<br>Nursery            | Budget<br>March 2017 | Cost<br>Per<br>Pupil | Carry Fwd<br>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 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Highland Primary (2017-18)</i> | 94.5%                | 4.3%                  | 1.2%                    | 5/1000                                      | 3/1000                                       |
| <i>Scotland Primary (2016-17)</i> | 94.9%                | 3.4%                  | 1.6%                    | 11/1000                                     | 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 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Highland Secondary (2017-18)</i> | 91%                  | 6%                    | 2.6%                    | 44/1000                                     | 27/1000                                      |
| <i>Scotland Secondary (2016-17)</i> | 91.2%                | 5.3%                  | 3.4%                    | 48/1000                                     | 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 1567s. 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   | 43,930* | 119,805 |
| 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 Gillock                             | Available for let by sports clubs | -        | -       | -       |

|  |                      |        |        |        |  |
|--|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--|
| George's Millbank Viewfirth Park           | Naver Dunnet         |        |        |        |  |
| Active Schools Coordinator (academic year) | Participant Sessions | 38,454 | 41,130 | 43,712 |  |
| Youth Development Officer                  | Attendances          | 1,283  | 1,229  | 2,229  |  |
| 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 and 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: 15/11/2018

Author:

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         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>              | <b>123</b> | <b>131</b> | <b>129</b> | <b>137</b> | <b>144</b> | <b>129</b> | <b>132</b> | <b>925</b> |

| School Name        | S1  | S2  | S3  | S4  | S5  | S6  | S1-S6      |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| Thurso High School | 130 | 138 | 130 | 130 | 105 | 106 | <b>739</b> |

| 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 |