

19 August 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In April 2025, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited Sgoil an t-Òib - Leverhulme Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

The inspection team found the following strengths in Sgoil an t-Òib's work.

- The acting Head of School leads very effectively with integrity, sensitivity and a strong focus on solutions. She is well supported by staff, who have the best interests of children at the forefront of their work. Staff take forward effectively projects to improve the sgoil - school.
- In the sgoil, the acting Head of School and staff make regular and well-judged use of self-evaluation, tailored to their situation. The staff team maintain a high standard of professional learning and research, particularly in immersion and effective teaching methods.
- In the sgoil and sgoil-àraich - nursery, children are enthusiastic and eager learners who benefit from high-quality experiences in a range of situations. These are led by the staff team, the community and partners. Children develop thorough real-life knowledge and skills that are local to their island, and promote wellbeing and equality.
- In the sgoil, children make effective progress in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing through the medium of Gàidhlig and English. They are greatly assisted by staff's clear explanations. In the sgoil-àraich, staff use high-quality interactions and Gàidhlig to support children's play.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the Head of Sgoil representative from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.

- Develop processes in the sgoil-àraich to enable staff to know and act on their successes and next steps for improvement.
- Continue to re-establish full-time sgoil-àraich in line with national expectations of children developing fluency in Gàidhlig through total immersion.
- Continue to raise attainment and enhance children's skills in analysing texts and debating issues.
- Continue to develop assessment approaches to record children's progress across all areas of the curriculum.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school \(4th edition\)](#) and [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#). Quality indicators help schools, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each school, the Scottish Government gathers details of our evaluations to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Sgoil an t-Òib - Leverhulme Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	very good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	very good
Raising attainment and achievement	good
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our school (4th edition) Appendix 3: The six-point scale	

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	good
Securing children's progress	satisfactory
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale	

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the early learning and childcare setting using the quality indicators from [A quality framework for daycare of children, childminding and school-aged childcare](#). The framework supports settings, providers and inspectors to assess what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each setting, the Scottish Government gathers details of our evaluations to keep track of how well early learning and childcare settings are doing. The Care Inspectorate evaluations are also used by local authorities when considering how settings are meeting the national standard for funded early learning and childcare.

The Care Inspectorate's evaluations for the early learning and childcare setting are:

Detailed evaluations	Evaluation
Key question 1: How good is our care, play and learning?	good
1.1 Nurturing care and support	good
1.3 Play and learning	good
Key question 2: How good is our setting?	good
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	good
Key question 3: How good is our leadership?	adequate
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	adequate
Key question 4: How good is our staff team?	good
4.3 Staff deployment	good

Requirements made by the Care Inspectorate for the early learning and childcare setting.

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had no requirements and no areas for improvement. As a result of this inspection, there are no requirements and two areas for improvement.

Area for improvement

To ensure that children experience high quality play and learning, the nursery manager and provider should ensure that staff access training and apply it in practice.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which states that: 'I am supported to achieve my potential in education and employment if this is right for me' (HSCS 1.27) and 'I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice' (HSCS 4.11). This is to ensure staff skills and knowledge are aligned with national practice guidance for early years in Scotland 'Realising the ambition: being me.'

To support the service to identify their strengths and areas for further improvements, the provider should further develop their quality assurance processes. This should include but is not limited to:

- (a) Developing robust processes for auditing and auditing children's personal plans and learning journals.
- (b) Undertake monitoring of service procedures and staff practice.

This is to ensure management and leadership is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state: "I benefit from a culture of continuous improvement, with the organisation having robust and transparent quality assurance processes." (HSCS 4.19)

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

[Leverhulme Memorial School | Inspection Report | Education Scotland.](#)

What happens next?

We are confident that the school has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Comhairle nan Eilean Siar will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

As a result of the Care Inspectorates findings and evaluations, further scrutiny intervention will be considered to support improvements in the early learning and childcare setting.

Joan C. Esson
HM Inspector

Annemarie O'Brien
Care Inspector