Inveralmond Community High School



PROGRESS REPORT FOR SESSION 2022/23

(Standards & Quality Report)

Willowbank

Ladywell Livingston EH54 6HW



ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Vision

Our vision here at Inveralmond Community High School is fundamental to our approach to improving the life chances for all our young people by getting it right for our learners.

"As a community we are working together to become inspired and fulfilled individuals who:

- Achieve to the best of our abilities
- Connect to the world around us
- Thrive now and in the future"

Values

Our values have evolved through deep consultation with our stakeholders. Respect, Kindness, and Honesty are instilled in our daily practice and permeate through our community.

Inveralmond Community High School is a comprehensive non-denominational school situated in the Ladywell area of Livingston. The school roll in 2022-2023 comprised of approximately 1055 pupils.

The school has 6 associated primary schools drawing a comprehensive mix of students. There is a close relationship among the schools in the cluster. The Head teachers meet regularly to plan shared curricular progression, discussing areas of commonality and reviewing curricula to aid our transition programme.

The school has a strong, inclusive ethos and offers a vibrant environment for learning and teaching. At Inveralmond we believe in celebrating not only success in relation to attainment but also wider achievements. We encourage our young people to flourish, to have high expectations and self-esteem in order to prepare them for life and work.

Our key purpose is to provide all our young people with a coherent curriculum, high quality learning and teaching, rich opportunities for achievement and attainment and a strong sense of community and shared values. We are committed to preparing our young people for successful futures and life in the 21st Century.

IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

Our improvement priorities are always based on the national priorities in the National Improvement Framework (NIF). Below we have indicated what progress we made with these priorities in Session 2019/20, what the impact has been and what our next steps will be to continue to address these priorities in session 2020/21.

We have also shown which NIF driver for improvement we used – you can find out more about the National Improvement Framework and drivers at: https://www.gov.scot/publications/achieving-excellence-equity-2022-national-improvement-framework-improvement-plan/documents/

We have also evaluated our overall provision using quality indicators (QIs) in How Good is our School 4 (HGIOS4) and How Good is Our Early learning and Childcare? (HGIOELC) which is a key aspect of the Scottish approach to self-evaluation and school improvement.

PRIORITY	HOW DID WE DO?
1. To raise	We have made good progress.
attainment,	What did we do?
especially in	Agile curriculum pathways: Through our preparation for HMIe we have undertaken a BGE review
literacy and	with a lens on the four capacities and 4 contexts for learning to evaluate the effectiveness of our
numeracy	BGE curriculum for our community. This evaluation exercise has allowed us to plan for change in
	session 2023/24
<mark>Our measurable</mark>	Agile pedagogies (including digital learning): We worked together to further develop approaches
outcome for session	to the learning, teaching and assessment cycle to develop consistency in professional judgements
2021/22 was to	across the learning community and enrich our learners' experiences. This involved staff working in
To ensure young	collaborative 'LTA Groups' using the cycle of moderation to improve BGE courses and make
peoples' attainment	evidence informed action plans. All staff worked to improve individual pedagogy by undertaking a
improves particularly in	practitioner enquiry project. The project topic was informed by self-evaluation as part of the PRD
Literacy and	process.
Numeracy.	Agile renewal: literacy and numeracy: We have been seeking to raise attainment through the further
	development of approaches to excellence and equity tracking and monitoring. We have been
	working on the consistency of our tracking and on early intervention planning using newly formed
NIF Driver(s):	Literacy and Numeracy improvement teams. We introduced the tracking of Literacy and Numeracy
	across S1 – S6 on Progress giving us an overview and allowing for strategic planning. We introduced
School and ELC	target setting for Literacy and Numeracy on Progress to support learners aspirations. We introduced
Improvement.	the use of a leavers tracker to improve Literacy/Numeracy and <u>SCQF attainment.</u> Through our HMIe
School and ELC	preparation and feedback we have begun planning the incorporation of more robust tracking procedures in line with feedback. We have provided CLPL to empower staff to be more data
Leadership	informed, making effective use of Progress tracking system, allowing them to plan early
☑ eacher and Practitioner	interventions.
Professionalism	Evidence indicates the impact is:
Professionalism Parental Engagement	Relevant, engaging and challenging purpose led BGE curriculum
A curriculum and	 HMIe inspection last session found the overall quality of learning, teaching & assessment to be
Assessment	'good. They highlighted that:
Assessment Performance	 "teachers are making good use of the learning, teaching and assessment cycle to improve
Information	the planning of learning, teaching and assessment in the BGE. They are also making use of
	an appropriately wide range of assessment evidence"
	 "All teachers demonstrate a sustained commitment to reflecting upon and improving their
	practice through their involvement in practitioner enquiry. This work is improving aspects
	of the practice of individual teachers."
	Almost all of staff surveyed believe that a combination of practitioner enquiry, the learning,
	teaching and assessment project, and the ICHS improvement hub has had a significant impact
	on their professional learning, enabling them to reflect on and improve their practice.
	Learners are benefitting from our focus on improving learning and teaching and the
	investment within the school's culture of empowerment.
	Regular pupil surveys and focus groups indicate a high degree of satisfaction with the quality of
	learning experiences.
	We have improved the number of pupils achieving level 4 literacy and numeracy by the end of
	S3
	• S3 Literacy Level 4 = 2022-23 52.88, an increase from 42.40% in 21-22
	 S3 Numeracy Level 42022-23 68.06%, an increase from 64.98% in 21-22 Commented [MV1]: Remove as repetition with fit below?
	· improved reversion confidence in pupils having their needs met by class teacher through
	inclusive pedagogy evidenced through focus groups of pupil with passports to success

2	Marken and a second succession of the second s		
2. To close the	We have made good progress. What did we do? (bullet points and must include impact)		
attainment gap between the most	What did we do? (bullet points and must include impact) The school was awarded £154,350 of Pupil Equity Euroding (PEE). The new PEE planning tool was		
and least	The school was awarded £154,350 of Pupil Equity Funding (PEF). The new PEF planning tool was used effectively to identify gaps for learners impacted by poverty, to plan and design interventions		
disadvantaged	to support them and to gather evidence of the impact on their learning.		
children	We have improved our processes to enhance communication and sharing of information between		
ciliaren	staff regarding staged intervention and assisted arrangements.		
Our measurable	We have introduced key pupil information to our Progress Tracking system to ensure staff can		
outcome for session	easily access key factors which may impact learning such as LAC		
2021/22 was to	 Attainment team will support with improved access and analysis of PEF information specifically 		
To ensure that we	Literacy, Numeracy and PEF stretch aims (KV)		
have strategies in place	 BGE tracking and monitoring system will be reviewed to provide data that will support the 		
to identify and address	recovery of learning (KV)		
the impact of the	Evidence indicates that the use of Pupil Equity Funding has had the following impact on learners:		
COVID – 19 pandemic	 Of the 16 students in our reading programme, 13 students now have reading age of 11 or 		
on the attainment gap.	above, which was the desired outcome at the start of the year. 3 students require further		
	support in S3. There is a range of 11 months - 2 years improvement in the students and		
	average improvement of 4 points on the 1-10 scale.		
NIF Driver(s):	• The impact of our Vipers Reading programme is greater engagement and enthusiasm. In our S1		
	group, 21 out of 45 students will require further literacy support. There is a range of 1 month -		
School and ELC	1 yr 3 months improvement in the students. on the scale there is an average improvement of 3		
Improvement.	points on the 1-10 scale.		
School and ELC	March- Numeracy Pedagogy DHT and Maths development post holder have attended		
Leadership	Equitable Classroom bitesize CLPL sessions run by WL Equity Team. They are now ready to		
⊠ eacher and	formulate plan for sharing with practitioners.		
Practitioner	The S2 students have engaged with the reciprocal reading programme and engagement with		
Professionalism	the programme has been positive. In part, this is due to familiarity with the programme. Of the		
Parental Engagement	16 students, 13 students now have reading age of 11 or above, which was the desired outcome		
Curriculum and	at the start of the year. 3 students require further support in S3. There is a range of 11 months		
Assessment	- 2 years improvement in the students and average improvement of 4 points on the 1-10 scale.		
Performance	Our literacy APSW has worked with 1 learner to complete paired reading. At the start of the		
Information	year, the learner's reading age was 9 years. After a year of support w, their reading age is now		
	11+. Their class teacher has reported an increased confidence in his reading and their class		
	teacher has noted that they now read aloud in class which is exceptionally positive		
	Literacy APSW has supported one class with their N4 English and Literacy work. This has anabled learners to achieve N4 English. E0% of learners in the class class achieved 14 Sectiond		
	enabled learners to achieve N4 English. 50% of learners in the class also achieved L4 Scotland		
	 in Focus. To date 15 students out of 28 have achieved L5 literacy. Our CfE return shows that the poverty related attainment gap in literacy will have narrowed by 		
	3%.		
	 4 learners have completed Maths Recovery Programme and all have progressed 2 SEAL stages. 		
	 4 learners have completed waths recovery Programme and all have progressed 2 SEAL stages. 3 learners are currently undertaking programme are on track to progress at least 2 SEAL 		
	stages.		
	Cluster moderation focus on assessment is increasing practitioner awareness of the variety of		
	assessment approaches used to evidence learner progress in numeracy.		
	 In our Small Group Setting: One S3 small group setting learner has completed Nat 2; five S1s in 		
	the Targeted intervention group have achieved 80% of their identified targets.		
	 Our cluster moderation focus on assessment is increasing practitioner awareness of the variety 		
	of assessment approaches used to evidence learner progress.		
	 Feedback from analysis of all cluster responses evidenced consistency in sharing of standards 		
	and expectations for a learner reported as '1' on track for Numeracy.		
	As a result of work by our PSW Numeracy:		
	 1 x S4 and 1 x S5 learner have completed NAT 3 Maths, 		
	 3 x S4 learners have completed NAT 4 numeracy 		
	 1 x S4 and 1x S5 are making progress NAT 4 Numeracy 		
	 1 x 54 and 1x 55 are making progress with 4 Nameracy 1 x 55 completed Nat 4 Maths 		
	 Other ELH learners currently being identified. 		
	 2 x S2 and 3X S4 learners have achieved N3 Maths 		
	 3x S4 have achieved N4 Numeracy 		

In session 22/23 over 40 students were referred to employability learning hub where they	
gained additional qualifications and secured a positive destination.	
 ELH staff also worked closely with PTC Maths and English to ensure all young people had achieved a Maths and English qualification. 	
 18 learners with the lowest attendance are attending our ICHS Interrupted learners service 	
regularly.	
• Family link workers have had a positive impact on young people and their families. Feedback	
from parents and pupils:	
 'I can't thank the school enough for what they are doing for my son regarding the 	
Interrupted Learners Service. '.	
• 'I feel that the support that the school has put in place for me, starting with reduced	
timetable working with FLW periods in hub have helped because I feel less stressed	
about coming into school and going to classes'.	
 'Spoke to mum on 21.02, she can't thank school enough for the support and 	
interventions, reduced timetable loft and ASN, that have been put in place for her	
boys, she said the difference in the boys is like night and day , they are happy and lool	<
forward to coming into school, she mentioned how home life has changed as well,	
there isn't as much stress for her as the boys are no longer fighting all day with each	
other	
 The previous 37% gap between Q1 and Q5 in Literacy at Level 4 in S3 CfE has reduced to 30.98% 	
- The previous 42% gap between Q1 and Q5 in Numeracy at Level 4 in S3 CfE has reduced to	
34.34%	
- 86% of our S4 cohort achieved Level 5 Literacy, an increase from 54%. The previous 33% gap	
between Q1 and Q5 in Literacy at Level 5 in S4 has been reduced to 24%	
- 65% of our S4 cohort achieved Level 5 Numeracy, an increase from 60%. The previous gap	
	Commented [MV2]: I think this overall S4 achieving L5 Literacy
	increased from 54% to 86%. Numeracy S4 L5 increased from 60% to 66%. Peter and Emily, will provide the gap as requested.
- 18% of our 35 conort achieved Level 6 Numeracy. The gap between Q1 and Q5 is 55.7%	66%. Peter and Emily, will provide the gap as requested.
- We have reduced the gap between Q1 and Q5 from 12.24% to 6.4% of learners achieving 1+	
SQA Level 5 to 6.4%	
 We have reduced the gap between Q1 and Q5 from 42.2% to 37% for leavers achieving 1+ SQA Level 6 	
	Commented [MV3]: My caldulation is this is now 37%. This makes me think I have either calculated it wrong last year or this
	year. I suspect it was last year given I have a better understanding
	of how to calculate this now.
5	

3. To improve children	We have made good progress.	
and young people's	What did we do?	
health & wellbeing	Our short life working group reviewed our Promoting Positive Behaviour strategy, including Right	S
Our measurable	Respecting Schools, LGBT Charter and a values based collaborative approach. 22/23 was the first	
outcome for session	year of the Mentors in Violence Prevention. 18 S6 mentors and all of S1 young people benefiting	
2021/22 was to	from this intervention.	
To ensure young	We shared lost learning data with PTC's and school staff to allow interventions to take place.	
peoples' wellbeing is at	We changed our processes for reflection, introducing an IT system, allowing ease of access for	
the centre of our	teaching staff and reflection support staff	
collaborative approach	Our Duty officer team undertook training which incorporated restorative approaches	
to recovery throughout	We built on our progress with LGBT Charter mark, moving towards a bronze charter mark in	
the pandemic.	session 23/24	
NIF Driver(s):	We worked with partners to provide an input on gender-based violence (Rape Crisis). All s3 and S	6
School and ELC	classes experienced input around gender-based violence from this intervention.	
Improvement.	We have continued to review bullying policy and regular analysis of incident reporting to support	
School and ELC	all young people.	
Leadership	Our bullying policy was updated. We changed our processes so that: designated member of staff	
🖾 eacher and	conducts restorative conversations improving consistency of approach and recording; any	
Practitioner	protected characteristics issues are passed to DHT support.	
Professionalism		
Parental Engagement	We reviewed the ICHS attendance strategy to include family link workers working with target	
Curriculum and	families to support increased attendance of identified groups (less than 50% attendance).	
Assessment	Our 3 family link workers targeted pupils' under 50% attendance.	
⊠ Performance	Our HWB curriculum was reviewed alongside PSE, which was introduced to all year groups.	
Information	We introduced new resources for RSHP. Our S6 worked with partners Fire Service, Rape Crisis.	
IIIIOIIIIduoii	We engaged in research activities with Glasgow University colleagues on the HBSC survey and also	
	on the Net 4 Health research study. The reports inform future planning for relevant PSE curriculu	
	We improved the quality of communication and engagement with parents using the school app,	
	social media and in school events.	
	Evidence indicates the impact is: (written in bullet points)	
	Our overall school attendance for session 22/23 was 85.44%	
	 HMI survey and focus groups evidence indicates that almost all pupils, staff and parents agree 	e
	that levels of respect, behaviour and engagement have increased	
	 Improved scores for behaviour and bullying questions to above 60% for those opting to agree 	2
	or strongly agree	
	Data from pupil wellbeing tracker shows improved levels of confidence in wellbeing	
	Parents report increased levels of engagement such as increased numbers attending parent's	;
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☑ eacher and		
Practitioner		
Professionalism		
Parental Engagement		
☑ Curriculum and		
Assessment		
Performance		
Information		

Evidence indicates the impact is:
Our positive destinations figure for 21/22 is 96.95%

- Pupils tell us that they appreciate the increased opportunities for pupil voice
 - Pupil focus groups report an improvement in their understanding of our skills framework

Evaluative comment on school's attendance and exclusion data required.

-

Our overall school attendance for session 22/23 was 85.44%. Boy's attendance was 85.6%, girls' attendance was 85.28%.

In session 22/23 there of 19 young people were temporarily excluded: 12 boys; 7 girls. The total number of days for exclusion was 81: 45 for boys; 36 for girls.

Evaluative statement on the effectiveness of the school's engagement with parents and other stakeholders in improvement planning and on reporting school performance.

The Parent Council is a supportive group who have engaged with school leaders and staff on various topics to provide a parent/carer perspective on the work and proposals of the school.

Our School Improvement Plan, Standards and Quality Report, and progress within these is presented to the Parent Council and information shared widely on all parent/carer platforms.

Our Parent Council and wider parent body engaged positively with HMIe.

Learner Pathway information evenings are well attended and parents/carers report that this information is useful in enabling them to support their young people with pathways.

S1 Meet the Mentors night was well attended and parent/carers comment positively on this initiative.

Parental engagement with our parent consultation on the Wellbeing website was strong. Use of technology to reach some parents who may not otherwise engage has been helpful.

This session has seen the reintroduction of face-to-face parent evenings using a hybrid approach. This has enabled us to make the most of gains in technology from the pandemic but provide a face-to-face experience also.

Our Wider Achievements this year have been:

Pupil Leadership:

- Over the year, our Level 6 Events class worked with the Anthony Nolan charity and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service on a donation appeal to secure 53 new potential life savers as part of the Anthony Nolan bone marrow register, supporting those affected by blood cancer and blood disorders. Seven pupils from the class took on leadership roles for this project with the remainder of the class taking on support roles. The seven pupils are recognised as ambassadors for Anthony Nolan and were given letters on confirmation about this and they also used this event to pass their level 6 SCQF qualification.
- We had over 100 pupils participating in our Pupil Parliament. These young people made a valuable contribution to decision making in their school, represented the views of their peers, and worked in collaboration with staff to make positive changes to the school.
- The school has made positive progress towards the bronze LGBT charter.
- The Mentors in Violence Prevention programme was introduced during session 2022-2023. As part of this
 initiative, 22 S6 pupils worked with S1 PSE classes, covering the causes and impact of violence in
 communities, as well as ways to prevent violence. The MVP programme also saw an investment in staff
 training in this area, raising awareness of violence and upskilling staff to tackle these issues as part of the
 curriculum.

English and Literacy

The Royal Literary Fund delivered an academic writing workshop with all our UCAS applicants. This session
is designed to support young people to be successful at university and sustain remain in Higher Education
beyond school. The workshop developed the students' skills in effective writing and communication, and
in particular covered aspects of writing necessary in higher education such as referencing and formal
writing styles.

STEM

- One of our Chemistry teachers Mrs Fleming applied for an empowerment fund from the RSC. This will
 allow her to run Chemistry coaching sessions with teachers from the primary cluster schools this year.
- Our STEM Faculty has been working closely with our primary cluster. All the primaries were visited by a
 member of the Science faculty who worked with the young people. The primary students were able to
 design a rocket and use our rocket launcher to test it. All primary schools were also able to take part in our
 Christmas STEM challenge to design Santa's sleigh.
- Six S2 students represented Inveralmond CHS at Armadale Academy taking part in the Faraday STEM Challenge. Students had to come up with a problem in society and create a solution using robotics.
- Fifty of our S2 students attended a STEM career trip at Edinburgh National Museum. They got to talk to
 companies from many different STEM careers and try out some interesting STEM activities. Students
 gained an insight into the STEM careers available to them.
- 50 S2 students attended the STEM careers Hive trip at Edinburgh National Museum.
- Two S3 STEM ambassadors attended Letham primary STEM event, they has a stall where they shared the STEM work we do here at Inveralmond.
- The S3 Chemistry classes all participated in the Mitsubishi Heat Pump Challenge last year. The winning team for Inveralmond represented the school at the final in Howden Park Centre. They had a great idea to use a Heat Pump to warm train stations during the winter months.
- Our STEM Club ran all year for S1/2 students with S3 helping out as ambassadors. As part of their role, they attended Letham primary STEM event to share the exciting STEM opportunities we offer at Inveralmond CHS. Our STEM Club participated in the Climate Smarter project to design an eco-friendly building. The students made it to the final at Heriot Watt University and came second overall in the STEM Challenges winning £50 for the school.

Social Subjects

Geography

- S1 & S3 Geography Learning days to dynamic earth in Edinburgh: Students from S1 and S3 took part in a 'learning day' experience at Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh. They explored topics such as climate change and earth's physical environment in a setting very different to the classroom.
- S2 Geobus workshop sessions on natural hazards: 'Geobus', a national education outreach organisation
 visited Inveralmond and worked with S2 to deliver an interesting and engaging, hands on session about
 Earth's natural disasters.
- National & Higher Geography Learning day and workshop at Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh: National & Higher students took part in a 'learning day' experience at Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh. They explored topics such as climate change and earth's physical environment in a setting very different to the classroom.
- National Travel & Tourism skills for work, cabin crew experience at Edinburgh college: The National Travel & Tourism class visited Edinburgh college to work with flight crew to experience a day in the life of cabin crew, gaining insights into the industry and potential career options.

History

- Lessons From Auschwitz: Senior students visited Auschwitz as part of the national project where they learned about the Holocaust from survivors and worked as part of a group to share their learning with students at ICHS.
- West Lothian Anti-Slavery Program: Senior students contributed to the development of lessons around the issue of the legacy of slavery which would be delivered to BGE pupils across West Lothian. This involved working with other students in schools across West Lothian, both remotely and in person, improving historical research skills and taking responsibility for an area of the project.

Modern Studies/Politics

- Trip to The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh for S4: Students in S4 visited The Scottish Parliament where they received a tour, met and had the opportunity to pose questions to two of their representatives and took part in an activity with the parliament's education unit relating to the electoral system of Scotland.
- Trip to London Higher Modern Studies & Higher Politics Students: Students travelled with 2 teachers by train to London and experienced a West end musical, visited Westminster parliament and took part in an educational activity with the Parliament Education Service. They also gained the opportunity to do some sightseeing and tourist attractions such as the London Eye and to visit the headquarters of Amnesty International.
- Uniformed Services: Students in The Uniformed Services class took part in an intergenerational outreach
 project at The Linburn Centre in West Lothian which is an activity hub for ex-servicemen and women with
 sight loss that is significantly affecting their independence. This allowed students to build confidence in
 communication and to give back to their local community.

Maths & Numeracy

• Our pupils took part in the West Lothian Enterprising Maths competition last year. The competition allows young people to demonstrate and develop their Maths and Numeracy skills. This took place at West Calder High School. We were very proud of our pupils who achieved fourth place in the competition.

Business and Computing

- Sky Skills Academy Trip for Business and Computing: pupils have been focusing on digital literacy as part of S3 Creative digital media course. Pupils created a short video news segment using technology. On the trip, pupils had the opportunity to work professional experts at Sky, taking on different roles to produce their film.
- Edinburgh Airport Engineering Trip: pupils had the opportunity to take part in the engineering tomorrow
 programme which was focusing engineering-based challenges for pupils to explore different engineering
 disciplines. As part of this programme, they visited Edinburgh Airport to experience engineering disciplines
 in industry.
- Heriot Watt Sphero Project: Inveralmond CHS has an ongoing relationship with Heriot Watt which forms
 part of a transition project. This focuses on raising awareness of their new robotarium, career pathways
 and introduction to computer programming in the context of robotics. This is scheduled to be a minimum
 3 year project and we are currently beginning year 3. As part of transitions, pupils learn how to code
 robotics.

Expressive Arts

- In Music, our Music Ambassadors went on their annual excursion to the 5 sisters zoo. Our rock band, woodwind, and soloists, performed to visitors at the zoo.
- This year our Inveralmond CHS students have been involved in competitions, including young musician, WL schools pipe band comp and participated in music festivals, gaining valuable experience in performing.
- Art: our S3 students participated in the Schuh competition as part of their curriculum. Our photography students took part in the 'myplace' photography competition.

How good is our school? The quality indicators* evidence that:

1.3 Leadership of Change	Very Good
2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	Good (HMIE 2023)
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Very Good
3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	Good (HMIE 2023)

*(Indicators used in How good is our School? 4^{th} Edition, Education Scotland 2015 and