



REPORT BY HM INSPECTORS OF EDUCATION: BUN-SGOIL LACASDAIL AND SGOIL ÀRAICH LACASDAIL

Report by Chief Officer for Education and Children's Services

PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of the Report is to inform the Comhairle on the outcome of the inspection at Bun-sgoil and Sgoil Àraich Lacasdail - Laxdale School and Nursery by His Majesty's Inspectors from Education Scotland.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 Bun-sgoil and Sgoil Àraich Lacasdail were inspected by a team of HM Inspectors from Monday 29 May-Friday 2 June 2023 for a full inspection model. The school and nursery received three weeks' notice and the inspectors visited for five days.
- 2.2 On Tuesday 28 November 2023, Education Scotland published a report in the form of a letter which highlighted the strengths, agreed areas for improvement and a link to the summarised inspection findings (SIF).
- 2.3 The letter also included details of the gradings and evaluations. HM Inspectors gathered evidence to evaluate the work of Bun-sgoil Lacasdail against the quality indicators taken from *How Good is Our School? 4th Edition* (HGIOS4). Sgoil Àraich Lacasdail was evaluated against *How Good Is Our Early Learning & Childcare* (HGIOELC).
- 2.4 The school has devised an Action Plan to address the agreed areas for improvement. The Executive Headteacher will continue to work with the Head of School to ensure the actions are overtaken.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Comhairle:
- (a) note the findings of the Inspection Report, including key strengths and areas for development; and
 - (b) supports Bun-sgoil Lacasdail and Sgoil Àraich Lacasdail to develop and implement an effective Action Plan which will address the areas for improvement within the HMI Report.

Contact Officer:	Kathleen MacLeod, Executive Headteacher – Broadbay Schools
Appendix:	Inspection letter – Bun-sgoil Lacasdail and Sgoil Sgoil Àraich Lacasdail
Background Papers:	How Good is Our School? 4 th Edition (HGIOS4) Link
	How Good is our Early Learning and Childcare (HGIOELC): Link

IMPLICATIONS

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

Resource Implications	Implications/None
Financial	None
Legal	None
Staffing	None
Assets and Property	None
Strategic Implications	Implications/None
Risk	None
Equalities	None
Corporate Strategy	Children and young people's outcomes and life chances are improved through education and training.
Environmental Impact	None
Consultation	None

BACKGROUND

- 5.1 His Majesty's Inspectors from Education Scotland evaluated Bun-sgoil and Sgoil Àraich Lacasdail on four quality indicators against the six-point scale as outlined in How Good is Our School (4th edition) and How Good is Our Early Learning and Childcare.

6	Excellent	Outstanding – Sector leading
5	Very Good	The school has major strengths in this area
4	Good	The school has important strengths but there are some areas for improvement
3	Satisfactory	Strengths of the school just out-weigh weaknesses
2	Weak	The school has important weaknesses in this area
1	Unsatisfactory	There are major weaknesses in the work of the school which require immediate remedial action

- 5.2 Education Scotland's evaluations for the Bun-sgoil Lacasdail – Laxdale School were:

Quality Indicators for the primary stages	Evaluation
Leadership of change	Good
Learning, teaching and assessment	Good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Good
Raising attainment and achievement	Good

- 5.3 Education Scotland's evaluations for Sgoil Àraich Lacasdail – Laxdale Nursery were:

Quality Indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Leadership of change	Good
Learning, teaching and assessment	Good
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Good
Securing children's progress	Good

DETAIL

6.1 The inspection found the following areas of strength for Bun-sgoil and Sgoil Sgoil Àraich Lacasdail:

- The Head of School, Nursery Manager and staff lead change well. They make a positive difference to their own practice and to that of the whole school. As a staff team, they are continuing to develop Bun-sgoil Lacasdail - Laxdale Primary School and Sgoil-Àraich as a caring, inclusive and nurturing school, in which children can be ambitious and creative.
- Children engage very well with a rich range of experiences that are planned for them in and beyond the school. These raise children's attainment, support wellbeing, and build children's performing and digital skills.
- The staff team's leadership of total immersion results in most children's confidence and fluency in using Gàidhlig. Teachers are skilled in using a range of immersion approaches that are delivered in high-quality fluency. They focus well on grammar and local dialect.
- Staff and children work well with partners to plan activities that focus on health and wellbeing. These are recognised with external recognition.

6.2 The following areas of improvement were identified for Bun-sgoil and Sgoil Sgoil Àraich Lacasdail
The Head of School devised an action plan to address the areas of improvement listed below:

- Teachers should continue to close gaps in attainment. Children should be clear of their own strengths in learning, how to keep improving and know the skills they are acquiring.
- The Head of School should maintain a more formal and ongoing strategic overview of the curriculum. This should ensure all key areas of learning are taken forward in a progressive way from stage to stage. A starting point is the further planning of equality, diversity and aspects of the health and wellbeing curriculum.
- Staff should ensure that total immersion play has sufficient focus on adults leading activities and using Gàidhlig on a very regular basis.
- Staff should continue to build on their use of Gàidhlig, fluency and professional learning to raise children's attainment in Gaelic (Learners).

CONCLUSION

7.1 The school and nursery will continue to receive support and work in collaboration with the Executive Headteacher and Early Years Support Officer through regular school visits, school improvement planning and quality assurance activities.