

15 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

In June 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited Mulbuie 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 the school's work.

- Across the school and nursery, children are polite and welcoming. They are eager to develop skills and experience success in their learning.
- Children take on meaningful roles across the school, supporting the development of their leadership skills. These opportunities give them a strong sense of achievement.
- In the nursery, staff have developed effective approaches to supporting children who require additional support with their learning. As a result, these children are making good progress in their learning.
- Across the school and nursery, staff build respectful and trusting relationships with children, parents and the wider community. As a result, children feel safe and valued.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from The Highland Council.

- In the school, the headteacher and staff should work together to improve the quality and consistency of learning, teaching and assessment. In lessons, they should make sure learning moves at the right pace, is clearly understood and supports children to understand how to improve.
- In the school, the headteacher and teachers should strengthen approaches to planning children's learning. They should plan learning that better meets the needs of all children, including in classes where children of different ages learn together.
- In the school, teachers should continue to develop their understanding of national standards to recognise how well children are progressing. They should use this information to ensure children make appropriate and timely progress at all stages, particularly in literacy.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using two 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 HMIE's evaluations for Mulbuie Primary School and Nursery Class

Quality indicators for the primary school	Evaluation
Learning, teaching and assessment	weak
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our school (4th edition) Appendix 3: The six-point scale	

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the ELC's work using three quality indicators from the [Quality improvement framework for the early learning and childcare sectors](#).

Quality indicators for the nursery class	Evaluation
Curriculum	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	good
Wellbeing, inclusion and equality	good

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the HMIE website at: [Mulbuie Primary School | Inspection Report | His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education in 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 The Highland Council 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 The Highland Council 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.

Liz Sommerville
HM Inspector

On behalf of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland