



UIG SCHOOL FURTHER INSPECTION REPORT

Report by Chief Officer, Education and Children's Services

PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of the Report is to inform the Comhairle of the outcome of the follow-up inspection of Sgoil Ùige and Sgoil Àraich Ùige by His Majesty's Inspectors from Education Scotland in June 2024, as reported in September.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 Sgoil Ùige and Sgoil Àraich Ùige were re-inspected by a team of HM Inspectors in June 2024. This was following a previous inspection in 2023 that evaluated the quality indicator *2.3 Teaching and Learning* as weak. The school received notice of 13 working days for the inspection and the team visited for two days in June 2024. The Sgoil Àraich was also inspected by the Care Inspectorate at the same time. The Sgoil Àraich was not inspected by HM Inspectors.
- 2.2 Education Scotland published an inspection report in the form of a letter on 24 September 2024. The letter sets out an evaluation of each identified area for improvement and defines the degree of progress made.
- 2.3 The Care Inspectorate published their report in July 2024. The report sets out the grading for the quality care indicators used in the inspection.
- 2.4 Sgoil Ùige was evaluated against quality indicators taken from *How Good is Our School? 4th Edition (HGIOS4)* and Sgoil Àraich Ùige was evaluated against "A Quality Framework for Daycare of Children, Childminding and School-aged Childcare."
- 2.5 Upon conclusion of the inspection, the Executive Headteacher for Rural Primary Schools has commenced work with the new headteacher and staff of the school to develop and implement a new action plan to address the agreed areas for improvement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 **It is recommended that the Comhairle:**
 - (a) **notes the Report;**
 - (b) **supports the new Head Teacher, Sgoil Ùige and Sgoil Àraich Ùige to develop and implement the new action plan which will address the areas for improvement within the HMI report.**

Contact Officer: Patricia Macleod – Executive Headteacher Rural Lewis Primary Schools.

Appendix: Further Inspection letter – Nicolson Institute 24 September 2024

Background Papers: [Sgoil Ùige Inspection Reports](#)

IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The following implications are applicable in terms of the Report.

Resource Implications	Implications/None
Financial	None
Legal	None
Staffing	Some staff restructuring was required to release a Principal Teacher from another school to take on the role of Acting Headteacher.
Assets and Property	None
Strategic Implications	Implications/None
Risk	None
Equalities	Applicable UNCRC Articles: 28 – A Right to Education 29 – Goals of Education Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education (2017)
Corporate Strategy	Support Children, Families and Young People.
Environmental Impact	None
Consultation	None

EVALUATIONS AGAINST THE AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT.

5.1 Education Scotland evaluated the progress made by the primary school in the identified areas for improvement.

Increase the leadership and pace of improving key areas impacting on learning and attainment, based on robust self-evaluation arrangements. A range of stakeholders, including the staff team, parents and children should have lead roles for taking forward improvements in the school.	Insufficient progress
Develop and use a policy for total immersion education to strengthen children's progress and fluency in Gàidhlig. This should increase the quality and entirety of total immersion across all areas of children's learning.	Some progress
Continue to develop the curriculum to be clear on the progress that children make as they move from stage to stage at Sgoil Ùige. Teachers should have well-defined approaches to developing reading and writing, in Gàidhlig and English, health and wellbeing and Gaelic (Learners).	Some progress
Raise children's attainment in all aspects of learning and make better use of information from assessment, professional dialogue and tracking meetings.	Insufficient progress

5.2 For the inspection of the Sgoil Àraich, The Care Inspectorate evaluations for the three quality indicators were:

1.1 Nurturing care and support	4 - Good
1.3 Play and learning	4 - Good
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	3 - Adequate

- 5.3 The managing inspector has informed the school that there will be a further revisit from HM Inspectors to the school within six months of the letter being published. The Care Inspectorate will visit within three years.

SUPPORTING IMPROVEMENT

- 6.1 Since the completion of the inspection revisit, the Head Teacher has left their post and an interim Acting Head Teacher has been appointed to lead improvement and delivery of the inspection action plan. There have also been other staffing changes at the school.
- 6.2 With the support of Education and Children's Services Department staff, the Acting Head Teacher has begun to implement a new detailed action plan that addresses the areas for improvement and other aspects for development set out in the inspection process. It identifies key tasks to be undertaken, who is responsible for them and when they are expected to be completed.
- 6.3 Monitoring and observations that have taken place since August 2024 indicate that significant progress has been made with delivering the improvements required in the plan. Support will continue to be provided to ensure that this is sustained.

CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The follow-up inspection took place at a challenging time for the school and, subsequently, there have been significant changes in the leadership and operation of the school. The Executive Head Teacher and other Comhairle officers will continue to provide support and challenge through regular school visits and monitoring of the action plan and support the Acting Head Teacher to deliver the action plan successfully.