

19 August 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

In March 2025, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Sgoil an Tairbeirt - Sir E Scott School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

Sgoil-àraich an Tairbeirt - nursery class was inspected by Care Inspectorate within the past 18 months. Therefore, we agreed with the local authority and school that the nursery class is not part of this inspection.

The inspection team found the following strengths in Sgoil an Tairbeirt's work.

- Children and young people are polite, respectful and articulate. They enjoy caring and positive relationships with staff, and are keen to learn and achieve well.
- Children, young people and staff are proud speakers of Gàidhlig - Gaelic. Children and young people in Gàidhlig Medium Education make positive progress in their fluency.
- Children and young people achieve well in music and cultural, language and sporting events, both locally and nationally.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.

- Senior leaders should take prompt action to improve the strategic and collective leadership of the sgoil - school. In doing so, they should strengthen their skills in identifying what is working well and what needs to improve across the sgoil. Leadership at all levels should be developed further to achieve a brisk pace of change.
- Senior and middle leaders, along with staff, should develop further high-quality learning, teaching, assessment and moderation. Teachers should ensure they have accurate data and use it more effectively to enhance children's and young people's progress and attainment from P1 to S3.
- Senior leaders should be supported by the local authority to extend Gàidhlig Medium and Learner Education at the secondary stages. The current achievements offer through Gàidhlig should be outlined clearly, ensuring young people know how to develop their fluency both in class and beyond, year by year.
- All staff should ensure they refresh regularly and apply professional learning in equalities and inclusion. Senior leaders should ensure all children and young people, requiring targeted support for their learning and development, have immediate and thorough support plans and processes in place.
- Senior leaders and staff should establish a clear strategy to enhance children's and young people's progress, attainment and achievement. This strategy should build on

recent improvements in S4, ensuring a broad curriculum that integrates digital technology and contributions from partners to strengthen what teachers offer. The curriculum for young people in S6 requires further development.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school \(4th edition\)](#). 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 Tairbeirt - Sir E Scott School

Quality indicators for the whole school	Evaluation
<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>weak</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>weak</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>satisfactory</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our school (4th edition) Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a>	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at: [Sir E Scott School | Inspection Report | Education Scotland](#)

### What happens next?

As a result of our inspection findings we think that the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements. We will liaise with Comhairle nan Eilean Siar regarding the school's capacity to improve. We will return to carry out a further inspection of the school within one year of the publication of this letter. We will discuss with Comhairle nan Eilean Siar the details of this inspection. When we return to inspect the school, we will write to you as parents/carers informing you of the progress the school has made.

Joan C. Esson  
HM Inspector